



# THE TRIBUTARY

A Newsletter of the

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

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## 2014 Meeting in Mazatlán—Recap

The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society held its first ever meeting in Mexico this spring! Co-hosted by the Mexico Chapter, over 440 participants (almost 200 of which were students) joined us in sunny and warm, Mazatlán, Mexico. The welcome social was held on a beach-side (and pool-side) patio, complete with a local mariachi band and fireworks.

The meeting was held in conjunction with the 2nd International Symposium on Mangroves as Fish Habitat and the 6th National Symposium of Sharks and Rays. Over the course of three days, 337 oral presentations were given and 92 posters were displayed. To assist with travel costs associated with the international meeting, \$7,900 in was awarded to 19 students and over \$21,000 was awarded to 17 professionals as travel awards. The Society also awarded over \$20,000 in professional-level travel awards. The meeting included three continuing education courses and phenomenal socials each night.



Tall-stories being told about the one that got away, prior to the welcome social (above). Fireworks on the beach (below).



### Scholarship winners:

Eugene Maughan Scholarship:

- Zack Underwood, University of Wyoming
- Natalie Sopinka, University of British Columbia

William Trachtenberg Scholarship:

- Keith Fritschie, University of Washington

Continued on page 5

## Officers

### President

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Current Western Division Excom:  
Front (L-R), Past President Tina Swanson,  
Student Representative Tracy Wendt, Presi-  
dent Pam Sponholtz, President Elect Hilda  
Sexauer. Back (L-R), Vice President Jim  
Bowker, Secretary-Treasurer Travis Neebling.

## President's Hook

Hello Western Division! I hope your field seasons are going well. I know you are all busy so I will keep this short and sweet. I'd like to just send a reminder to the Chapter Presidents to send in your chapter summaries by July 11th so they can be included in the Governing Board report. I want to make sure and have all your information so we can again show the greatness of the Western Division. I hope many of you will be attending the Society meeting in Quebec. From all indications it will be a fantastic meeting in a beautiful location. A big thank you to Christina Swanson and Jim Bowker who have been working with other Society members on revising the Strategic Plan for AFS. If you haven't checked it out, you should, it's on the AFS webpage and forms the basis for each of the Chapter's report. This is unlike the strategic plans that we are accustomed to looking at, it makes sense and provides a clear way forward so I encourage you to read through it. And thanks to all of you for your participation and work with your Chapters and the Division. Without your efforts and passion, we wouldn't be such a successful and effective Division. Enjoy the rest of the summer and hope to see you soon!!!

— Pamela Sponholtz, President



## 2014 Meeting in Mazatlán—Recap Cont.



Mexico Chapter President Felipe Amezcua, Western Division President Pam Sponholtz, and Society President Bob Hughes.



Tina Swanson accepting the Past President's Award from current President Pam Sponholtz.

## Announcements

### Western Division Officer Elections

Now is the time to vote for the incoming Vice President and Student Representative positions on the Western Division Executive Committee. The Student Representative is a one year position serving as a non-voting liaison between students and the Division. There are five candidates for the position this year and their biographies are presented on pages 8—9. The Vice President is a one year position that automatically advances to the office of President-Elect, then to President, and then to Past President at the end of each year; therefore, it is a four year commitment. There is one candidate for the position this year and his biography is on page 7.

Only members in good-standing may vote and only students can vote for the Student Representative. Voting is completed online via SurveyMonkey. **Voting will be open until August 8.** Vote for the Vice President at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CMWQXJZ> and the Student Representative at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C3VYPQZ>

### Western Division is Looking for a New Newsletter Editor

After serving almost five years as the Newsletter Editor, Travis Neebling is looking to step down from this role. If you are interested in becoming more active with the Division or know someone who might be, please contact Travis at: [Travis.Neebling@wyo.gov](mailto:Travis.Neebling@wyo.gov)

### Western Division AFS is now on Facebook

Check us out on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/471328552983525/> Or click on the link on the front page of the Western Division website.

### Upcoming Events

**AFS Annual Meeting** - August 17—21 in Quebec City, Canada

Meeting website: <http://afs2014.org/>

**Wild Trout Symposium XI** - September 22—25 in Yellowstone National Park

Meeting website: <http://www.wildtroutsymposium.com/>

**River Restoration Northwest 14th Annual Stream Restoration Symposium** - February 3—5, 2015 at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA

Meeting website: <http://www.rrnw.org/pageview.aspx?id=41331>

### Alaska Chapter Meeting Call for Papers

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting will be held jointly with the annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Water Resources Association and the Southeast Alaska Fish Habitat Partnership in Juneau, AK from October 20—24, 2014. The theme of the meeting is "Bridging disciplines to solve today's challenges in resource management." A total of 35 special sessions will be presented with themes in marine and freshwater fisheries, habitat, hydrology, human dimensions, climate, and data collection and management. Please submit abstracts for both special sessions and contributed talks through the AFS Alaska Chapter meeting website where a list of full sessions is available <http://www.afs-alaska.org/annual-meetings>. Abstracts are due September 15, 2014.

## 2014 Meeting in Mazatlán—Recap Cont.



Student scholarship plaques.



