

The Angler

Newsletter of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
Volume 38, Number 3, November 2015



2016 Annual Meeting

Hilton Garden Inn
2229 Grand Avenue
Laramie, WY
March 1-3, 2016

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held March 1-3, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Laramie, Wyoming. We will be celebrating the Chapter's 50th Anniversary this meeting and a retrospective review of our history will be highlighted. Continuing Education will be held on Tuesday, followed by a welcome reception at UW Gateway Center in the evening. Presentations will follow on Wednesday and Thursday. The student social will be Wednesday evening, business lunch on Thursday, and a banquet on Thursday evening.

A block of rooms has been reserved at a rate of \$83.00 per night. Room reservations can be made by calling the Hilton Garden Inn at 307-745-5500. Please reference Colorado-Wyoming AFS, or C-CWAF16, to receive the meeting rate. Everyone should clearly state to hotel staff that they are making reservations to attend the meeting so we get credit for room reservations. This is important because we need to meet our room obligations. Reservations can be made in the hotel block until February 15, 2016.

Meeting registration information will be available on the Colorado/Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org) by early December. Online registration, with the option of credit card payments, will be available once again and will open January 4, 2016. The deadline for early registration is January 29, 2016.

First Call for Papers

We are once again looking for members to share all of the great work they have been doing over the past year by giving a presentation or poster at the 2016 Annual Meeting. All papers are welcome, including formal scientific papers as well as general informational. Authors will be notified of their acceptance 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Abstracts can be submitted by clicking this [link](#) or visiting the Colorado-Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org).

Final Deadline for abstract submissions is February 1, 2016.

For additional information, please contact Christina Barrineau at 307-754-5180 ext. 240, Christina.Barrineau@wyo.gov or Jason Burckhardt at 307-527-7125, Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov.

Oral Presentation Guidelines

Oral presentations are limited to a 20 minute time slot and we recommend limiting your presentation to 15 to 18 minutes to allow for questions.

Poster Presentation Guidelines

Poster Presentations - Please restrict your poster to a maximum size of 3' high (0.92 m) x 4' wide (1.22 m) and have a smooth finish. Poster can be attached to the walls with double-sided adhesive strips or hook and loop (VELCRO®) type fasteners. If using VELCRO®, provide both sides (adhesive backing will be required). You are responsible for providing your own form of attachment. Posters can also be mounted on display boards and displayed on stands, supplied by the author. Please contact us for further guidelines on poster presentations if desired.

Continuing Education

The Continuing Education committee continues to work to provide the chapter with useful and effective workshops. This year, the committee is hoping to provide a workshop focusing on Communication in Science during the annual meeting. Details for the workshop will be coming soon! If you have any suggestions regarding workshops that you would like to see at our next annual meeting, please contact Diana Miller (diana.miller@wyo.gov) or Dan Kowalski (dan.kowalski@state.co.us).

Awards Nominations

The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter has four award classifications for recognizing our fisheries professionals and the Awards Committee needs your help in determining qualified candidates to receive awards at the 2016 Annual Meeting. This is an opportunity for you to become involved and see that your professional peers receive the deserved recognition from the American Fisheries Society.

Award of Excellence: Recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions in the fishery-aquatic resource field.

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.

Outstanding Mentor Award: This award recognizes a fisheries professional who has shown substantial devotion to assisting or mentoring prospective fisheries students/professionals, current fisheries students, or fisheries professionals.

Leaky Boot Award: Recognizes the most outrageous behavior of any fisheries student or professional in the year prior to the Chapter's Annual Meeting.

For more information please contact Jason Burckhardt at 307-527-7125 or Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov.

Raffle and Auction



We are looking forward to a lively raffle and auction to complement the awards portion of the banquet at our 2016 Annual Meeting. We will also be conducting a silent auction, a game raffle (with prizes), a general raffle, and a member photo contest.

To maximize our fundraising efforts, we are asking that attendees bring items to donate to our cause. These could be items that you personally contribute, or that you solicit from a local business, organization, or person. Items may include backpack trips, guided fishing trips, handmade flies, original artwork, prints, or other cool fish and wildlife related items. Each of us in the Chapter probably has at least one business, organization, or person willing to donate something towards the mission of AFS. **Please take a few minutes to ask.**



If you would like to make contributions, please bring your item(s) with you to the meeting or send them to:

Boyd Wright, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
317 W. Prospect
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Boyd.wright@state.co.us

OR

Hilda Sexauer, Wyoming Game and Fish
P.O. Box 850
Pinedale, WY 82941
Hilda.sexauer@wyo.gov

Paper and Poster Judges Needed

Volunteers are needed to judge papers and posters at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Laramie, Wyoming. There will be five categories for papers and posters including Best Professional Scientific Paper, Best Professional Informational Paper, Best Professional Poster, Best Student Paper, and Best Student Poster. We would like to have three judges per paper and poster, so a great deal of help will be needed from members. Government agency and private consulting professionals are preferred for judging volunteers. Please consider volunteering some of your time at the meeting! If you are interested in judging please contact Mandi Brandt at 970-768-9649 or Mandi.Brandt@state.co.us.

