

THE ANGLER

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

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February 27 - 29, 2024

ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS

The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held on February 27-29 in Laramie, Wyoming. The meeting will be held at the University of Wyoming Conference Center, with a room block (government rate) at the Hilton Garden Inn (2229 Grand Avenue). The Continuing Education committee sent out a survey on potential courses for this year's meeting. They are working hard on lining up some great opportunities to further your professional development. The Continuing Education course(s) will be held on Tuesday, February 27th, followed by a welcome reception. Presentations will follow on Wednesday, with a student subunit hosted social Wednesday evening. Thursday will be more presentations, followed by the banquet and award presentations. The full meeting agenda will be coming in the January Angler. Meeting registration information will be available on the Colorado/Wyoming AFS website around the first of the year, including an online registration link through Whova. We hope to have everyone join us, but understand life and weather can make that difficult. Virtual options are being explored. The deadline for early meeting registration is January 26, 2024.

Registration information will be posted on the chapter website after New Years and early registration ends January 26, 2024:

<https://units.fisheries.org/cowyafs/>

Stay Tuned!

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS



This year's theme is "Connections". One of the best ways to stay connected as chapter members is to give an oral presentation or present a poster at the 2024 CO/WY AFS Annual Meeting February 27 – February 29. Please consider sharing the great work you have been doing or have been a part of over the last few years. The meeting will be in-person and virtual options are being explored. All papers are welcome, including formal scientific studies and general informational talks. We make every effort to include every presentation in the program. You will be notified of your presentation time and date two weeks prior to the meeting. Abstracts can be submitted by visiting the Colorado-Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org) and following the link.

First Call for abstract submissions is NOW! [CLICK HERE](#) to submit your Abstract.

For additional information or questions, you may contact members of the Program Committee:

Annika Walters – 307-766-5473, annika.walters@uwyo.edu

John Walrath – 307-875-3225 x8617, john.walrath@wyo.gov

John Woodling – 970-361-7004, 303-771-9866 woodling@colorado.edu

Stephen Siddons – 307-721-1391, Stephen.Siddons@wyo.gov

Tom Fresques – 970-876-9078, t1fresqu@blm.gov

CHECK IT OUT!
**TIPS & TRICKS ON CREATING
EFFECTIVE PRESENTATIONS**

<https://fishculture.fisheries.org/professional-development/tips-%20on-giving-%20presentations/>

We are seeking both oral and poster presentations!

In-person oral presentations have the option of a 10 or 20-minute time slot and we recommend leaving 2-5 minutes for questions. Recorded oral presentations can be up to 20 minutes. For poster presentations please restrict your poster to a maximum size of 3' high (0.92 m) x 4' wide (1.22 m) or a single PowerPoint slide.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

THE CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE(S) WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH. STAY TUNED FOR THE JANUARY ANGLER WHERE WE WILL HAVE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON OUR CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASS FOR THE MEETING.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE AND MAKE THIS YEAR'S MEETING GREAT!



Judges Needed

Volunteers are needed to judge papers and posters at the 2024 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
Carrie Tucker - carrie.tucker@state.co.us

Award Nominations Needed

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 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 26th. Contact Travis Neebling at (307) 233-6410 or travis.neebing@wyo.gov for more information on how to nominate your peers.

Raffle Items Needed

The Raffle Committee will be working hard to round up some great items for the Annual Meeting. Please consider donating something to the cause this year. 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 who love spending time outdoors, not to mention, hanging out with our 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 2024!

If you have raffle contributions,
please contact:

Chris Craft

ccraft@geiconsultants.com

(303) 264-1052

Clay Kampf

clayton.kampf@usda.gov,

(970) 749-9259

Nick Scribner

nick.scriber@wyo.gov

(307) 335-2641



2024 CO/WY AFS Travel Grants



The CO/WY AFS Chapter will award three travel grants for 2024. One student, one professional, and one member of the CO/WY Chapter will be selected for a travel grant of up to \$2,000 to attend the combined Parent Society AFS and Western Division Annual Meeting September 15-19, 2024 in Honolulu, HI. Covered costs include transportation, food, lodging, and meeting registration. Chapter members will be selected on a competitive basis.

To apply, an applicant must:

- 1) Be a current CO/WY AFS member in good standing (i.e., up-to-date Parent Society membership).
- 2) Submit a one to two page cover letter detailing: 1) why you want to attend the AFS meeting in Hawaii, 2) AFS involvement, including but not limited to committee service and presenting experience at AFS meetings, 3) fisheries background, and 4) why it would be appropriate for you to present at the Hawaii meeting, what your subject matter would be, and how it meets the goals of the CO/WY Chapter.

All applications should be sent to CO/WY AFS Past-President, Ashley Ficke at cowy.afs.pastpres@gmail.com by January 28, 2024. The recipients will be selected in February by the CO/WY AFS Chapter Executive Committee and announced at the 2024 CO/WY AFS Chapter Business Meeting in Laramie.

The History Behind the 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 on 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 the 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.

