



THE TRIBUTARY

A Newsletter of the

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

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2010 AFS Western Division Annual Meeting

April 19—23, 2010 “The Future of Aquatic Resources in the West: Science, Management, and Politics”
Salt Lake City, Utah

On behalf of the Utah Chapter, we invite you to join us in Salt Lake City, April 19—23 for the 2010 Western Division of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Downtown Radisson Hotel and adjacent Salt Palace Convention Center.

Reminder - The early registration deadline is March 1. After this date, registration rates will be \$175 for student members and \$395 for AFS members.

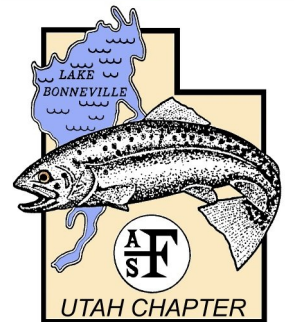
March 1, 2010 is also the deadline for submitting oral presentations and poster abstracts.

Be sure to check out the Continuing Education courses offered this year including: Power-Based Standardization in Electrofishing, Technical Considerations in the Design and Field Application of Instream PIT-tag Detection Systems for Fisheries Applications, and a free course on Leadership in all Levels of AFS.

The meeting website contains a list of submitted symposia for this years meeting, as well as information on local attractions, and a tentative agenda. This information can be found at: <http://utahafs.org/wdafs2010/>

For specific questions please contact Mike Mills (mikem@cuwcd.com) or Anna Forest (annaforest@utah.gov).

We look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City!



Officers

President

Leanne H. Roulson
808 Oregon Street
Belgrade, MT 59714
Phone: (406) 994-5047
leanne.roulson@msu.montana.edu

President Elect

Lori M. Martin
Aquatic Biologist
Colorado Division of Wildlife
711 Independent Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81505
Phone: (970) 255-6126
Lori.Martin@state.co.us

Vice President

Dave Ward
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 300
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: (503) 229-0191
Dave.Ward@cbfwa.org

Secretary-Treasurer

Mary Buckman

Western Division Awards

Every year we solicit nominations to honor individuals or groups who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the American Fisheries Society, to our profession, and to fisheries research, conservation, and management. This is your opportunity to nominate and honor someone you have professionally admired and ensure that your peers receive the recognition they deserve. Please take a moment and think about people you know that meet the Division's award criteria and should be recognized for their significant contributions and accomplishments.

More information can be found on page 9 of this newsletter and online at:

<http://www.wdafs.org/committees/awards/awards.htm>

President's Hook

Why do we meet?

With the Salt Lake Meeting looming on the horizon, I have been thinking about why fish-heads seem to need to get together, frequently, and in organized groups. Meetings are fun and are often held in attractive and interesting places; however, we could go to interesting places with our fish-oriented friends on our own. Many of us do this all the time during field season. So what is it that pulls us together annually? And no, it is not just the beer; last time I checked, that is also available near most field sites. I would offer that our meetings provide an opportunity to see colleagues and stimulate discussions that might not occur on the river or in the lake.

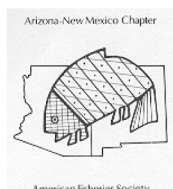
I recently attended the Montana Chapter meeting after having to forgo the previous year's meeting. I missed the 2009 meeting, but I did not realize how much I missed until I walked into the 2010 meeting. I was immediately greeted by several faces that I had not seen in over a year. It was easy to start a conversation and get caught up on what was going on with attendees both on a personal and a professional level. I heard about several projects that I had been aware of, but had not been involved in over the past year. I listened to updates on what had happened in the legislature and in our state's management agencies, and learned about some changes in land management that might positively affect a long-term fisheries project. I got to tell at least one person "thank you" for work completed outside of their job. All of this happened during the coffee service before the plenary began. I also met several students, got caught up on how different families were handling kids going off to school or moving to a new town for a change in career. I know the Montana Chapter is a particularly close one, but I do not doubt that similar interactions happen at Chapter meetings across our Division.