Mentoring Program Committee-

Steve Gale (Steve.Gale@wyo.gov)
Lori Martin (Lori.Martin@state.co.us)
Darren Rhea (Darren.Rhea@wyo.gov)
Dana Winkelman (Dana.Winkelman@colostate.edu)

Mentors and Mentees currently participating in the 2015 program have commented on the positive experiences they have had since April. Our Committee is looking forward to administering the 2016 program and we are looking forward to reviewing all the great Mentor and Mentee applications. Our Committee is here to help, please contact any one of us with questions. See below for some details on the program and dates for applications. More detailed information will be sent out via Chapter email in January 2016.

The mentee application period will be open from January 15 through March 15 of each year. All applicants will be notified by April 1 regarding their acceptance status. Mentee application packages must include a contact and general information page, a student statement of interest, and one recommendation from a college/university professor of fisheries or wildlife professional. Mentor applications will require a proposed mentoring focus or general area of opportunity description, location of opportunity, and an agreement to actively participate in the program for the listed time period. Mentors are allowed and encouraged to co-mentor with other fisheries professionals in the same or another host organization in order to give students a broad view of the many dimensions of fisheries science. We welcome mentor applicants from municipal, state, federal, provincial, tribal, university, private, and non-governmental organizations within Colorado or Wyoming. Mentor applications will be accepted during any time of the year, but are requested to be submitted by January 15th to allow posting of the opportunity prior to the mentee application period. American Fisheries Society members will have priority over non-members, and participation with Student Sub-units is encouraged. If mentees attend a school that does not have a sub-unit (CSU, UW and Colorado Mesa are currently the only schools that have sub-units), they will be encouraged to join AFS and to interact with students from the sub-units. Mentees will also be encouraged to attend an annual CO/WY AFS Annual Meeting. Please contact the CO/WY AFS Mentoring Program Committee Chair, Steve Gale, by phone 307-745-5180 ext. 239 or email at Steve.Gale@wyo.gov with any questions.

CSU Student Subunit Report- The CSU student subunit has had an exciting and productive fall. This semester we submitted our new by-laws to the AFS parent chapter for approval, ensuring we are a recognized student subunit. We have also been focused on recruiting members, and are proud to have a current active membership of 33 students.

We have had two successful outreach events for our community. We hosted our first youth-only College Lake Fishing Derby on October 10, 2015. There was a great turnout of young anglers, and it was a big fundraising success. Thanks to our sponsors, every kid went home with a great prize, from a brand new rod and reel combo to our largest bass trophy. We also collaborated with 5 Smooth Stone Restoration to conduct a river restoration short course for interested students within the College of Natural Resources. This two-day weekend course involved both classroom learning, with topics ranging from fluvial geomorphology to stream classification, and hands-on learning in the field at a local stream.

This semester we have had a wide variety of fisheries professionals speak at our biweekly meetings. We started our semester by hearing a great talk from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Hatchery Manager Jesse Faue, who gave an overview of CPW's aquatic and hatchery sections. Our next speaker of the semester was Chris Kopack, a graduate student who gave a talk on the benefits of training hatchery-reared fish to recognize predators. We then heard from Kendra Holmes, the Senior Fisheries Biologist for Aqua Sierra Inc., who talked about work opportunities within the private sector. At our next meeting we heard an interesting talk about Sea Lamprey management in the Great Lakes from Colorado Parks and Wildlife Aquatic Research Scientist Andy Treble. Ben Felt, Fisheries Biologist for CPW, then gave a talk about the chemical reclamation of Haypress Lake in Southern Colorado for Cutthroat Trout conservation. At our last meeting of the semester Matt Fairchild, USFS Fish Biologist, will talk about some of the post-flood restoration work on the North Fork of the Big Thompson River.

Currently we are looking for exciting speakers for next semester, along with research and job opportunities for our members. Any potential speakers or employers should contact us at afscsu@gmail.com. For more information about the CSU subunit and upcoming events please follow our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Fisheries-Society-Colorado-State-University/450549101699139>.

