



# THE TRIBUTARY

A Newsletter of the

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

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## 2011 AFS Annual Meeting

NEW FRONTIERS IN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND ECOLOGY:  
LEADING THE WAY IN A CHANGING WORLD

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 141ST ANNUAL MEETING  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON . SEPTEMBER 4-8, 2011 . [WWW.FISHERIES.ORG/AFS2011](http://www.fisheries.org/afs2011)

Set your sights on attending this year's Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. With its focus on "New Frontiers in Fisheries Management and Ecology: Leading the Way in a Changing World," the conference will provide a wonderful opportunity for fisheries professionals to meet, exchange information, catch up with friends, and find inspiration.

AFS President Wayne Hubert, meeting co-chairs Cleve Steward and Larry Dominguez, and program co-chairs Craig Busack and Dave Ward invite you to attend the 2011 AFS Annual Meeting at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington. With magnificent Puget Sound at its doorstep and Mount Rainier and the towering Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges visible in the distance, the Emerald City offers both scenic splendor and myriad recreational opportunities.

In addition to the eclectic mix of outstanding symposia, contributed papers, and posters for which AFS meetings are known, the Seattle meeting will feature a broad range of technical, social, and legal topics that are of national and international interest, including measures to recover from massive man-made and weather-related catastrophes and to ensure the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources. Regional topics will highlight efforts to protect and clean up Puget Sound and address emerging issues related to the Columbia River, salmon recovery, and watershed management. We encourage those involved or interested in fisheries science and management, marine and freshwater habitat protection, or fisheries-related recreation to contribute to this important meeting.

Plenary session speakers have been announced, and details can be found on page 19. Details on the continuing education courses and socials will be available at the meeting website (<http://www.fisheries.org/afs2011>) shortly. While you are visiting the website, please consider submitting a paper or poster. Details on the submission process can also be found at the meeting website.



# Officers

## President

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## Vice President

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## Secretary-Treasurer

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3248 SW Long Avenue  
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# Upcoming Chapter Meetings

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Alaska	Juneau, Alaska	November 3—5
Arizona - New Mexico	Pinetop, Arizona	February 3—5
California - Nevada	Folsom, California	March 31—April 2
Colorado - Wyoming	Fort Collins, Colorado	February 22—25
Idaho	Boise, Idaho	March 2—4
Mexico	Mazatlan, Mexico	May 16—20
Montana	Great Falls, Montana	February 8—11
Oregon	Bend, Oregon	February 22—25
Utah	Salt Lake City, Utah	March 22—24

## President's Hook

Happy 2011! It is hard to believe the new year is here already. If you are one of those people who tend to make resolutions for the new year, I've got a suggestion for you. How about resolving to become more involved in AFS? We are fortunate to have the largest Division within the Parent Society, yet we have a very small group of folks that are truly active in Western Division business. I know some of you have wondered how you might be able to take part in Western Division business activities, and by doing so, contribute overall to the Parent Society. There are a plethora of opportunities for you to consider, and possibilities that can work within the reality of your already busy schedule. Here are some ideas for your consideration:

The Western Division Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Parent Society Annual Meeting September 4-8, 2011 in Seattle, WA. Have you thought about presenting a paper or poster, or what about pulling together a symposium proposal? Deadlines are fast approaching for each of these options. If you are planning to attend the meeting, might you be interested in volunteering your time to assist with one of the many meeting activities? Or, maybe you have a unique talent or item that you would like to donate for the raffle and auctions? As you can see, there are plenty of opportunities to take advantage of as we prepare for and partake in Seattle 2011.

Committees of the Western Division are also looking for some new participants who will bring enthusiasm and dedicated interests in tackling certain topics and issues mentioned below:

1. Have a knack for mathematics, or an interest in finances? Do you have some innovative ideas for fundraising? We need someone to take the reins of the Audit Committee, and assist us in completing our annual audit of Western Division finances. Our Grants Funding and Investment Committee also needs to be replenished with some new faces and creative minds.
2. Are you a web-techie who really enjoys website development and maintenance? If so, then we have the perfect fit for you. Our website is one of the most important tools we have to communicate information to each other. Are you the person that can help give the Western Division's website a makeover, and continue to provide easy access and navigability to our site? Maybe you and a colleague could challenge yourselves to make the Western Division website the pride of the entire Parent Society.
3. Were you and/or your agency involved in contributing to the vision and development of the Western Division's Western Native Fishes database? Would you like to be a part of making this database available and accessible to the Western Division membership and others? If so, the Western Native Fishes Committee could put you to work.
4. Did you have a special person or mentor help you get to where you are today in your career? Would you like to repay that mentor by becoming one yourself? The Western Division is considering the development of a student-mentor program similar to the Parent Society's Hutton Program. This would be a perfect opportunity for you to "pay your experiences forward" by investing your time and energy in this exciting new venture.
5. Do you know folks in the Yukon Territory, and/or U.S. Islands and Trust Territories of the Western Pacific (Islands of Hawaii, Midway, Baker, Jarvis, Wake, Palmyra, and Howland; Johnston Atoll; Commonwealth of the North Mariana Islands; and Territories of Guam and American Samoa) who might be interested in Western Division activities? Or, are you a Western Division member who resides and/or completes research in these areas and would like to be more involved with AFS? We would like to get to know you!! Developing communication and networking opportunities with aquatic/fisheries professionals and students within these lesser known geographic areas will prove beneficial to all involved.
6. Maybe you are a student and would like to assist in the process for developing a student representative position on the Executive Committee? Student participation in Western Division business and activities is crucial to the success of not only our Division, but the Parent Society as well.

