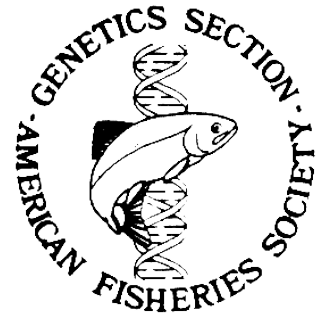




The American Fisheries Society
Genetics Section
Newsletter
Volume 24, Issue 2
June 2011



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President's Message

Dear Genetics Section Members,

Spring has finally come to the North attended by changes in the schedules and tasks that demand attention. I have just waded out from under a winter's worth of reports, meetings, and analysis to find that I'm a couple of weeks behind on my May tasks, including this newsletter.

While it may still seem far off, the annual meeting is coming quickly and it is promising to be a blockbuster for the section. This year there will be three symposia on topics of immediate interest to the section:

- Incorporating Genetic Data into Population Introduction Programs – led by **Christian Smith** and **Patrick DeHaan**
- Conservation Genetics and Genomics in Fisheries – led by past section presidents **Jeff Hard**, **Lisa Seeb**, and **Jim Seeb**
- Larval dispersal, population connectivity and the management of marine species – led by **Lorenz Hauser**, **Gary Carvalho**, and **Bill Templin**

The annual section meeting will take place on Monday, September 5, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, a tradeoff between attending presentations (the last talk of the day is at 5:15) and the evening social. Come and meet other members, hear what is happening in the society and participate in activities and decisions of the section. In addition, there is an opportunity for a student attending the national meeting to serve as an 'ad hoc' member of the section's Executive Committee. Contact me (bill.templin@alaska.gov) if you are interested.

The following evening, Tuesday September 6, there will be a social event with a light dinner for section members and family. The primary purpose for this will be to provide an opportunity for members to get together in a casual setting, but there will also be a small program to provide some entertainment for the evening. As this is the First Annual Genetics Section Social we have no precedent to help us plan. We are planning for a cost of approximately \$30 per person (we may have a sponsor to help) and it will help to know approximately how many might be interested in attending. Please contact me if you think you would like to attend so that I can get a potential

head count.

For students, one way to help finance the trip to the national meeting is to apply for the Wright Travel Award, the annual award intended to recognize excellence in graduate-level work in fisheries genetics. Once again, Jeff Olsen has agreed to head the committee and more information can be found below.

An opportunity to contribute to the direction and activities of the parent society has been presented to the Section by the AFS Resource Policy Committee. The RPC is seeking to identify volunteers from other AFS units to assist with the review of selected policies and is requesting help from the Genetics section on the review of the AFS policy on Threatened and Endangered Species. More information is provided later in this newsletter.

Sincerely,

Bill Templin
AFS Genetics Section President

Deadline is Soon!!! AFS Genetics Section Graduate Award in Memory of James E. Wright

The Genetics Section of the American Fisheries Society is pleased to announce the **James E. Wright Graduate Award**. This award is presented annually by the Genetics Section at the AFS Annual Meeting and is intended to recognize excellence in graduate-level work in fisheries genetics and to assist graduate students with travel to the national meeting. The section anticipates awarding two checks for \$500 each to attend the 2010 AFS annual meeting in Pittsburgh. All graduate students are encouraged to apply.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

1. Potential for success in research in fisheries genetics (60%)
2. Anticipated contribution to upcoming annual meeting, e.g. paper, poster, or other contribution (20%)
3. Service to the Society, its Sections, or Chapters (10%)
4. Demonstrated need for travel assistance (10%)

Application Procedure:

1. Applicant must be a full or affiliate member of the Genetics Section at the time of application.
2. Application package should include:
 - a. A brief curriculum vitae including anticipated degree, date of completion, and career goals
 - b. A statement of the thesis or dissertation and abstract of progress to date
 - c. The names and addresses of two references familiar with the applicant's background and abilities.
 - d. A statement of previous service to the Society, its Sections, or Chapters, and need for travel assistance.
 - e. A statement addressing anticipated contribution to the upcoming annual meeting.

Deadline for application is: June 17, 2011

All application materials should be sent via postal or email to: Jeffrey B. Olsen, Conservation Genetics Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503. Phone (907) 786-3598, Email: jeffrey_olsen@fws.gov.

Volunteer Opportunity for Review of the AFS Policy on Threatened and Endangered Species

This year the AFS Resource Policy Committee is continuing its effort to review all existing AFS policies with the intent to determine whether the policy or its supporting documents can be renewed without change, revised and then submitted for renewal, or rescinded without further action. However, they lack the capacity and expertise to address all 32 policies alone. For that reason, the RPC is seeking to identify volunteers from other AFS units to assist with the review of selected policies.

The Resource Policy Committee is requesting help from the Genetics section on the review of the AFS policy on Threatened and Endangered Species. The statement and its summary can be found at http://www.fisheries.org/afs/policy_statements.html. The objectives of this review will be to:

1. Review the policy to determine if it is in need of revision.
2. Update the statement to reflect changes in science or policy to make it more relevant to the current scientific/policy/AFS climate.
3. Submit revised statement to the RPC and the AFS Governing Board for revisions and approval.

If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact Bill Templin (bill.templin@alaska.gov).

Publication Announcement:

SNP Genotyping in Non-Model Organisms

Announcing the special issue of *Molecular Ecology Resources*: **SNP Workshop III: Applications of SNP genotyping in non-model organisms**. The third in a series of workshops on the development and application of single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in fish and other non-model organisms.

