

THE ANGLER

NEWSLETTER OF THE COLORADO/WYOMING CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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EDITED BY KENDALL BAKICH AND BEN FELT

2022 Annual Meeting
- virtually -
**"Fostering Aquatic
Resiliency"**
March 1-3, 2022

WHAT'S INSIDE:

MEETING DETAILS

MEET THE NEW TREASURER

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

AWARD NOMINATIONS
NEEDED

JUDGES AND RAFFLE ITEMS
NEEDED!

MAX AWARD HISTORY

SPRING SOCIAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

Thanks to everyone who participated in the 2022 Annual Meeting Survey! Your votes and comments helped CO/WY AFS Excom decide to hold another virtual annual meeting. Although we are all looking forward to interacting in-person, the safest choice during the ongoing pandemic is to meet virtually.

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held March 1-3, 2022. We are busy working on details of the plenary, session times, continuing education, business meeting, and social events. Expect short sessions across multiple days similar to the 2021 meeting.

The theme of this year's meeting is "Fostering Aquatic Resiliency". We have all been resilient throughout the pandemic, so I'm hoping we can share how the work we do fosters resilience throughout aquatic environments. The Continuing Education Committee is working on a few (up to 3!) webinars. More details to come in January.

Having socials is not easy via Zoom. We are working on creative, interactive ideas for socials. We may try a quiz bowl this year.

So, start honing your Jeopardy skills! Excom has also tossed around the idea of hosting a Chapter Spring Social in Fort Collins in late April.

This year we will try a new meeting and registration platform called Whova. The platform will make it easy to find Zoom links to live sessions while containing meeting information in one spot. The Chapter has been searching for a good platform to meet our needs without costing a fortune the past few years. Hopefully, Whova will meet our needs for virtual, in-person, and possible hybrid meetings in future years.

Meeting registration and more details will be available by early January 2022. Registration costs will increase some compared to last year because of the new meeting/registration platform. What prices aren't increasing these days? We also want to make sure we cover other chapter expenses such as travel grants and funding assistance to student sub-units. New for this meeting is we will offer scholarships for those whose employers will not cover meeting costs. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone virtually in March!

- Christina Barrineau

Next Executive Committee meeting: Thursday, January 27, 2022 from 10AM - 2PM.
Contact Christina Barrineau (christina.barrineau@wyo.gov) for Google Meet information.

MEET THE NEW SEC/TREAS

Estevan "Stev" Vigil



I grew up in Colorado and from a young age I have loved going to the mountains. My favorite hobbies growing up included fishing, camping and hunting. When I graduated high school and it was time to choose what to do "when I grow up", I decided that I wanted a career that allowed me to do the things I enjoyed doing. I attended college with the goal of becoming a game warden for the Colorado Division of Wildlife. After receiving an associate's degree in Natural Resource Management for Colorado Mountain College in Leadville, Colorado I started applying for any job that was remotely involved with the Division of Wildlife. That first summer after graduating with my associate's degree, I was extremely lucky and was offered a temporary fisheries research technician job. I still had aspirations of becoming a game warden, but started to quickly realize how much I was enjoying fisheries work. My supervisor back then helped to guide me into a career in fisheries and I remember him telling me about the American Fisheries Society, and advocating that I become involved with the organization. That first summer in fisheries has completely changed my life, I decided that I would pursue a career in fisheries and became an active member of the parent society as well as the CO-WY Chapter of AFS. In order to be competitive for permanent jobs in the field, I returned to school to obtain my bachelor degree in Biology at Colorado Mesa University. After completion of my bachelor's degree, I attended Colorado State University to complete a master's degree studying the salmonid parasite, gill lice. During my time in grad school I became very involved with the CSU student subunit and over the course of a few years held multiple officer positions including vice president and president. This opportunity to serve the student sub-unit at CSU really solidified my interest in AFS. After leaving grad school to take a job as an Aquatic Biologist for Colorado Parks and Wildlife, I remained active in the CO-WY Chapter by serving on the awards committee and volunteering to be an AFS Mentor, as well as assisting with the judging of presentations at every meeting. I can honestly say that I love my career and I love being involved in fisheries. Over the years I have made many friends through my involvement with CO-WY AFS, and look forward to many more years of being actively involved in the chapter.

Stev is an Aquatic Biologist for Colorado Parks and Wildlife in the San Luis Valley. He's also an inspiring harmonica player and is known for bluesy songs inspired by his work in fisheries sung late night around the campfire with his fishy friends and colleagues. Stev will take on the role of Treasurer starting August 1, 2022.



HELP MAKE THE ANNUAL MEETING A SUCCESS!

Judges Needed

Volunteers are needed to judge papers and posters at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Colorado Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. We need 20-30 judges from Colorado and Wyoming (combined) to have three judges per paper and poster, so a great deal of help is needed from CO/WY AFS members. Government agency, private consulting professionals, and college professors are preferred for judging volunteers. Please consider volunteering some of your time at the meeting to give our presenters valuable feedback and potentially an award. If you are interested in judging please contact Tyler Swarr @ Tyler.Swarr@state.co.us or Eric Fetherman @ Eric.Fetherman@state.co.us

Award Nominations Needed

The pandemic has not stopped our great work. The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter has four awards for recognizing our fisheries professionals. The Awards Committee needs your help in determining qualified candidates to receive awards at the 2021 Annual Meeting. This is an opportunity for you to become involved and see that your professional peers receive their deserved recognition from the American Fisheries Society.