Continued on the next page

## President's Hook

7. Do you have a particular need as a member that the Western Division is not currently accommodating? Maybe your employer is not able to provide financial assistance so that you may attend Western Division and Parent Society functions. The Western Division would like to work with the Parent Society to investigate the possibility for future web-based meetings and online educational courses that are cost-effective and user-friendly. Might you be interested in helping us learn more about this topic?
8. Are you a people-person who enjoys sharing your career experiences and relationship to the Parent Society with others? If so, then maybe you can help in coordinating other members of your unit within the Western Division to "show and tell" with students and other groups interested in aquatic resources and potential career opportunities within our profession.
9. How about nominating a colleague or two for their outstanding efforts and contributions to the Western Division, Parent Society, our profession, and to fisheries research, conservation, and management? Maybe your Chapter or Student Subunit is deserving of the Outstanding Chapter and Student Subunit of the Year awards? This is your opportunity to nominate and honor those colleagues you admire, and ensure they receive recognition for their significant contributions and accomplishments. Check-out the Western Division website (<http://www.wdafs.org/>) and page 9 of the this newsletter for a list of the awards and their respective criteria.
10. Are you interested in professional growth and expanding your horizons? Then consider seeking your professional certification through AFS, if you have not done so already. The Western Division is offering application funding for the first 10 successful applicants. Or, maybe you have your heights set on a leadership role within the Western Division? Officer nominations will be forthcoming so start preparing your candidate statements today.

These are just a few of the multitude of opportunities that are available to you, as you seek to become more involved in Western Division activities, and keep your new year's resolution! I hope several of you will be curious enough to check into these possibilities, and consider taking advantage of these options. We would love to have you join other members of the Western Division team who are graciously investing their time and effort to benefit you and the rest of the Western Division membership. The rewards are endless!!

Please contact me should you be interested in joining the Western Division team (phone: (970) 255-6126; email: [lori.martin@state.co.us](mailto:lori.martin@state.co.us)). I look forward to hearing from you soon, as we have much to accomplish in this new year!!

— Lori Martin  
President, Western Division





## Acoustic Tag and Hydroacoustic Winter Short Courses

### Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish

3—4 February, 2011 from 9 AM—5 PM in Seattle, Washington

[http://www.htisonar.com/at\\_short\\_course.htm](http://www.htisonar.com/at_short_course.htm)

This short course addresses all aspects of tracking fish movement with acoustic tags, including three-dimensional tracking with sub-meter resolution. The course includes hands-on operation and a variety of applications are covered. Lunch is provided. For more information or to save a seat, email [support@HTIsonar.com](mailto:support@HTIsonar.com).



### Using Hydroacoustics for Fisheries Assessment

10—11 February, 2011 from 9 AM—5 PM in Seattle, Washington

[http://www.htisonar.com/ha\\_short\\_course.htm](http://www.htisonar.com/ha_short_course.htm)

The hydroacoustic short course covers mobile and fixed-location survey techniques, and subjects include basic hydroacoustic theory, deployment logistics, data collection and processing, as well as typical results. Split-beam, single-beam, and multi-beam frequency techniques are discussed in detail. Lunch is provided. For more information or to save a seat, email [support@HTIsonar.com](mailto:support@HTIsonar.com).

## Oregon Chapter Annual Meeting

Join us for "Managing Through Science not Emotion" at the Oregon Chapter of the AFS Annual Meeting. This year's plenary speaker is Don Chapman, a retired fishery biologist with over 55 years of experience mostly working on salmon and steelhead issues in Oregon and Idaho. Don has a PhD from Oregon State University and taught at the University of Idaho. Don's plenary talk will focus on Columbia and Snake River issues.

There are many technical sessions including: Native Fish, Fish Passage, Snake River Dams, Marine Reserves, Bull Trout, and more. There will also be affordable pre-meeting Technical Workshops on Instream Flow Methodologies and Fish Photography Technique.

Details at [www.ORAFS.org](http://www.ORAFS.org)

Spread the word and come join us in Bend February 22—25, 2011 (Stay the weekend for great skiing!!!)