Award winners from left: Brian Missildine (accepting on behalf of Dr. Tim Beechie), Tracy Wendt, Joe DuPont (Idaho Chapter), Katie Rayfield (University of Montana)

### Award winners:

#### Award of Excellence:

- Dr. Timothy Beechie, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service and Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, University of Washington

#### Award of Special Recognition:

- Tracy Wendt, Western Division Student Representative

#### Outstanding Chapter Award:

- Idaho Chapter

#### Outstanding Student Subunit Award:

- University of Montana

#### Past President's Award:

- Tina Swanson

#### Riparian Challenge Award:

- BLM Project—Klamath Falls Resource Area for Wood River Wetland Restoration - Klamath Falls
- USFS Project—Cascade Ranger District, Boise National Forest for the SF Salmon River Watershed Improvement
- Other—BioEngineering Associates, Inc. in partnership with Odd Fellows Recreation Club for the Lower Russian River Riparian Restoration



Riparian Challenge Award plaques.

## 2014 Meeting in Mazatlán—Recap Cont.



Student social at Señor Frogs.



Off-site social at El Presidio.



Executive Director Doug Austen.



Raffle and auction during the banquet social.



Meeting participants also found a little time to do some fishing.



## Vice President Candidate

### Cleve Steward

**Biography:** Cleve is a consulting fisheries biologist whose primary areas of expertise are salmonid ecology, watershed management, water resources, and habitat restoration. He received his BS from the University of Montana and his MS from the University of Washington. He worked briefly for the National Marine Fisheries Service and Mobrand Biometrics before starting his own company, Steward and Associates, LLC, in 1992. S&A was acquired by AMEC Environment and Infrastructure in 2008, where Cleve led the Aquatic Science and Habitat Engineering Group in Seattle, Washington.

Cleve recently married and moved to Portland, Oregon, where he runs his own consulting business. He has been active in AFS throughout his career, serving in several capacities. As Chair of the Chinook Committee of the Idaho Chapter of AFS, Cleve helped write and signed the petition to list Snake River Fall Chinook Salmon as a threatened species in 1990. Along with Don MacDonald, Cleve organized the Sustainable Fisheries Conference in Victoria, BC, for which he and Don received the President's Conservation Award from AFS in 1997. He has organized, chaired, and raised funding for several other symposia and scientific conferences, including the 2009 National Conference of the American Water Resources Association and the 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Seattle, which set meeting attendance and revenue records. Cleve is a former President and long-time board member of the Washington Section of the AWRA, co-founder and current Board member and officer of the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation and Ecologists Without Borders, and a member of the Board of Directors of Washington Water Trust.

**Candidate Statement:** It has been my privilege to be a member of AFS for the past 35 years. I am currently Chair of the AFS External Affairs Committee, which helps communicate fisheries science and values to the public and elected officials, and organizes and bestows AFS' national awards for Excellence in Public Outreach and Student Writing Contest. I was the Media Coordinator for this year's WDAFS meeting in Mazatlan, and on the Steering Committee for the 2nd International Mangroves as Fish Habitat Symposium.

Having served AFS in a variety of volunteer and leadership roles, I am familiar with its membership and governance policies, as well as the many benefits it provides its members. I am also aware of our organization's strengths and weaknesses. If elected Vice-President, I would do my utmost to support what is good and effective about WDAFS, and to change or eliminate that which is not. Above all, I will encourage positive interactions between the WDAFS and its 10 Chapters and 10+ student subunits, and will represent and promote their interests at the national level. I will also foster awareness within government, the private sector, and society as a whole of AFS's contributions. It is my goal in particular to ensure that WDAFS members are recognized for their accomplishments and supported so they can publish their work, participate in scientific meetings, and interact with the public.

In summary, I possess the dedication, experience, and administrative capacity to help WDAFS achieve its strategic goals and fulfill its mission. In addition to discharging my duties as an officer of WDAFS, I will establish and strengthen relations with state and federal agencies, other professional associations, universities, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that support the AFS and employ its members. As your representative, I will foster a passion for collaboration, communication, and tangible results that directly benefit you, our peers, and society as a whole.



## Student Representative Candidates

### Katie Coyle

My name is Katie Coyle and I am applying for the Western Division American Fisheries Society Student Representative position. Growing up in McCall, Idaho surrounded by the Salmon River and numerous alpine lakes, I have always been invested in protecting and furthering the understanding of these ecosystems. To build upon that investment, I received a B.S. in Wildlife Resources and a B.S. in Fishery Resources from the University of Idaho in 2011 and am now working on my PhD in Natural Resources as part of the Fish and Wildlife Department at the University of Idaho. During all 6 years, I've been an active member of the Palouse Unit of the American Fisheries Society. Before I pursued a graduate degree, I worked for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game for 6 field seasons on a variety of crews. As a flyfisherman and aquatic scientist, I am passionate about improving Idaho and western fisheries and engaging citizens and future generations in protecting and understanding their resources. AFS offers opportunities for students to boost their education, career and research opportunities and I would be delighted to help further the AFS experiences of the students of the western division sub-units.