- (1) **Award of Excellence:** Recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions in the fishery-aquatic resource field.
- (2) **Max Award of Merit:** In honor of Max Rollefson (WGFD), this "atta boy" recognizes a short-term professional accomplishment in management, administration, research, or culture.
- (3) **Outstanding Mentor Award:** This award recognizes a fisheries professional who has demonstrated substantial devotion in assisting or mentoring prospective fisheries students/professionals, current fisheries students, or fisheries professionals.
- (4) **Leaky Boot Award:** Recognizes the most outrageous behavior of any fisheries student or professional in the year prior to the Chapter's Annual Meeting.

The deadline to nominate will be January 21st. For more information on how to nominate your peers please contact Travis Neebling at (307) 233-6410 or travis.neebing@wyo.gov.

Raffle Items Needed

The Raffle Committee will be working hard to round up some great items for the 2022 meeting. Please consider donating something to the cause this year. With a virtual meeting, items that don't require shipping or are small and easy to mail would fit great with this format. On that note, if you have a great skill set to share, please consider donating some of your time! Fishing trips, hunting trips, wilderness expeditions, float trips, etc. would all be appealing to those of us that love spending time outdoors, not to mention, hanging out with your colleagues! Don't hesitate to reach out to our committee with questions, offers, or ideas. We look forward to raising some money for the chapter and our great aquatic resources in 2022!

If you would like to make contributions contact:

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**The History behind:
Max Award of Merit**

A MAX award was established by the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in 1978, in honor of Max Rollefson. MAX awards currently recognize short-term professional accomplishments in management, administration, research or culture. Numbers of awards and recipients given are solely at the discretion of the Awards Committee. While this award evolved over the years, the name still honors Max.

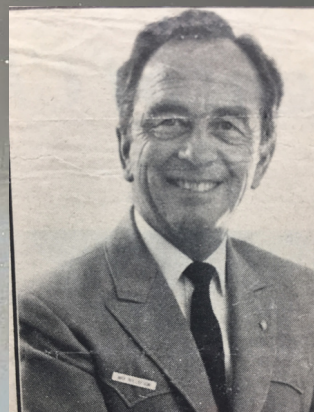
Max was among the founding members of the Chapter. Cutthroat trout in Colorado and Wyoming was the theme of the first annual Chapter meeting in 1966. Max gave a presentation on cutthroat trout management in the Salt and Snake River drainages. He served as secretary-treasurer during the 1968-69 term.

Max's commitment to conservation efforts for the Snake River cutthroat trout and fisheries habitat was the inspiration for the MAX award. Such conservation efforts were especially challenging during a time when fisheries management and public interest emphasized stocking and introduction of new species.

Max Dean Rollefson was born February 25, 1925 in Ambrose, North Dakota. He was a paratrooper in World War II and was seriously wounded in action. Max graduated from Utah State University and received a MS degree in fisheries management from Colorado State University in 1958. His thesis topic was the development and evaluation of interrupted direct current electro-fishing equipment.

Max worked as a fisheries biologist for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for 26 years. Max joined Wyoming Game and Fish Department in 1950 as a fisheries biologist in Cheyenne and served as assistant chief fish warden from 1952-54. He worked as a fisheries biologist throughout much of Wyoming including Saratoga, Cokeville, Lander, Laramie and Cody.

Max was area fisheries supervisor in Jackson from 1960 until his untimely death at age 51 on December 16, 1976. Max was survived by his wife Ardis, son Stace, and twin daughters Lynne and Laura.



Spring Social

CO/WY AFS MEMBERS ARE INVITED!

Are you missing something?

That's right - you're missing your fishy friends!

Given our Chapter will be hosting another virtual meeting in 2022, we would like to provide a venue for some social interaction this spring. The gathering would be in Fort Collins in late April and begin with either a round of frisbee golf, fishing, hiking, or some other low-cost outdoor activity. We'd next meet up at one of the Fort Collins breweries outside spaces for some frivolity. This gathering would be on your dime, but the Chapter would be picking up the first round. We recognize this will not work for everyone, but hope that those that can make it, do. It's important for our Chapter to continue to foster our professional relationships in a safe environment. Hope to see you there! More details to come. If you have any questions or comments, contact Steve Gale at Steve.Gale@wyo.gov.

Available November 2021



Bruner, John Clay, DeBruyne, Robin L. (Eds.) 2021. Yellow Perch, Walleye, and Sauger: Aspects of Ecology, Management, and Culture. Springer Fish & Fisheries Series Cham, Switzerland Vol. 41: 1-402 pp.

Walleye, one of the most sought-after species of freshwater sport fishes in North America, have demonstrated appreciable declines in their numbers from their original populations since the beginning of the 20th century. Similarly, Yellow Perch, one of the most commonly caught sport fish and an important commercial species in North America, have also shown declines. Compiling up-to-date information on the biology and management of Walleye, Sauger, and Yellow Perch, including research on systematics, genetics, physiology, ecology, movement, population dynamics, culture, recent case histories, and management practices, will be of interest to managers, researchers, and students who deal with these important species, particularly in light of habitat alterations, population shifts, and other biotic and abiotic factors related to a changing climate.

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Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Student Colloquium

January 21-23, 2022

UC Blue Oak Ranch Natural Reserve, San Jose, CA

Register Here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/western-division-of-afs-student-colloquium-tickets-204291650827>