Abstracts can be submitted at: <http://www.orafs.org/meeting2011/Annual11.htm>

Questions - contact Colleen Fagan at (541) 962-1835 or (541) 975-4695 or [colleen.e.fagan@state.or.us](mailto:colleen.e.fagan@state.or.us)

**February 23—25, 2011**  
Bend,  
Oregon



## Smith-Root Introduction to Electrofishing Courses

### Introduction to Electrofishing Course

23—24 March, 2011 in Vancouver, Washington

[http://www.smith-root.com/option.com\\_eventlist/Itemid,164/func.details/did,22/](http://www.smith-root.com/option.com_eventlist/Itemid,164/func.details/did,22/)



This is a 2-day course being held at Smith-Root, Inc. headquarters in Vancouver, WA. The first day consists of a classroom lecture-based session covering basic electrical theory, electrofishing equipment, operation and safety, and applied electrofishing methods. The second day is a practical field-based session where participants operate electrofishing equipment and apply information learned in the classroom.

### Introduction to Electrofishing Course

21—22 September, 2011 in Vancouver, Washington

[http://www.smith-root.com/option.com\\_eventlist/Itemid,164/func.details/did,23/](http://www.smith-root.com/option.com_eventlist/Itemid,164/func.details/did,23/)

This is a 2-day course being held at Smith-Root, Inc. headquarters in Vancouver, WA. The first day consists of a classroom lecture-based session covering basic electrical theory, electrofishing equipment, operation and safety, and applied electrofishing methods. The second day is a practical field-based session where participants operate electrofishing equipment and apply information learned in the classroom.

Additionally, As of November 1, 2010 anyone purchasing a new backpack electrofisher from Smith-Root will receive a voucher to attend one class. The voucher is good for one year; transportation and lodging are not included.

## Acoustic Challenges in Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment

The Acoustical Society of America and the American Fisheries Society are cosponsoring a special workshop titled Acoustic Challenges in Aquatic Ecosystem Assessment. The workshop will be held in conjunction with the 161st meeting of the ASA. They are now soliciting abstracts for oral and poster presentations. For more information please visit the web site.

**May 25—27, 2011**  
Seattle,  
Washington


[http://acousticalsociety.org/meetings/future\\_meeting/seattle/fisheries](http://acousticalsociety.org/meetings/future_meeting/seattle/fisheries)

### TOPICS OF INTEREST:

- Ecosystem Based Resource Management
- Statistical Analysis for Fisheries Assessment
- Cabled Observatories
- Progress in Fish Tagging
- Active vs. Passive Assessment
- Detecting and Monitoring Episodic Events
- Monitoring Renewable Energy Sites
- Acoustical Models for Fisheries Assessment
- Acoustic Species Discrimination
- Habitat Inventory
- Quantitative Assessments in Noisy Environments

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

John Simmonds, co-author of Fisheries Acoustics, Acoustic technologies to support fisheries management, research, and policy.



***Salvelinus confluentus* Curiosity Society**  
**Lower Clark Fork River, MT/ Lake Pend Oreille, ID**  
**Annual Meeting – 2011**

Dates: October 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Location: Amber Bear Inn & Heron Community Center; Heron, MT

The 2011 ScCS meeting will be held on the lower Clark Fork River, MT/ Lake Pend Oreille, ID system. The meeting location in Heron, MT is located near the Idaho Cabinet Gorge Fish Hatchery and Cabinet Gorge Dam, both approximately 12 km upstream of Lake Pend Oreille, ID.

The meeting will be comprised of two ½ day presentation sessions and one field trip day. Tuesday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>: 12:00

p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Heron Community Center –

Presentations. Wednesday Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>: Field trips:

- Boat tours of gill netting efforts to remove lake trout on Lake Pend Oreille.
- Tour of new bull trout fish ladder at Thompson Falls Dam.
- Redd Count training session offered by IDFG personnel or assist with redd counts.
- Snorkel survey of the Vermilion River, MT.
- Bull trout radio telemetry & tour of weir traps in MT tributaries.
- Hook and line sampling.

Thursday Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Heron community Center – Presentations.

Primary lodging and meals will be provided at the Amber Bear Inn ([amberbearinn.com](http://amberbearinn.com)) ~5 minutes from the Heron Community Center. Camping fee will be included in registration fee (TBA) along with meals (2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners) and a souvenir. There are only 5 rooms available at the Amber Bear Inn so book early if you are not camping. Additional lodging is available at the Diamond T Ranch ([diamondtranch.com](http://diamondtranch.com)) (less than 10 minutes from meeting site), or at hotels located in Clark Fork (15 minutes) Meriwether Inn ([meriwetherinn.com](http://meriwetherinn.com)) or Sandpoint, ID (40 minutes). Limit of 100 meeting attendees, so register early.