### Trevor Eakes

I'd like to say that I am very interested in becoming the WDAFS student rep. I've almost completed my first year in the UW fisheries major and I couldn't be happier. I have been very active in participating within our department by fostering connections with professors here, going to events, celebrations, and lectures, and engaging with my peers in the major. I also work in the Fisheries admin office helping with reconciliation of budgets so I am well acquainted with what is going on in Fisheries at the UW and with admin staff. In addition, I am recently a member of the college of the Environment student council as the Fisheries representative so it is already my responsibility to represent Fisheries student interests and goals to the college. Because of this, it would be easy for me to also fill the roll of WDAFS rep, and I am very enthusiastic about getting even more involved.

### Jane Sullivan

My name is Jane Sullivan, and I am beginning my second year as a fisheries master's student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in Juneau, Alaska. I am working under Dr. Gordon Kruse studying recent declines in size at age of Pacific halibut. I currently serve as the Juneau Fisheries student group president, which acts as a sub-unit to the UAF AFS student subunit. I served as vice president to the AFS student subunit at the University of Montana Missoula, where I received a B.S. in Wildlife Biology in 2012. When I graduated from the University of Montana, I received the President's Award for my work with AFS. I have worked for Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and spent many summers as a deckhand on charter boats in Seward, AK. I aspire to begin a career with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game as a Biometrician when I graduate.





## Student Representative Candidates Cont.

### Andrew Futerman

Hey all! My name is Andrew Futerman and I am going into my senior year at Oregon State University. I am a Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences major with a specialization in Marine Conservation and Policy and a minor in Political Science. Over the past year I served as the Oregon Chapter student liaison and the Director of Environmental Affairs for the OSU Student Government. Recently I was elected to be the president of the Oregon Chapter student subunit. I am originally from New Jersey. I play and referee rugby, play the drums, enjoy fishing and rafting and love a good whiskey. Originally, I planned to list all of my accomplishments and experience here, tell you how great I would be for this job and offer a pretty typical biography. Instead, I want to tell you how I see students playing a bigger role in the success of WDAFS into the future. My mission over the near year is to facilitate as much student involvement in WDAFS as possible. I think we have a pretty unique opportunity here, to get involved in a major national organization that represents our interests. We can have a real impact in how this society operates. I feel I am the perfect representative to bridge that gap between students and professionals over the next year. I want to get to know each and every subunit, understand their needs and concerns, and specifically address them with our executive committee. I want to attend your events, know your members and do exactly what you need me to do, so that students are 100% represented in this society. Students are the future of this field and of this society, but we are also the now. It is necessary for someone to step up and ensure that is the case; I will gladly be that someone. If I am honored enough to be elected into this position, please feel free to contact me with anything. If your unit is having an event, if you have a comment or concern or if you just want to get more involved, I will be there to help out as much as I can.



### Morgan Brizendine

I am very interested in this exceptional opportunity. I am confident that my many skills in addition to my willingness to work hard and cooperate with others will make me a valuable asset to the division's executive committee.

I graduated last May from Virginia Tech with a bachelor's degree in Fisheries Science and a double minor in Biology and Watershed Management. I am currently a full-time graduate student at the University of Arizona and working on a Master's degree in Natural Resources with a concentration in fisheries conservation and management. My project involves working with Scott Bonar and David Ward to research the use of two non-lethal methods, ultrasonic imaging and Ovaprim®, to evaluate egg maturation of humpback chub (*Gila cypha*) in the Grand Canyon. So far we have been able to successfully identify female humpback chub with ultrasonic imaging in the main stem Colorado River, the Little Colorado River, and Havasu Creek.

I first became involved with the Virginia Tech Chapter of AFS (VTCAFS) in 2009. Since then, I have participated in a variety of AFS activities and have held various leadership positions. During the 2010-11 academic year, I served as VTCAFS Fundraising Committee Chair, and from 2011-12, I served as VTCAFS Treasurer. During my last year as an undergraduate student, I was elected President of VTCAFS and held the position from 2012-13. I have also been a member of both AFS and the Virginia Chapter of AFS since 2012 and recently became a member of the Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of AFS. As a graduate student, I am hoping to become more involved with WDAFS by serving as the division's student representative. I believe that all of my prior leadership positions and experiences while serving within AFS have prepared me well for this position.

## University of Montana Professor Involved in Tragedy

As many of you may know, Dr. Fred Allendorf has been through a tragedy. On February 28, an avalanche was triggered in a gully on Mount Jumbo that ends at the home where Fred, Michel (his wife), and children have lived for over 20 years. The avalanche demolished the home, and buried Fred, Michel, and an 8 year old boy from a neighboring house. All three people were recovered from the snow and wreckage in the following hours, and rushed to the hospital. The boy, Phoenix, was released from the hospital. Fred remained in serious condition with 17 broken ribs, several broken vertebrae, and some internal bleeding, but prospects for his recovery at the time were good. Sadly, Michel passed away two days after the tragic accident.