So, why go to a Division meeting when local meetings are so great? Well, one of my favorite aspects of meetings is learning about how fisheries science is progressing and how resource managers at all levels are adapting to changing conditions and technology. Although I get a hefty dose of this at the Montana meeting each year, including a healthy dose of humility when the stat-slides come out, there is something about seeing a presentation from outside of my personal ecological experience that really activates my thought process. How might that apply in Montana? Who else in the Division might benefit from the results of this project? I should meet that person after the talk and ask them about how they put together their funding. These are the sorts of interactions that do not occur on conference calls or during local field work sessions. I also enjoy the new discussions I get to listen in on during the breaks. I might know one person who introduces me to a new group (fish people are real friendly-types) and then I get to hear about the big issues in New Mexico and possibly add my two-cents into their discussion on water rights. I also get to see how agencies and resource users have developed understandings and relationships that work in their region, and that often gets me thinking about possibilities rather than roadblocks. So, if you have not been to a Division meeting in a while, I encourage you to head to Salt Lake in April this year. You never know how you might benefit. Oh, and yes, there will be beer.

- Leanne Roulson

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

| Chapter | Location | Dates |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Alaska | Juneau, Alaska | TBA |
| California - Nevada | Redding, California | March 10—13, 2010 |
| Colorado - Wyoming | Laramie, Wyoming | March 1—4, 2010 |
| Idaho | Pocatello, Idaho | March 3—5, 2010 |
| Mexico | Ensenada, Baja California | May 3—7, 2010 |
| Oregon | Eugene, Oregon | February 23—26, 2010 |
| Utah (joint with Western Division Meeting) | Salt Lake City, Utah | April 19—22, 2010 |
| Washington - British Columbia | Nanaimo, British Columbia | March 2—4, 2010 |



2-Day Short Course: Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish

Discover the possibilities of using acoustic tags for your fisheries studies. Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish addresses all aspects of tracking fish movement in 3D with sub-meter resolution. Whether you're new to acoustics or a seasoned professional, we cater to all levels of experience.

Hydroacoustic Technology Inc. (HTI; www.HTIsonar.com) will be hosting an acoustic tag workshop March 10 and 11 at the AFS Cal-Neva Annual Meeting showing the potential applications for tracking and monitoring fish. For more information or to register, go to the following website:

<http://www.calsalmon.org/index.php> or email: cmercado@HTIsonar.com

**March 10—11,
2010**

Redding, California





Second Biannual Meeting of the Mexican Fisheries Society and the Mexican Chapter of the AFS

CICESE, Ensenada, BC, May 3 to 7 of 2010



To all interested in Mexican fisheries, we invite you to participate in the Second Biannual Meeting of the Mexican Fisheries Society (SMP) and the Mexican Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, to be held in Ensenada, May 3—7, 2010.

The meeting will focus on:

- Fisheries oceanography
- Freshwater fisheries
- Fisheries regulations
- Fisheries biology, and
- Other

Venue:

The meeting will take place at the Center of Scientific Research and High Education of Ensenada (CICESE, Spanish translation; www.cicese.edu.mx). It is located at: Km 107 Carretera Tijuana-Ensenada, Ensenada, Baja California.

CICESE is a center dedicated to research on Applied Physics and Biology, Earth Science, and Oceanography. It is part of the National Science Council Centers System.



Main Hotel: Hotel Corona: www.hotelcorona.com.mx
Telephone: +52 (646) 176-0902 to 10
Please ask for the CICESE discount.