UW Student Subunit Report- The University of Wyoming student subunit has been busy this fall semester. We have hosted monthly meetings with guest speakers that have presented on various fisheries topics. Our first meeting of the semester kicked off with aquatic-focused UW professors introducing themselves and their research to the subunit. Bobby Compton joined us for the October meeting to discuss why being part of AFS is important, as well as the associated benefits. During our November meeting, Kevin Gelwicks discussed the role of the Wyoming aquatic assessment crew and his job as the aquatic assessment crew director. We also participated in annual Brown Trout red counts on Spring Creek with Steve Gale in late October. Our subunit is beginning a project with Steve Gale looking at a population of Iowa Darters from Huck Fin pond in Laramie to potentially help supplement low populations of darters in the Laramie and North Platte Rivers. We are currently in the process of planning the Western Division Student Colloquium that we will be hosting in Lander this April, and securing a venue for the Student Social for this year's CO/WY Chapter Meeting. Stay tuned for further details about these upcoming events.

CMU Student Subunit Report- Membership in Colorado Mesa University's Fish and Wildlife Club continues to grow! The Fall 2015 semester brought in a whole new round of officers and quite a few new members. Several speakers have enlightened club members this semester. Trina Romero of Colorado Parks and Wildlife described her work as Watchable Wildlife and Volunteer Coordinator, and gave the club helpful tips and insight into finding a job with the CPW. Dr. Chris Myrick, of CSU, who spoke at our most recent November meeting, talked about his work in designing fish passages and fish barriers, his personal scholastic experiences, and helpful hints for navigating the confusing world of graduate school. As a small fundraiser in September, the club sold tickets for the Costa Fly Fishing Film Tour, and a handful of lucky members got the chance to attend the showing in Grand Junction. The club also joined up with the Grand Valley Anglers in late September to do a trash clean-up around Carson Lake (and to get in a little fly fishing) on the Grand Mesa. Looking ahead, we plan on organizing a club ice fishing trip for January, putting on a spring fundraiser, and continuing to hear from local wildlife and fisheries professionals at our monthly meetings.

Next Executive Committee Meeting

The next ExCom meeting will be on December 14, 2015 at 10:00 am at the WGFD Laramie Regional Office in Laramie (528 S. Adams Street). This meeting will finalize details for the annual meeting and tour the meeting facility. If you have agenda items please contact Bobby Compton (Bobby.Compton@wyo.gov).

Announcements

WDAFS Riparian Challenge Award

The call for entries for the 2016 WDAFS Riparian Challenge Award is open now through December 15.

This award honors excellence in riparian and watershed management and rewards on-the-ground accomplishments that significantly improve riparian systems. The Riparian Challenge Award encourages BLM, USFS, and other conservation agencies and private industries to strive for excellence in on-the-ground riparian and watershed habitat management. More information and a list of previous winners can be found at: <http://wdafs.org/awards/information-deadlines-applications/riparian-challenge-award/>.

Winners will be announced at the 2016 WDAFS meeting in Reno, NV, March 21-24. Winners will receive \$500 travel reimbursement to attend the meeting, and will be awarded a plaque of acknowledgement at the Business Luncheon.

To apply, please complete the attached form and email by December 15 to tracywendt@gmail.com. Please contact Tracy Wendt for more information.

HTI Training Opportunities



Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish

4-5 February 2016 - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or On-Site

Hosted at the University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

http://www.HTIsonar.com/at_short_course.htm

This course addresses all aspects of tracking fish movement with acoustic tags, including three-dimensional tracking with sub-meter resolution. It includes hands-on-operation and a variety of fish monitoring applications are covered. Lunch is provided for on-site students. Reserve a seat or ask a question at support@HTIsonar.com.

Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations: http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm.

Using Hydroacoustics for Fisheries Assessment

11-12 February 2016 - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or On-Site

Hosted at the University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

http://www.HTIsonar.com/ha_short_course.htm

This course covers mobile and fixed-location hydroacoustic survey techniques, including 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 provided for on-site students. Reserve a seat or ask a question at support@HTIsonar.com.

Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations: http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm.

**WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
EUGENE MAUGHAN GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP**

2016 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 \$5,000 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 2016 scholarships will be awarded at the annual meeting of WDAFS in Reno, Nevada, March 21-24, 2016.

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

1. Applicants must be a member of the American Fisheries Society or have submitted 2016 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 (electronically ***preferred***) that contains of each of the following:
 - A. A letter to the award committee that includes (***three separate items***):
 1. A brief description of the student's degree program and the anticipated date of completion.
 2. A statement of the applicant's career goals and reasons for applying for the scholarship (up to 200 words).
 3. 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) and graduate transcripts. **Please list GRE scores in your resume; a copy of the original form is *not* necessary.**
 - 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 January 1, 2016 to:

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