Fred has been a Regents Professor Emeritus in the Division of Biological Sciences at the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana. His research interests are evolution, population genetics, and conservation biology, and his primary current focus is on the application of genetics to the conservation of animals and plants. He and co-authors have written a well-known conservation genetics book (Conservation and the Genetics of Populations) that is published by Wiley-Blackwell.

Fred is currently doing well and is living with his daughter in Mazomanie, Wisconsin where he continues to heal from his injuries. His physical injuries are healing slowly, and it may take considerable time for him to recover from some nerve damage to his foot. The good news is that he will be moving back to Missoula and is making plans to teach a conservation genetics course in Costa Rica this month. In addition, there has been a wave of support for Fred from people all over the world. This support is critical because Fred lost literally everything in his life, and insurance won't come close to helping him recover. The "Fred Allendorf Fund" has been established for those wishing to make financial contributions to help Fred and his family recover.

Many members of the Western Division AFS have been impacted by this tragic event and have stepped forward to help where they can. The Montana Chapter AFS has pledged \$4,500 to contribute to the "Fred Allendorf Fund."

To further support this effort, the Western Division AFS has created a fund to supplement the "Fred Allendorf Fund". We encourage our membership to open their hearts and contribute. Please send a check of any size to Travis Neebling (Western Division AFS Secretary/Treasurer) at Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 3030 Energy Lane, Casper, WY 82604 or donate online through the PayPal link on the Western Division website: [www.wdafs.org](http://www.wdafs.org)

## Halamid® Aqua (Chloramine-T) Approved by FDA to Treat Fish Diseases

Axcentive SARL announced yesterday that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center has approved Halamid® Aqua (100% chloramine-T) as a new therapeutic drug for use in fish. Halamid® Aqua is an important weapon in the arsenal fisheries professionals use to combat fish diseases, and its approval is a major advance in fish health management. Halamid® Aqua is only the 2nd waterborne drug approved to treat fish diseases in nearly 30 years. This approval is a HUGE milestone for those involved in fish culture and fish health, as well as for the public and private-sector partners responsible for getting Halamid® Aqua across the finish line. Our thanks to Axcentive SARL, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, USFWS Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership Program, USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, and the National NADA Coordinator!

HALAMID® Aqua can be used to control mortality in:

Freshwater-reared salmonids due to bacterial gill disease at a dosage of 12—20 mg chloramine-T/L administered for 60 min daily in a static or flow through bath on three consecutive or alternate days,

Walleye and all freshwater-reared warm water finfish due to external columnaris disease at a dosage of 20 mg chloramine-T/L administered for 60 min daily in a static or flow through bath on three consecutive or alternate days

For more information and to view the full-length press release, visit the AFS Fish Culture Section at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/fishculturesection/this-just-in>

# You Won't Believe These 5 Fishy Things PUAFS Did This Year!

*Elizabeth Ng, Palouse Student Subunit*

1. We let this dead steelhead munch on kids' fingers!



McDonald Elementary school kids and PUAFS members participated in Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Steelhead in the Classroom project. The final step, a dissection, was a big hit.

2. All these folks were standing on thin ice!



The ice fishing derby at Spring Valley Reservoir was fun for kids and adults alike. PUAFS members were on hand to set up rods and provide encouragement.

3. Members were up to their elbows in blood



On one of our most popular annual trips, members helped commercial fishermen gill net Lake Trout at Lake Pend Oreille.

4. We got in touch with our inner engineers, hard hats included



Members checked out the inner workings of Lower Granite Dam and fish passage system.

5. Everyone had a blast at our annual Wild Game Feed fundraiser!



We ended the semester with great food, fun prizes, and lots of friends. Thanks to everyone who made the Game Feed, and our year, a success.

# Oregon Chapter Celebrates 50 Years

*Mike Gauvin, President, American Fisheries Society-Oregon Chapter*

The Oregon Chapter celebrated its 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in February 2014. The overall theme of the meeting was “Reflecting On Our Past, Focusing On Our Present, Preparing For Our Future”. The meeting drew over 370 professionals, including more than 80 students, to celebrate the milestone. The meeting provided attendees an opportunity to experience the Chapter’s history, reinvigorate traditions, and bind the generations together with a celebration of our past success and anticipation of future ones to come. In addition to technical sessions, special events, such as a retirees’ social, 50th Anniversary happy hour and anniversary banquet were scheduled to encourage reflection on the past 50 years of Oregon Chapter history. Also, a new anniversary logo was created to commemorate the meeting. As attendees approached the registration desk, the celebratory tone for the meeting was obvious owing to photo displays and a digital slide show that prominently showcased pictures of Chapter activities over the past 50 years. The displays were created by the History Committee, who spent countless volunteer hours sorting through old photos and documents.