Alternative Hotel: Hotel Coral y Marina:
www.hotelcoral.com
Telephone: +52 (646) 175-0000

Other Hotels:

<http://zonaturistica.com/baja-california/ensenada/>

Important Dates:

January 21 - Beginning of registration, see instructions at: www.pescamexico.org

March 19 - Last date for submitting abstracts, see instructions at: www.pescamexico.org

March 31 - Publication of the final version of the meeting agenda

Registration Costs (Mexican pesos):

| | |
|---|------------|
| Society Member | \$750.00 |
| Society Member, student | \$300.00 |
| Non-member | \$1,150.00 |
| Non-member, student | \$500.00 |
| SMP Membership - 2 years | \$300.00 |
| SMP Membership, student - 2 years | \$150.00 |
| Membership in Mexican Chapter of AFS - 1 year | \$5.00 |

For more information, and payment instruction for foreigners and Mexicans abroad, please contact:

Oscar Sosa-Nishizaki

CICESE

ososa@cicese.mx

Telephone: (646) 175-0500 ext. 24267 ó 24285

STATE OF THE SALMON

KNOWLEDGE ACROSS BORDERS • ЗНАНИЕ СКВОЗЬ ГРАНИЦЫ • 国境を超えた知識

STATE OF THE SALMON 2010 CONFERENCE

May 4-7, 2010

Hilton, Portland, Oregon



ECOLOGICAL INTERACTIONS *between Wild & Hatchery Salmon*

In recent years debate has heightened regarding hatcheries and their effect on freshwater, estuarine and marine ecosystems. This conference represents the first international effort to convene a diverse group to explore the scale and magnitude of the ecological effects of hatcheries, identify gaps in our knowledge and develop research plans to resolve key issues. We expect participation by scientists, fishery and hatchery managers, conservation organizations, indigenous groups, industry representatives and decision makers.

The conference will include:

- An opening reception with special guest Tom Brokaw
- A keynote presentation by Ray Hilborn, University of Washington
- A keynote presentation by Rob Walton, NOAA Salmon Recovery Division
- Diverse technical sessions ranging from human dimensions to regional case studies



Learn more online at
www.stateofthesalmon.org



Advances in the Population Ecology of Stream Salmonids



International Symposium

To avoid late fees, register before 1
March 2010
Abstracts due February 1, 2009

May 17—21, 2010

Luarca,
(Asturias) Spain

The cultural, societal, economic, ecological, and scientific importance of stream salmonids has resulted in thousands of papers published over the last 150 years. However, during the last several decades human interventions such as stockings, introductions, and translocations of salmonid species coupled with severe damage to stream habitats through construction of dams and weirs, pollution, canalization, and a variety of landscape changes have reduced the distributional ranges of many salmonid species, while other species have declined to

alarming numbers or are threatened. Further, the introductions of salmonids into exotic habitats have resulted in serious damage to native faunas.

Despite a long tradition of research and management of salmonids, the question arises whether the knowledge acquired to date is sufficient not only to understand the complex ecology and overwhelming diversity of life-history strategies exhibited by stream salmonids but also to offer solutions to the numerous conservation issues currently faced by all countries that are home to stream salmonids.

This meeting will provide an international forum to:

- Update our knowledge on the population ecology of stream salmonids,
- Explore how we move from scientific knowledge to conservation principles so that salmonids might continue their successful evolutionary course,
- Evaluate how we may mitigate human impacts on salmonid populations, and
- Mitigate the impacts of introduced salmonids on native faunas wherever they have been introduced.

In addition, there will be a special workshop (22 – 23 May, 2010) on evaluating the best way to analyze long-term mark-recapture projects based on collection and evaluation of both genotype (microsatellite) data and indices of salmonid performance (survival, growth, parentage, breeding systems, etc).

For further information check out the conference website, or contact Phaedra Budy, phaedra.budy@usu.edu (North America Co-Chair)

www.symposiumsalmonids.com or contact: info@symposiumsalmonids.com



34th Annual Larval Fish Conference

34th Annual Larval Fish Conference
May 30–June 3 2010



Larval Fish Biology in the 21st Century:
Responding to a changing environment

UNT
UNIVERSITY OF
NORTH TEXAS

www.larvalfishcon.org



“Larval Fish Biology in the 21st Century: Responding to a Changing Environment”

This year's conference will be held at the Fort Marcy Hotel Suites in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA. The hotel is located amidst nine acres of natural and landscaped grounds and gardens and is just a four-block walk from the historic downtown Santa Fe Plaza.