Presentation themes include but are not limited to “Bull Trout Passage” and “Bull trout interactions with non-natives”. For meeting information contact Shana Bernall ([Shana.Bernall@avistacorp.com](mailto:Shana.Bernall@avistacorp.com)) or information on early registration contact Lisa Vollertsen ([Lisa.Vollertsen@avistacorp.com](mailto:Lisa.Vollertsen@avistacorp.com)).

Photo: Joel Sartore/National Geographic Stock with Wade Fredenberg





Win the honor of having  
**YOUR** writing published  
In Fisheries!

## Student Writing Contest Now Accepting Submissions

**Submission deadline**  
April 15, 2011

**Submissions should be directed to:**  
Walt Duffy  
California Coop Fish & Wildlife Unit, Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 95521

**Questions?**  
Call Walt Duffy at (707) 826-5644 or email [walter.duffy@humboldt.edu](mailto:walter.duffy@humboldt.edu)

The **American Fisheries Society Student Writing Contest** recognizes students for excellence in the communication of fisheries research to the general public.

Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit a 500- to 700-word article explaining their own research or a research project in their lab or school. The article must be written in language understandable to the general public (i.e., journalistic style). The winning article will be published in *Fisheries*.

Students may write about research that has been completed, is in progress, or is in the planning stages. The papers will be judged according to their quality and their ability to turn a scientific research topic into a paper for the general public and will be scored based upon a grading rubric. Check the AFS Web site ([www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org)) awards page for the grading rubric.



# Western Division Awards

## 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 links to a list of prior recipients:

### Award of Excellence

This is the most prestigious award offered by the Western Division and it is intended to recognize sustained professional excellence. It is given annually to an AFS member who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and exceptional competence in fishery resource applications through monumental works, new methodologies, or multiple successful contributions that benefit our resources and profession. Successful nominees have usually excelled in research or management programs at the regional, national, or international levels. Other examples include fresh, innovative approaches to improving our understanding of aquatic resources, and imaginative and successful programs in education at any level of teaching and imaginative and successful programs in education at any level of teaching.

### Award of Merit

This award is given to an AFS member(s) who has made a regionally significant and worthy contribution to our Division, our profession, or our fishery resources.

### Award of Special Recognition

This award is given to an individual or to an entity (AFS member or non-member) making a significant contribution to the development and success of the Western Division.

### Robert Borovicka Conservation Achievement Award

This award is given annually to an individual (AFS member or non-member) who has significantly contributed to fishery conservation within the Division. The individual may be a non-member of AFS.

### Conservation Achievement Award

This award is typically given to an entity (such as an agency, tribe, or organization) that has demonstrated a significant contribution to the conservation of fishery resources within the Division.

In addition to the awards described above, the Division also awards the **WDAFS Outstanding Chapter Award**, the **WDAFS Outstanding Student Subunit Award**, and the **WDAFS Riparian Challenge Awards** (see next page). For all awards besides the Chapter/Student Subunit Award, write a no more than a one page description why the individual or organization deserves the particular award. For the Chapter/Student Subunit Award, nominate using the template for chapter award nominations on the parent society web site ([www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org)). Awards will be presented at the Seattle Annual AFS/WDAFS meeting in September. Please email all award nominations to Leanne Roulson at [leanne.roulson@msu.montana.edu](mailto:leanne.roulson@msu.montana.edu) by **April 15, 2011**.



# American Fisheries Society

## *Western Division*

### **AFS Western Division Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee**

#### **- 2011 Riparian Challenge Call for Entries -**

The Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee is seeking entries for the Western Division's 2011 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 American Fisheries Society's 141st Annual Meeting hosted by the Washington-British Columbia Chapter in Seattle, Washington, September 4—8, 2011. 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 for the award, please ask the appropriate USFS, BLM, conservation agency or industry to submit an entry form. Winners will be selected in the following categories:

#### **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](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](mailto:tbrandt@riverdesigngroup.net), (503) 307-8367). Entries are to be submitted by **April 15, 2011**.

British Columbia · Yukon · Mexico · Alaska · Arizona · California · Colorado · Hawaii · Idaho · Montana · Nevada  
New Mexico · Utah · Washington · Wyoming · Western Pacific islands and trust territories

# Western Division 2010–2011 Budget

Below is the FY 2010–2011 Western Division Budget that was recently approved by the Executive Committee. Any comments regarding this budget should be directed to Mary Buckman ([mary.buckman@oregonstate.edu](mailto:mary.buckman@oregonstate.edu)), Western Division Secretary-Treasurer. Note: The budget continues onto the next page.