The opening plenary session further emphasized the meeting’s theme by featuring three speakers who relayed stories of how the chapter was formed, encouraged us to understand the Chapter’s history, and inspired us to carry on the legacy that has made our Chapter the premier platform in Oregon for professionals to share their latest discoveries and build the skills necessary to face future challenges. Participants were challenged to relive the past, engage in today, and discover how to make a difference tomorrow. Dr. Howard Horton (Professor Emeritus of Fisheries; Oregon State University) whose vision and perseverance resulted in the establishment of our Chapter began the session with the heartwarming story of how he and colleagues overcame challenges to establish the Chapter. Despite being told by his boss that state chapters of professional societies were a bad idea, Howard pushed forward and became the Chapter’s first President. In that role, he realized his vision of a Chapter that was good for fishery workers, students, and the Society. We are proud to have a Chapter today that retains a focus on these three key elements of Dr. Horton’s original vision. Kat Brigham (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission) recounted her first experience at an Oregon AFS meeting and described how her constant questioning of her grandfather resulted in her nomination to serve on the tribal fish and wildlife committee. She emphasized the importance of partnerships and collaboration in achieving successes in conservation and the need to fight hard for today, to ensure that the resource will be here for our grandchildren. Kat encouraged us to adopt a forward-looking perspective that includes a commitment to protect our natural resources for the next seven generations through collaborations. Jim Martin (Berkley Conservation Institute) closed the plenary session with a challenge to react to the coming hurricane of change in our profession by rising to the challenge rather than collapsing under the pressure. Jim laid out three drivers of change: change in the revenue paradigm for fisheries programs, demographic change of the population, and the interaction of climate change and growth. He urged the Chapter to be a leader in managing the hurricane of change by synthesizing current science and developing a strategy that incorporates a broad focus, anticipates the longer view, and recommends concrete actions to address the three drivers rather than simply tinkering around the politically acceptable edge of these challenges. Many thanks to our plenary speakers for sharing their personal and engaging messages about the Chapter, its history, and its future! As part of the annual meeting, three top notch workshops were provided which included Introduction to R, structured decision making and scientific writing and presentations. Fifteen unique technical sessions included more than 120 oral presentations and 32 posters on topics including fish culture, fish health, lampreys, native fish biology and conservation, quantitative solutions, escapement estimation, marine fishes, fish habi-



President-Elect Mike Gauvin (left) with plenary speakers Howard Horton, Kat Brigham, and Jim Martin.

## Oregon Chapter Celebrates 50 Years Cont.

tat, fish passage, and education and outreach. The diversity of material presented was impressive, with talks ranging in focus from basic through applied, from macro-scale to microorganisms, and from the marine environment to headwaters. Additionally, chapter committee meetings were held at the end of relevant sessions, which resulted in increased participation and focused discussions.

Overall, the 2014 50th anniversary meeting fulfilled expectations as the Oregon Chapter's largest and most important technical and professional networking event. The 2014 Annual Meeting was a place to share ideas, learn about state-of-the-art research, visit with old friends, and make new ones. It was also a place to recognize the achievements of our colleagues and award scholarships to outstanding students.

### Congratulations to the following award winners:

**Award of Merit:** Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey (OSU) for his exceptional leadership and service to the chapter in roles including External Director, Legislative Committee Chair, and social media guru! Jeremiah's passion for communicating science has been an invaluable resource for the chapter and the national society!

**Bill Wingfield Memorial Award in Fish Culture:** Ryan Couture, Joseph O'Neil, and Joyce Mahr (ODFW) for their exemplary service and performance beyond the call of duty at the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC). This team performs at the highest professional standards and is responsible for not only typical operations but also education, outreach, and research.

**Fishery Team of the Year:** ODFW Umpqua Watershed Office Fisheries Staff for embracing cooperative work to effectively and efficiently monitor, conserve, enhance, and supplement native fish populations in the Umpqua Basin. This team has improved relationships between ODFW and many local agency staff, as well as schools, watershed councils and other groups.

**Past President Award:** Jeff Yanke – Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Jeff's passion and vision have contributed to making the Oregon Chapter one of the most successful in the nation!

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Dr. Howard Horton for 60 years of positive contributions to Oregon's fishery resources. From his career as a professor at Oregon State University (where he was the founder and first president of our Chapter), through training and administration of the foreign fishery observer program, to his service as a Court Technical Advisor to several jurisdictions and judges, Howard has excelled in roles too numerous to name. Congratulations, Howard, on a most fulfilling career!

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Dr. Jim Hall for 50 years of educating future fishery professionals and active Chapter involvement. From his attendance of the very first OR AFS chapter meeting, to his renowned commitment to students and education as a professor at Oregon State University, to his leadership during the Alsea Watershed Study, Jim has exemplified a long-term commitment to our profession. Congratulations, Jim, on a career that has touched many of today's fishery biologists in Oregon!



Then and now: Howard Horton (left) and Jim Hall (right) accept their Lifetime Achievement awards for 50+ years of service to the Chapter and to education and fisheries science in Oregon.

# Oregon Chapter Celebrates 50 Years Cont.

## Student Scholarship Winners:

- Jesse Allen, A.A., Mount Hood Community College, Fisheries Technology
- Andrew Futerman, B.S., Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Madeleine Eckmann, M.S., Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Emily Campbell, Ph.D., Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Bill Brignon, Fish Culture Award, Oregon State University, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife

The uniquely prestigious **Carl Bond Scholarship** was awarded to Neil Thompson, Ph.D. student, Oregon State University, Department of Integrative Biology, in support of his work on domestication in hatchery salmonids.