Early registration and abstract submission opens on January 4, 2010, and closes on February 28. Late registration ends on May 30.

Planned theme sessions include:

- Integrative Developmental Systems: Where Developmental Biology, Physiology and Ecology Meet
- Developmental Programming and Ontogeny in Fish
- Reproductive and Early Life History Consequences of a Changing Environment

- Larval Fish Ecology and Conservation of Native Fishes in the American Southwest
- Larval Fish Ecology and Recovery of Missouri-Mississippi 'Big River' Fishes
- Freshwater Larval Fish Ecology, and
- Descriptions and Identification

Learn more online at: www.larvalfishcon.org

May 30—June 3, 2010

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Meeting



You are invited to attend the 2010 Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Meeting! Please join us for a stimulating meeting with all of your top colleagues.

- Located at Grove Hotel in rockin' downtown Boise!
- Proceedings planned to be published in special issue of Transactions of the American Fisheries Society
- Student travel scholarship to be provided by AFS Genetics Section
- Mug at registration entitles holder to free beer at Banquet!
- Finish with a rafting trip on the Payette River!

http://www.idahoafs.org/documents/coastwide_mtg_announce.pdf

June 2—4, 2010

Boise, Idaho



Western Division Reviews the Adaptive Management

Implementation Plan for Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead

The WDAFS recently completed a review of the Adaptive Management Implementation Plan (AMIP) issued by the federal government in September 2009 as an addition to the 2008 Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System. The review is intended to provide information useful to the WDAFS membership, and to parties currently involved in litigation of the 2008 Biological Opinion. Our primary purpose is to help improve the Biological Opinion, which we think will increase the opportunity for recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin.

Although the AMIP provides some useful information and includes some beneficial actions, the WDAFS noted a number of concerns, and found the AMIP to be inadequate for ensuring the protection of threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River Basin. Rather than use a precautionary principle to protect threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead, the AMIP seems to use a precautionary principle to support the 2008 Biological Opinion and to defend the status quo. A specific concern was the repeated use of the term "best scientific information". The WDAFS is of the opinion that the AMIP does not always use the "best scientific information".

Review of the AMIP by the WDAFS is quite timely. Although the judge hearing the case has ruled that he can't consider the AMIP as a separate attachment, he has indicated that he will consider it if it is completely integrated into the Biological Opinion.

The full review of the AMIP can be found on the WDAFS website: <http://www.wdafs.org/>

Nominate now for Western Division Awards!

Now is the time to recognize your friends, colleagues, chapters, organizations, and others you feel have gone beyond the call of duty for fisheries management and conservation in western North America. The good news is the application process won't take more than a few minutes of your time, and will mean a lot to both the person awarded, and the fisheries profession. Please take the time and recognize someone special! Below are the available awards. Nominate now! Nominate often!

See <http://www.wdafs.org/committees/awards/awards.htm> for a description of the available awards:

- Award of Excellence
- Award of Merit
- Award of Special Recognition
- Robert Borovicka Conservation Achievement Award
- Conservation Achievement Award
- WDAFS Outstanding Chapter Award

For all awards besides the Chapter Award, write a no more than one page description of why the individual or organization deserves the particular award. For the Chapter Award, nominate using the template for chapter award nominations on the parent society web site. Awards will be presented at the Salt Lake City Annual WDAFS meeting. Please email all award nominations to Scott Bonar at sbonar@ag.arizona.edu by March 15, 2010.