## Western Division AFS FY2011 ExCom Approved Budget

October 1, 2010 - September 30, 2011

Approved by ExCom on 11/19/2010

### CATEGORY AND DESCRIPTION

<b>INCOME</b>	
<i>2011 Meeting (Seattle-in conjunction with Parent Society and WA-BC Chapter)</i>	\$15,000.00
<i>Dues Rebate</i>	\$16,000.00
<i>Interest Income</i>	\$500.00
<i>Publication Royalties</i>	\$0.00
<i>Special Projects</i>	\$0.00
<i>Logo Items</i>	\$0.00
<i>Other-Grants Endowment</i>	\$2,443.85
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$33,943.85</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<i>WD Mid-Term ExCom Meeting</i>	
Facility Expenses	\$550.00
ExCom Travel Expenses	\$2,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,050.00</b>
<i>WD Annual Meeting-Seattle</i>	
ExCom Meeting in Seattle (planning for breaks and lunch)	\$1,000.00
WDAFS Annual Business Meeting in Seattle (planning for breakfast buffet)	\$4,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<i>Other ExCom Travel</i>	
Travel Expenses (includes Student Representative)	\$14,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>
<i>Award Certificates and Plaques</i>	
Student Awards	\$100.00
WDAFS Awards	\$250.00
Riparian Award/Other	\$250.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>



**Grants**

Western Native Fishes Project	\$0.00
Professional Travel (includes Mexico Chapter, and other international contacts)	\$1,000.00
Project Grants (not student support)	\$2,443.85

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,443.85</b>
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**Student Support**

Registration fee	\$0.00
Maughan/Trachtenburg Scholarships	\$3,000.00
Student Colloquium	\$1,000.00
Student Travel	\$0.00

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
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**Committees**

Committee Expenses	\$50.00
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<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
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**Other Expenses**

Bank Charges	\$0.00
Tax Preparation	\$330.00
Web Site (hosting fees and software)	\$750.00
Logo Items	\$0.00
Grants Funding Endowment Contribution	\$0.00
Conference Calls	\$1,400.00
Insurance	\$150.00
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$100.00
Other, Contingency (Includes Professional Certification, Survey Monkey)	\$1,000.00

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$3,730.00</b>
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<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$33,873.85</b>
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<b>NET GAIN OR LOSS</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>
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<b>ENCUMBERED</b>	
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From FY2008 - for WNF Project	\$5,758.35
From FY2008 - Student Travel Fund	\$2,364.15
From FY2010 - Grant for Col-Wyo Student Research	\$625.00

<b>LOANS</b>	
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To 2011 Seattle Planning Committee (seed dollars)	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
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## Have you heard about the AFS Professional Certification Program?

Author: Mark G. Pedersen, M.S., FP-C, President, Washington-British Columbia Chapter

If members of the Western Division haven't yet considered becoming AFS certified as a Fisheries Professional, they should. For those who qualify, it will increase your opportunity to advance in your job (more pay), or even get hired. Depending on your employer (government or private), you may earn more money if you are certified. It is likely that compensation incentives will increase as more fisheries professionals become certified. Several municipal governments now require AFS certification to prepare habitat management plans or design mitigation strategies for certain land use developments.

A fisheries professional is an individual with specialized education in the sciences and technologies involving aquatic organisms, interactions of habitat, and humans. If activities affect fish, fish habitat, or fisheries, there is a need for the fisheries professional. Fisheries professionals are characterized by demonstrating dedication to high-quality service and the achievement of specific objectives. The scientific community recognizes that AFS certified fisheries professional strives for high standards of competence and integrity to establish mutual confidence and respect and to bring credit to their profession, employers, and community.

Like professional engineers or landscape architects, certification is widely practiced by the professions as a means of setting standards and guidelines for professional recognition. It upgrades the professional image and is a badge of accomplishment. Certification also is a mechanism that demonstrates responsible peer evaluation. The objectives of AFS certification are to provide governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations, private firms, courts, and the general public with a definitive minimum standard of experience and education for fisheries professionals; and to promote recognition of fisheries professionals as well-educated, experienced, and acting in the public interest.

Three tiers of certification are available: An applicant who satisfies course work and degree (minimum of B.S. or B.A.) requirements, but has insufficient or no experience may become an Associate Fisheries Professional (FP-A). An applicant who satisfies course work and degree requirements and has a specific number of years of qualifying experience and a specific number of professional development quality points (PDQPs) may become a Certified Fisheries Professional (FP-C). An applicant who has held a FP-C for at least 20 years (a "moss-back") and is employed less than full time or retired, may become a Fisheries Professional Emeritus (FP-E).

Certification provides an extra measure of credibility within and outside the profession. The program provides a definitive minimum standard of experience and education for fisheries professionals. This credential should quickly establish a certified fisheries professional as credible in a wide range of settings.

Professional certification has enhanced my job performance. It has been a benefit when testifying or serving as an expert witness. In situations where competitive consulting projects or grants are awarded based on professional qualifications, teams that I have been on have a competitive edge. It has provided an incentive for me to keep current on the latest advances in my profession and active in my chapter and the Western Division.