## Best Student Paper and Poster:

- **Best Student Paper:** Neil Thompson (Oregon State University, Department of Integrative Biology) and Steven Whitlock (runner-up; University of Idaho, Department of Fish and Wildlife Sciences).
- **Best Student Poster:** Rachel Palmer and Christina Murphy (runner-up) both of Oregon State University's Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.



Congratulations to the student scholarship winners! From left: Bill Brignon, Neil Thompson, Jesse Allen, Andrew Futerman, Madeleine Eckmann, and Emily Campbell.



Rachel Palmer, Neil Thompson, Steven Whitlock, and Christina Murphy accept their awards for the best student talks and posters.



2014 ExCom Front from left: Kevin McDonnell, Todd Buchholz, Holly Huchko, Jeff Yanke, and Tony Siniscal. Back from left: Andrew Futerman, Mike Gauvin, and Michele Weaver.

# Special Workshop to be Held on the Subspecies Classification of the Cutthroat Trout

## *Planning Committee for the WDAFS Special Workshop on the Evolutionary Biology and Subspecies Classification of the Cutthroat Trout*

Before going to Mazatlan for the 2014 annual meeting, the Western Division Excom agreed to convene a Special Workshop on the evolutionary biology and subspecies classification of the Cutthroat Trout.

The reason for this action is that differences among researchers over which are truly subspecies and which should either be lumped together or split apart have increased over the last few years as more and more sophisticated DNA evidence has become available, and scientific consensus around the validity of all of the fourteen subspecies recognized by the late Dr. Robert Behnke may be eroding. This uncertainty has already stalled the ESA recovery program for one subspecies, the Greenback Cutthroat Trout of Colorado, and could have a disrupting effect on recovery programs for other listed subspecies. We are also starting to hear calls for clarification from individuals in federal and state agencies whose responsibilities include aquatic habitat management and restoration plans for these subspecies, as well as from individuals responsible for Cutthroat Trout fishery management programs.

The Western Division Excom believes the scientific expertise exists to resolve the issues involved, and to this end, proposes to bring together a select panel of evolutionary biology and taxonomy experts to consider the different viewpoints and reconcile differing interpretations of the evidence. If the necessary funds can be raised, this Special Workshop will be held in Portland, Oregon on August 16—20, 2015, in conjunction with the 2015 joint WDAFS/AFS Annual Meeting.

To raise the funds required to stage this Special Workshop, the Workshop planning committee (names and e-mail addresses below) is reaching out to a number of federal and state agencies, NGOs, commercial enterprises, and even individuals with an interest in Cutthroat Trout, to join with the Western Division as co-sponsors of the Special Workshop by contributing toward its cost. In total, we hope to raise about \$35,000, in addition to what the WDAFS itself can provide in the way of meeting room and audiovisual costs, to achieve our funding goals.

We are asking for help, especially if you have experience in fund-raising. We would also like to take this opportunity to reach out to each of the AFS chapters within the Cutthroat Trout range for contributions to the Workshop under your own chapter names. Please make contributions out to Western Division American Fisheries Society, earmarked "Cutthroat Trout Workshop," and send them to WDAFS Treasurer Travis Neebling, c/o Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 3030 Energy Lane, Casper, WY 82604.

For further details a prospectus for this Special Workshop is available that provides additional details about the justification for the Workshop, its objectives, how it will be structured and staged, and our estimate of costs to bring the panel of experts together.

Signed: Planning Committee for the WDAFS Special Workshop on the Evolutionary Biology and Subspecies Classification of the Cutthroat Trout:

Patrick Trotter, Seattle, WA [ptrotter@halcyon.com](mailto:ptrotter@halcyon.com)

Pete Bisson, Olympia, WA [bissonp1@gmail.com](mailto:bissonp1@gmail.com)

Brett Roper, Logan, UT [broper@fs.fed.us](mailto:broper@fs.fed.us)



# Annual Meeting Metrics from Throughout the Division

*Jim Bowker, Western Division Vice President*

As an attempt to better showcase the benefits of AFS membership, the Western Division undertook an exercise to compile what is being referred to as Annual Meeting metrics for the Division and the associated Chapters. Jim Bowker sent out a short questionnaire and compiled the metrics below. The Division and each Chapter provided some impressive numbers, and the cumulative results are even more impressive.