Western Division American Fisheries Society

Eugene Maughan Graduate Student Scholarship

2010 Application Procedures

The Western Division is pleased to announce that applications for its graduate-level student scholarships are now being solicited. This scholarship program provides up to \$3,000 annually in scholarships to masters or doctoral students in the general area of fisheries science with one to three awards to individual students. Beginning in 2002, the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation established the William Trachtenberg Memorial Scholarship Fund, which augments the Western Division scholarship program. This fund provides up to \$600 annually to a graduate-level student conducting studies on fisheries sustainability. Applications for the Western Division scholarship program will automatically be considered for the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation scholarship program as well. An award committee of five fisheries scientists from the Western Division will make the decision regarding the award of scholarships from both programs. Selection criteria include demonstration of:

1. Excellent scholarship as evidenced by grades in rigorous course work during the last 60 hours as an undergraduate and during graduate studies.
2. Potential for future contributions to the fisheries profession through management, research, or teaching.
3. Significant progress toward attaining a graduate degree in fisheries science with a defined thesis or dissertation project.

The 2010 scholarships will be awarded at the annual meeting of WDAFS in Salt Lake City Utah, April 19-23, 2010.

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

1. Applicants must be a member of the American Fisheries Society or have submitted 2010 membership materials by the time of application. *AFS Member number should be placed on application.*
2. Applicants must have completed one semester or two quarters in a graduate degree program at a university within the geographic boundaries of the Western Division.
3. Applicants must have a major field of study that is related to fisheries or aquatic science.
4. Applicants must submit an application package (either electronically or **five (5)** hard copies) that contains of each of the following:
 - A. A letter to the award committee that includes (**three separate items**):
 - A brief description of the student's degree program and the anticipated date of completion.
 - A statement of the applicant's career goals and reasons for applying for the scholarship (up to 200 words).
 - A statement of the academic and professional activities and contributions to AFS and the fisheries science profession (up to 200 words).
 - B. Copies of a resume (including professional activities, pertinent publications, and scientific presentations), undergraduate and graduate transcripts, *and* GRE scores.
 - C. A one-page abstract outlining the goals, objectives, design, methods and expected outcome from the thesis or dissertation project.
 - D. Letters of reference from two faculty members (one must be the graduate students advisor) familiar with the student's background and abilities. Letters may be sent separately by the individual providing the reference.

The application package should be sent (postmarked) no later than March 12, 2010 to:

Bob Gresswell, Western Division Scholarship Award Committee
USGS-NRMSC
2327 University Way, Suite 2
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-994-7085
bgresswell@usgs.gov

AFS Western Division Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee

- 2010 Riparian Challenge - 2nd Call for Entries -

The Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee is seeking entries for the Western Division's 2010 Riparian Challenge Award. The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other conservation agencies or private industries in the region encompassed by the Western Division (thirteen western states, British Columbia, Yukon Territories, Mexico and U.S. Islands and Trust Territories of the Western Pacific), are invited to participate in the Riparian Challenge. Winners will receive the Western Division's Award of Excellence in Riparian Management to be presented at the Western Division Annual Meeting hosted by the Utah Chapter AFS in Salt Lake City, Utah April 19-23, 2010. The purpose of the Riparian Challenge award is to:

- Encourage the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, and other conservation agencies or private industry to strive for excellence in riparian and watershed habitat management,
- Encourage agencies to progress in on-the-ground accomplishments which when added together throughout the West, will significantly improve riparian systems,
- Recognize managers and resource specialists for their efforts in maintaining, restoring, and improving riparian and watershed ecosystems.

If you are aware of a project that should be considered, please ask the appropriate USFS, BLM, conservation agency or industry to submit an entry form. Winners will be selected in the following categories (depending on the number of submissions received):

BLM

- Best Resource Area or Field Office

Forest Service

- Best Ranger District

Other (conservation agencies, consultants, or private industry)