### Note:

The WDAFS is currently offering up to a total of \$1,000 to assist WDAFS members who would like to submit their professional certification application for consideration. Each WDAFS Chapter will have the option to fund at least one applicant. If the WDAFS receives no applications from all Chapters, then several Chapters may submit multiple applications for review. Any WDAFS member interested in pursuing the professional certification program, as well as potentially receiving financial assistance from the WDAFS should contact their Chapter President. The WDAFS hopes you will take advantage of this limited offer! Please contact WDAFS President Lori Martin at (970) 255-6126 or [Lori.Martin@state.co.us](mailto:Lori.Martin@state.co.us) should you have any questions.

# Western Native Fishes Database Committee Report

Authors: Eric Wagner, Leanne Roulson, and Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey

Many of you are probably wondering ‘What ever happened to that native fish database project?’ The effort that began in 2003 during the presidency of Don McDonald is still alive. This summary should provide some background and a snapshot of where we currently are with the project.

The project is an ambitious one – undertaken by the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society (WDAFS) – to assess the status of freshwater, non-anadromous fishes native to western North America and summarize current knowledge of their historical and current distributions. Jim Tilmant (USFWS), working with Leanne Roulson at Garcia and Associates (GANDA), a private natural resources consulting firm, initiated the project. Data was collected from agencies and compiled into a large Microsoft Access database with inter-related tables (thanks again to all who helped with this effort!). Given the geospatial nature of the data, Geographic Information System (GIS) technology was also pursued to map each species distribution. Using the U.S. Geological Survey’s (USGS) system of hydrologic unit codes (HUCs), each species’ distribution was classified into one of several categories: 1) species exists in HUC within historical range, 2) species exists in HUC outside of historical range, 3) within historic range, but presence or absence not determined, 4) species has been extirpated from historically occupied HUC, and 5) species exists in HUC, but historic presence not verified. Due to the sensitive nature of the data for some rare species, the scale of the distribution maps was kept to 4th level (i.e., 8 digit) HUC. Over 13,000 species sightings entries were included in the database.

In October 2007, Roulson and her associates published a final report, summarizing efforts at GANDA to compile the data for 292 species from 37 families and 115 genera. Although some data gaps still exist, we had a useful database to start working with. The next step was to make the database accessible and updateable. To do this, we wanted to make the mapping of the species distributions available via the Internet. To do this within a limited budget, a collaboration with the University of Redlands in California was initiated. This is the home of GIS research and development. Michael Ziyambi was the graduate student there who worked on developing a web-based mapping interface using ArcGIS 9.3.1. Over the following year, Mr. Ziyambi worked on the project gratis, presenting an update on his work to the WDAFS excom at their mid-year retreat in November 2008. Based on the presentation, it looked like good progress was being made and we would have a product soon. Unfortunately, as events unfolded, that was not the case. We spent a frustrating year trying to get the data. There were problems with the files being tied up at the University and Michael’s access to the servers there being restricted. Leanne Roulson, now working for Montana State University, finally made a trip to visit him in his new job and get the files from him. This was during the tail end of her presidency of the WDAFS and we now we have the files in hand.

In the fall of 2010, President Roulson took the files to colleagues at MSU to make sure everything was there and working. After several more weeks, we got the word—yes, everything appears to be okay. She made copies available to interested members of the WDAFS ExCom at this year’s mid-year retreat and for Eric Wagner who has since forwarded copies to Andrea Ostroff, Biological Informatics Program, USGS, who works with biological databases for a living. During Scott Bonar’s presidency, a formal project agreement was made to have the USGS host the WDAFS database on their server, given that WDAFS would be responsible for updating the database. This is a logical home for the database, where other related databases, like National Aquatic GAP, NBII Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, and Mid-Atlantic Information Node, live. Copies of the files have also been sent to Jeremiah Osborne-Gowey, a biologist with the Conservation Biology Institute and an Oregon Chapter AFS member, who has expressed interest in getting the website up and running; he suggested we might consider using Data Basin, a free, online system that connects users with conservation-related spatial datasets, tools, and expertise. As of this writing, a conference call is being scheduled for mid January for all the relevant persons involved to discuss the next steps.

The goal now is to get the data web-accessible. Given the time lag, the data will need to be updated. Past gaps, omissions, or errors still need to be addressed as well. We will likely restrict access in the short term to committee members or AFS members to address these problems. This is where we will need your help. When we get the database web-accessible, please make time to ensure we have accurate data in there. The data must be reference-able (i.e., based on published information). Once most problems have been fixed and the data updated, the general public will be able to access the information and generate their own distribution maps. Once completed, the data should be helpful for developing environmental impact statements, determining data gaps for native species, determining critical habitat for rare species, and provide information for a host of other needs.