In total, the meetings drew 2,511 attendees (of which 655 were students), and there were 931 oral presentations (209 given by students) and 247 poster presentations (113 by students). Attendance at the Mazatlan, AZ/NM, CA/NV, and OR Chapter meetings each exceeded 300. Total income generated was \$129,449. Income from the AZ/NM, ID, and OR Chapters each exceeded \$20,000. As many of you are aware, one of the main reasons to have the 2014 Division meeting co-hosted by the MX Chapter and held in Mazatlan was to better engage this new Chapter and help to put some much needed money in their coffers. We're delighted to report that the meeting generated \$14,735 for the MX Chapter. Membership benefits are reflected not only by the opportunity to attend, learn, and network at these well-organized meetings, but also in the amount of money awarded to students and for small grant projects: \$61,431 was awarded to students as travel grants, scholarships, or for student volunteer pay (isn't that an oxymoron?); \$36,250 was awarded to small grant projects. The AK Chapter awarded nearly \$19k to students, the OR Chapter and Division awarded about \$13,000 to students (the Division also provided \$21,107 for professional travel awards); the ID Chapter awarded over \$10,000 in small project grants, and the MT Chapter donated \$4,500 to the Fred Allendorf Fund. Lastly, 20 different continuing education courses were offered at the various meetings, and these CEC's were attended by a total of 216 attendees. As far as we know, an effort to compile this information has not been done in a very long time, if ever. Tina Swanson, WD President-Past, commented that this is "really cool stuff and very, very impressive, and it is new.... This concept of using quantitative metrics designed to provide information on how the Chapters, Divisions and (ultimately) the Society are meeting our strategic goals (education, science etc.) and implementing the various strategies (conferences, publications, continuing education, etc.) to do this and serve members is a result of the recent review and (fairly major) revision of AFS's Strategic Plan." When current AFS President Bob Hughes heard about this endeavor, he suggested that the WD make sure that the other Divisions know about this because he would like all Divisions to report this type of information (Jim needs to get moving on this request).

Please take a look at the meeting metrics below and, if you get the chance, give everybody involved in putting together annual meetings a pat on the back for their efforts and what we were able to accomplish in 2014. And then be on the lookout for the next WD effort – to compile a list of what the Division and each Chapter does that makes their annual meeting the success that they are, helps to generate better attendance (particularly among students), and helps to generate revenue that can ultimately be used to support professional and student travel and small grants. The Division would also like to compile a list of the things that the Student Subunits are doing that are unique and very cool that help with student membership and generating revenue. After reading through the Best Student Subunit application packets, you would be impressed to see all the things that the Subunits are doing!

The 2014 Western Division Annual Meeting planning committee and Division Excom members discussing what worked, and what didn't in Mazatlan, and how we can improve meetings in the future.





# Annual Meeting Metrics from Throughout the Division Cont.

Table 1. Compilation and summary of metrics for the Western Division and Chapter annual meetings. Metrics include number of meeting attendees, number of oral and poster presentations (number of presentations by students), income, amount of money award to students (e.g., scholarships, travel, payment for working during meetings) and for small grant projects, and number of continuing education courses offered (number of attendees).

AFS Unit	Attendees	Oral presentations	Poster presentations	Income	\$\$ awarded to students	\$\$ awarded for small grant projects	Continuing Ed. courses offered
AK	139	62 (29)	26 (12)	\$1,300	\$18,900	-----	1 (7)
AZ/NM <sup>a</sup>	314 (138)	77 (27)	31 (21)	\$39,340	\$100	-----	1 (1)
CA/NV	440 (61)	94 (18)	22 (6)	\$3,000	\$1,825	\$2,150	5 (35)
COWY	166 (40)	50 (12)	14 (6)	\$4,630	\$3,780	\$2,500	1 (50)
ID	236 (35)	47 (9)	17 (2)	\$24,000	\$5,000	\$10,100	3 (10)
MX	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$14,735	n/a	n/a	n/a
MT	163 (29)	42 (n/a)	5 (n/a)	(\$3,500)	\$2,720	\$12,000	1 (27)
OR	379 (86)	124 (19)	28 (9)	\$21,880	\$13,000	\$4,500	3 (9)
UT	109 (13)	28 (1)	6 (6)	\$11,800	\$2,000	-----	2 (48)
WA/BC	124 (8)	80 (6)	6 (1)	\$3,000	\$1,500	-----	-----
WD	441 (192)	337 (88)	92 (50)	\$11,490	\$12,606	\$5,000	3 (29)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511 (655)</b>	<b>911 (209)</b>	<b>247 (113)</b>	<b>\$131,675</b>	<b>\$61,431</b>	<b>\$36,250</b>	<b>20 (216)</b>

<sup>a</sup>The AZ/NM AFS annual meeting was held in conjunction with The Wildlife Society annual meeting – numbers reflect the joint meeting



Student “volunteers” and trade shows are both fundamentals of any American Fisheries Society meeting.

## Beavers are Considered Bioengineers

L. Ted Parker-Aquatic Biologist, Senior Environmental Coordinator, Snohomish County-Roads Maintenance

Beavers are considered bioengineer's of aquatic systems. In stream and river floodplains, beavers modify the physical connections and hydrological dynamics of habitats. It is typically assumed that this modification is beneficial to salmon production. In a recent publication, lead author Rachel Malison, along with her co-authors tested this hypothesis for an expansive floodplain of a large alluvial river. Research was conducted in the Kwethuk River, which is located along the west coast of Alaska. Several of the results are highlighted below.

1. Beaver influenced habitat accounted for 87% of all off-channel aquatic area.

2. There was little temporal change in the total amount of habitat influenced by beavers, but there were shifts in habitat locations. Thus, beaver activity reinforces the "shifting habitat mosaic" concept for river floodplains.

3. Beaver activity strongly influenced the availability of freshwater habitat used by salmon for rearing.

4. Beavers had a significant beneficial influence on the distribution of juvenile salmon. This distribution is driven by connectivity to portions of off-channel habitat in the floodplain.