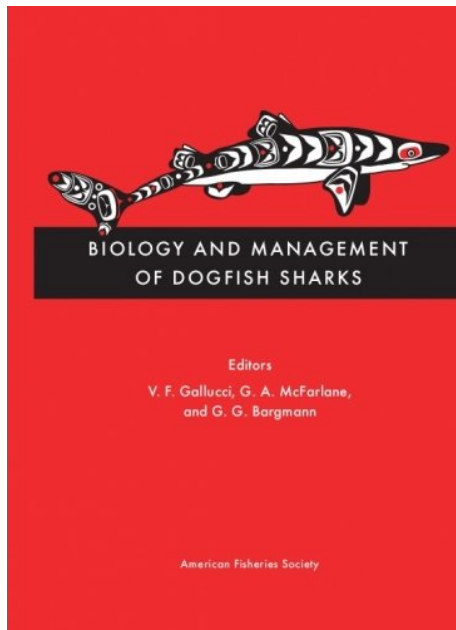
- Best Riparian Project

More information, along with a description of the entry format, criteria for evaluating entries, and examples of recent winning entries, please visit:

http://www.wdafs.org/committees/Riparian_Watersheds_Habitat/Riparian_Watersheds_Habitat_comm.htm

Questions concerning the Riparian Challenge and completed electronic entries should be emailed to the Riparian Challenge Committee Chair, Troy Brandt (tbrandt@riverdesigngroup.net, 503-307-8367). Entries are to be submitted by March 15, 2010.

Biology and Management of Dogfish Sharks



A new publication from the American Fisheries Society

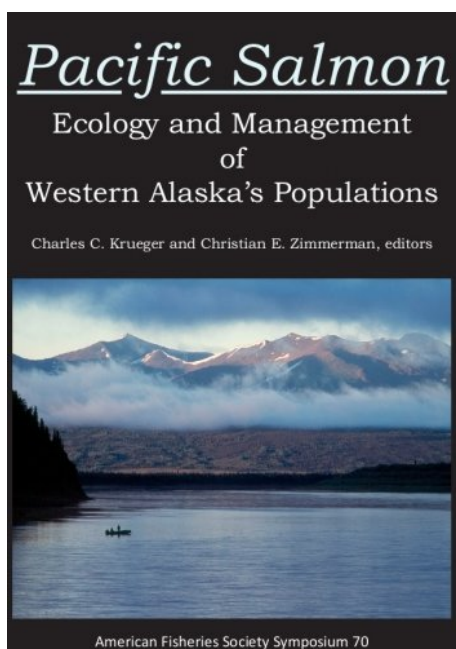
The spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) is one of the most abundant shark species in the world. For over a century it has been both reviled and valued, has supported commercial fisheries in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and has been overexploited in both. As the only shark species to recover from over-fishing, its responses and recovery trajectories are of great interest to conservationists and fishery managers.

The book's 34 chapters compile current knowledge of dogfish, their ecology, and their management worldwide. It reviews historical fisheries, evaluates past and current management strategies, and provides new biological and ecological information from both the single species and ecosystems perspectives. It confirms the urgency of consideration of the human dimensions of management as part of efforts to protect dogfish where it is threatened while providing sustainable fisheries.

The retail price is \$69.00 and can be purchased at:

<http://www.afsbooks.org/550580C>

Pacific Salmon: Ecology and Management of Western Alaska's Populations



A new publication from the American Fisheries Society

This timely book examines the sustainability of salmon fisheries in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) region of Alaska. With more than fifty chapters, the book assesses the ecological processes that cause change in salmon populations; describes the effects of varying salmon runs on rural communities; reviews state, Federal, and international management of salmon fisheries in the region; and examines emerging themes at the nexus of salmon ecology and management in the AYK region.

Topics covered include marine and freshwater ecology; subsistence, commercial, and sport fisheries; and economics, governance, and cultural issues.

The retail price is \$69.00 and can be purchased at:

<http://www.afsbooks.org/54070C>



About the Tributary

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

Editor

Travis Neebling Travis.Neebling@wgf.state.wy.us

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 thirteen western states, British Columbia, Yukon Territories, and U.S. Islands and Trust Territories of the Western Pacific. 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>