## Summary of Responses to Student Involvement in WDAFS Survey

Author: Kelly Stockton, University of Idaho Graduate Student ([stoc4872@vandals.uidaho.edu](mailto:stoc4872@vandals.uidaho.edu))

The Student Involvement in WDAFS survey was conducted October 11 through November 11, 2010 to determine the student's perspective about representation at the Western Division level of American Fisheries Society. I drafted an article that described some of the issues surrounding student subunits with the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society (WDAFS). The article focused on a lack of communication between student subunits and between the student subunits and WDAFS about scholarships, grants, meetings, and the WDAFS Student Colloquium; see October Tributary. A summary of the results of the correlating survey are discussed in this report.

A total of 47 people participated in the survey; all questions and corresponding answers with comments are available, please contact me. Responses were from a wide range of student involved in their student subunits who were also members of American Fisheries Society. Few students were members of the Student Subsection of the Education Section. Only two respondents also participated in Melissa Wuellner's survey of Young Professional and Student Involvement conducted earlier this year for part of the plenary session at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

All students taking the survey want to be represented at the Western Division level of AFS. There were two options of representation, one representative or a student chaired committee. The one representative had a slight majority over the other option. Students indicated that some sort of election process was desired to determine the representative. Most of the students indicated that they would like the representative to have a vote on WDAFS issues. Duties for the representative should include being a contact person about Western Division issues, a liaison between student subunits, and getting out information about grants, scholarships, and other awards available for students from Western Division AFS.

Students found out about the survey primarily through listservs and word of mouth. WDAFS information gets to the students through word of mouth, the Tributary, the WDAFS website and listserv, and the state chapter's listserv. State chapter's get their information out to students through word of mouth or listserv. Students would prefer to get their information from websites and listserv.

All of the students taking the survey have graduated or are graduating within the next few years. They are interested in being involved at some level of AFS. These young professionals would like help in networking opportunities, professional development/continuing education, research grants, and finding a job.

This survey was shared with Western Division executive committee in November 2010. All executive committee members agreed that a student representative would be beneficial for all involved. It is now up to the students to address how to go about the election process and what the responsibilities are for the student representative.

A phone conference in late January or early February will be necessary between students to discuss the responsibilities of the student representative and how the representative will be elected for the next term. If you are interested in participating please email me ([stoc4872@vandals.uidaho.edu](mailto:stoc4872@vandals.uidaho.edu)).

## Western Division Project Grants Available

The Western Division currently has project funding available for Division Chapters, Subunits, and other fisheries-related groups. Grants are usually modest (less than \$2,500 total is available for FY 2011) but can help get a project started or be used to complement other funding sources. For information about the application process and criteria for awarding grants, go to the Western Division website (<http://www.wdafs.org>) and search under the Awards button at the top of the home page. Applications must be received by the Western Division President no later than **April 15, 2011**. Questions should be directed to Lori Martin at: (970) 255-6126 or [Lori.Martin@state.co.us](mailto:Lori.Martin@state.co.us)

## 2010 Western Division AFS Student Colloquium

The 2010 Western Division AFS Student Colloquium took place in Moscow, Idaho at the beginning of October and was a success. Thirty-six students from Montana State University, University of Montana, Colorado State University, University of Idaho, and Idaho State University participated. The Palouse Unit at the University of Idaho greeted students at a Welcome Social on Thursday, October 14th. Over food and drinks, students met and networked with each other as well as 10 professionals in the fisheries discipline. Students went on a jet boat trip up Hell's Canyon the next day. This was a beautiful scenic tour of the deepest canyon in the United States that everyone enjoyed. On Saturday, October 16th, 11 students presented their research, including two undergraduates, Will Stacy and Evan Faulk. Prizes were awarded to the top three presenters; congratulations to Scott Collins (1st place), Amy Long (2nd place), and Mariah Mayfield (3rd place). Students then went on a tour of the University of Idaho's wet lab facilities, which includes a burbot rearing facility. After the tour, students were treated to a BBQ at a local park where issues concerning student subunits were discussed. Additionally, it was decided that University of Montana will host the 2011 WDAFS student colloquium. The closing social was held on Saturday night at EcoAnalysts, Inc. EcoAnalysts graciously hosted the social and displayed their work on taxonomic identification of macroinvertebrate samples, biological assessments, and consulting services. The Palouse Unit of the American Fisheries Society would like to thank Western Division AFS, Idaho Chapter AFS, the Education Section of AFS, and the USGS Cooperative Research Program for their financial support.



Students participating in the Hell's Canyon jet boat tour as part of the Student Colloquium.

See another picture on the next page.



Amy Long presenting her research to the students participating in the colloquium.