5. The movement of Juvenile salmon past dams varied by habitat type and was arbitrated by flooding. This reflects high connectivity of early successional ponds and spring brooks with the main channel and low connectivity with older ponds.

This study supports the concept that beavers may contribute significant influence in fish production in large rivers. It also shows complex interactions of riverine processes and connectivity with the expansive floodplain of large alluvial river systems.

Malison, R.L., M.S. Lorang, D.C. Whited and J.A. Stanford. 2014. Beavers (*Castor Canadensis*) influence habitat for juvenile salmon in large Alaskan river Floodplain. *Freshwater Biology* 59 (6):1229—1246.



Example of a spring brook in a parafluvial zone of the South Fork Stillaguamish River, Washington. Photo courtesy of Snohomish County.



Juvenile Coho salmon benefit from beaver activity. Photo by Ted Parker.

# Student Information for the Society Meeting

## Quebec City, AFS Meeting, August 17—21, 2014

### Speed Mentoring - Tuesday August 19th, 3:40pm to 5:40pm

The Speed Mentoring event will offer students an opportunity to meet and network with over 20 professionals who will provide sector- and occupation-specific information and advice. As space is limited, sign up early to participate in the Speed Mentoring event by e-mailing your name, University and program (for mentees) or profession and current employer (for mentors) to: [students.afs2014@gmail.com](mailto:students.afs2014@gmail.com)

### Career Fair - Tuesday August 19th, 3:40 pm to 5:40 pm

The Career Fair is open to everyone and will be held alongside the Speed Mentoring event to allow students to participate in both activities. Potential employers from universities and various sectors including government, non-profit, and private sectors will be present at the Career Fair. Don't forget to bring your resume or business cards! All organizations and exhibitors may attend the Career Fair at no charge. To take part in this event, please email a description of your organization (approximately 75 words) as you would like it to appear in the event pamphlet, along with any position you would like to promote during the AFS meeting before August 1st to: [Careerfair.afs2014@gmail.com](mailto:Careerfair.afs2014@gmail.com)

### Student Networking Event – for students only! Tuesday August 19th, 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

The student networking event will follow immediately after the Speed Mentoring and Career Fair events. The gathering will happen at the La Ninkasi pub, located on famous Rue St-Jean close to the Convention Centre, where food and drinks will be served. Come enjoy a variety of locally brewed beers. This is a unique occasion for networking in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Among other highlights, the winners of the Student Photography Contest (see below) will be announced in the evening!

### Student Photography Contest

Students are invited to celebrate and share the wonderful places, species, and people they have encountered by submitting photos to the Student Photography Contest under three major themes: Landscape, Animal, and Human. Photos must be related to the student's research and/or field work and sent to: [afs2014.photocontest@gmail.com](mailto:afs2014.photocontest@gmail.com) before August 1, 2014. Photos will be displayed electronically, during the student networking event and one winner from each category will be announced in the evening. Prizes will be awarded to winners.

**Symposium: Future of Fisheries: Perspectives for Emerging Professional** Monday August 18th to Wednesday August 20th – Room 204B

Students are invited to attend the symposium "Future of Fisheries: Perspectives for Emerging Professional" This symposium is a great opportunity to hear distinguished fisheries professionals share their insights on entering the job market and building a successful career in the sector.

### Accommodations

Low-cost housing, breakfast, and free WiFi access have been arranged at Laval University. Rooms are near all amenities and located less than 15 minutes away from the Convention Centre by bus. Book now at: [www.residences.ulaval.ca/en/short\\_term\\_accommodation](http://www.residences.ulaval.ca/en/short_term_accommodation)

### Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist during presentations, posters, events, and much more. A minimum of one 4-hour commitment is required. Within budgetary limitations, student volunteers will be paid \$10.00 per hour to help defray their meeting costs. Sign up to be a volunteer when you register for the conference. Registration is available at: <http://afs2014.org/registration/>

### Questions?

Contact student activities Co-chairs Sarah Larochelle and Élodie Lavissee at [students.afs2014@gmail.com](mailto:students.afs2014@gmail.com)



## About the Tributary

The Tributary is the newsletter of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society published three or four times per year.

### **Editor**

Travis Neebling [Travis.Neebling@wyo.gov](mailto:Travis.Neebling@wyo.gov)

## About the American Fisheries Society

The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

<http://www.fisheries.org>

## About the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Established as the first Division of the [American Fisheries Society](#) in 1948, the Western Division now includes [Chapters](#) from twelve western states, British Columbia, Yukon Territories, and Mexico. Our members represent a tremendous array of fisheries workers involved in all aspects of the fisheries profession. The collective diversity and expertise of Western Division members is the basis of an intimate and unparalleled familiarity with fisheries resources and issues within our geographic region. Division objectives are to provide a forum for exchanging technical and policy information, promote understanding by regional, Federal, and state policy-makers of the nature and extent of fishery matters of concern to the membership, facilitate timely exchange of information to chapters and the general membership, and provide a vehicle for the active participation of individual members in Society business and professional activities.

<http://www.wdafs.org>