## Foskett Spring Speckled Dace:

### Establishing a Refuge Population at Dace Spring

Author: Paul Scheerer, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife ([paul.scheerer@oregonstate.edu](mailto:paul.scheerer@oregonstate.edu))

The Foskett Spring speckled dace, *Rhinichthys osculus* ssp., is represented by a single population that inhabits Foskett Spring on the west side of Coleman Lake (Warner Lakes subbasin) in Lake County, south-central Oregon. Foskett speckled dace was listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act in 1985. The Foskett speckled dace became isolated in Foskett Spring at the end of the Pluvial period, approximately 10,000 years ago. Foskett Spring is a natural spring that rises from a springhead pool, flows through a narrow spring brook into a series of shallow marshes, and then disappears into the soil of the normally dry Coleman Lake. A second population in Dace Spring, located approximately 0.8 kilometers south of Foskett Spring, was established in a large cattle trough in 1979-1980; however, the introduction failed due to lack of suitable spawning habitat. In 1987, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acquired, through exchange, the 65 hectare parcel of land containing Foskett and Dace springs. Both sites were fenced to exclude livestock. The population of the federally listed Foskett speckled dace was monitored by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Native Fish Investigations Project in 2005, 2007, and 2009 and appears to be healthy and near carrying capacity. Examination of length-frequency data suggests that multiple age-classes are present and presence of young-of-the-year fish provides evidence of recent recruitment.

Habitat, although limited, was in good condition at Foskett Spring. However, encroachment by aquatic macrophytes is limiting population abundance. Proposals to increase the quantity of open water habitat at Foskett Spring and to create a refuge population at Dace Spring were planned. In 2009, a cooperative project between the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Bureau of Land Management, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife was completed. This project created two permanent pools at Dace Springs. In 2010, ODFW introduced 50 dace from Foskett Spring into these pools at Dace Spring to reduce the risk of extinction and aid in recovery of this species.

Pictures on the next page.





Foskett Spring pool



One of the two spring-fed ponds constructed at Dace Springs in 2009.



Foskett speckled dace in Foskett Spring pool.



Introduction of Foskett dace into Dace Spring in 2010.



Foskett speckled dace

# 2011 AFS Meeting Plenary Session

## Plenary Session

The theme of the 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) is "New Frontiers in Fisheries Management and Ecology: Leading the Way in a Changing World." The Plenary Session is organized to emphasize this theme with a ceremony that initiates the Annual Meeting, renowned speakers addressing various aspects of leadership, and recognition of AFS leaders with the Society's highest awards. The invited Plenary Session speakers will be:

### William D. Ruckelshaus

Mr. Ruckelshaus will speak on the applications of collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to solving complex environmental problems. Mr. Ruckelshaus is an attorney and has served, several times, as a U.S. government official. He was the first administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. He also served as the Acting Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Deputy Attorney General of the United States. Mr. Ruckelshaus has substantial experience with large-scale fisheries and habitat management problems. He served as the U.S. envoy in the implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty and a member of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. In 2008, Mr. Ruckelshaus was appointed to the Washington State Puget Sound Partnership.

### Billy Frank, Jr.

Mr. Frank will describe his experience in the leadership of Native Americans as the tribal role evolved from activists, fighting to secure fishing rights reserved in treaties with the U.S. government, to managers of the resources. Mr. Frank is a member and elder of the Nisqually Indian Tribe. For 22 years, he has served as the Chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission where he "speaks for the salmon" on behalf of 20 Treaty Indian Tribes in western Washington. Mr. Frank is an advocate for fish habitat protection and healthy salmon runs and has a strong legacy of experiences and accomplishments to share.

### Robert T. Lackey

Dr. Lackey will address the topic of leadership in connecting science to decision making and policy in fisheries management. Dr. Lackey is a Professor of Fisheries Science and Adjunct Professor of Political Science at Oregon State University. He retired from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2008 after three decades of Federal Service during which he served in many leadership positions. Dr. Lackey was on the faculty at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University from 1971 to 1979. He has authored over 120 journal articles and book chapters, and is a Certified Fisheries Scientist. Dr. Lackey is well-known for his thought-provoking and insightful articles on relationships of science, management, and policy.

### Jesse Trushenski

Dr. Trushenski will provide insight into the education of future fisheries scientists, fish culturists, and fisheries managers considering the perspectives and needs of students, educators, and employers. Dr. Trushenski is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Zoology and conducts research within the Fisheries and Illinois Aquaculture Center at Southern Illinois University - Carbondale. Dr. Trushenski's research interests are in fish physiology and aquaculture. She conducts applied research on fish nutrition and basic research on metabolism and physiological processes in fishes all with a focus on development of practical solutions for the aquaculture industry. She is the President of the Fish Culture Section of the AFS. She has a sound research record with dozens of journal articles and book chapters, as well as substantial experience in the classroom and mentoring graduate students.





**New Frontiers**  
 in Fisheries Management & Ecology:  
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Courtesy: Pat Neelson, HTI



Courtesy: Patrick Moran, USGS



Courtesy: Linda Petre Moberly



"Shadow of the Salmon" by Wilby Pearce  
 Courtesy: Steve Robinson



Courtesy: Tim Thompson

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## About the Tributary

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

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## 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>