The workshop was held in Blaine, Washington in March 2010 and allowed participants and invited speakers from laboratories from around the world to gather, present papers, and exchange ideas on the rapidly developing discovery and application of SNPs for study of population genetics and genomics. Seventy-five researchers from 11 countries shared progress on research topics funded by and important to the

Pacific Salmon Commission, the North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission, FishPopTrace, and Washington Sea Grant. In addition, the AFS Genetics Section provided a travel award for a graduate student (**Matt Smith**) to present his paper "Multiplex preamplification and SNP genotyping of sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) scales: a forty-five year retrospective of catch compositions in Bristol Bay".

SNPs are rapidly becoming the genetic marker of choice in many studies of ecology, population structure, and especially fisheries conservation and management. In addition, SNPs are increasingly being used to understand the relationship between the phenotype and the genotype in evolutionary studies. Researchers involved in genome mapping and QTL detection, population genomics, and whole genome association analyses are utilizing SNPs to obtain sufficient coverage of the genome. Also, transportability of SNP data has enabled multinational collaborations on pelagic fish species that undergo long migrations, where the ease of data standardization across laboratories and different genotyping platforms makes SNPs ideal for constructing species-wide data bases.

Proceedings from this workshop were published as a supplemental volume of Molecular Ecology Resources (Volume 11, Supplement 1) in March of 2011 entitled SNP development in Non-Model Organisms edited by **J. Seeb, G. Carvalho, L. Hauser, K. Naish, S. Roberts** and **L. Seeb**. This is an open-access issue and all papers are available online at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/men.2011.11.issue-s1/issuetoc>. A limited number of printed copies are available from Lisa Seeb upon request.

Post Your News With The AFS-GS Newsletter!

Please send your news, your announcements, your grant awards, your publications, your fish stories or just a few blackmail-worthy photos of fellow fisheries geneticists to the Newsletter. The deadline for the August 2011 issue is on or before **July 25**. Contact the editor at jcarlin@gustavus.edu to receive everlasting fame.

Sincerely,
Joel Carlin, *AFS Genetics Section Newsletter Editor*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

June - July

6/17 — Deadline for AFS Wright Student Travel Award. See the AFSGS website (or newsletter v.24, iss.1) for details.

7/5 — 'Four-month warning' for the fall 2012 **EPA STAR**, the Science to Achieve Results fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study. See www.epa.gov/ncer/fellow/.

7/6-11 — "**Ichs and Herps**," the 2011 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Hilton Minneapolis, Minneapolis MN. Hosted by the University of Minnesota and St. Olaf College, including the annual meetings of the American Elasmobranch Society, American Society of Ichthyologists and

- Herpetologists, Herpetologists League, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Abstract Submission Deadline is March 5, Early Registration Deadline is April 17, hotel deadline is June 8. See www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/.
- 7/18 — 'Four-month warning' for the full proposal deadline for **NSF DDIG**, the Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant in the Directorate for Biological Sciences, National Science Foundation. See www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5234&org=NSF.
- 7/23-25 — The 2011 American Genetic Association Symposium on "**Genomics and Biodiversity**." Irapuato and Guanajuato, Mexico. Deadlines to be announced. See: www.theaga.org/news.php.
- 7/25 — Deadline for submitting news items to the **AFS Genetics Section newsletter**. Contact the newsletter editor at jcarlin@gustavus.edu.
- 7/23-28 — **SMBE 2011**, the Annual Meeting of the Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution. Kyoto University, Kyoto Japan. Deadline for application of symposia and workshops is February 28. Deadline for oral abstracts and early registration is April 30. Deadline for poster abstracts is May 31. See smb2011.lab.nig.ac.jp/.
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August

- 8/6-13 — EMBO Practical Course on "**Computational biology: Genomes, Cells, Systems**" in Reykjavik, Iceland. Participation is restricted to 20 graduate students and postdocs. For all participants, fellowships will be made available covering housing, subsistence and registration. No funding is available for travel costs. Deadline for applications is 31 March. See cwp.embo.org/pc11-07/.
- 8/7-12 — Short course on "**Phylogenetics: new applications, pitfalls and challenges**" offered by the Ludwig-Maximilian-University of Munich's Master's programme in Evolution, Ecology and Systematics. Frauenchiemsee, Prien Germany. Application deadline is May 31. See www.eeslmu.de/eeswiki/Summer_school_2011.
- 8/15 — Fall proposal target deadline for the **Biological Oceanography Program** of the National Science Foundation. See www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11696.
- 8/20-25 — **ESEB 2011**, the 3rd Congress of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology. University of Tuebingen, Tuebingen Germany. The abstract and early registration deadline is 28 February. See www.es2011.de/.
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September - October

9/2 — Early registration deadline for ICCB, the **International Congress for Conservation Biology**: “Engaging Society in Conservation.” 28 November – 2 December 2011 at University of Canterbury, Whare Wananga o Waitaha, Christchurch, New Zealand. Abstract deadline is 31 March. See www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings/2011/index_al.cfm?CFID=18615856.

9/4-8 — **141st Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society**. Seattle, WA. Applications by AFS-Genetics Section members are under consideration for the following symposia: **“Conservation Genetics and Genomics In Fisheries,” “Incorporating Genetic Data into Population Introduction Programs,”** and **“Larval dispersal, population connectivity and the management of marine species.”** See www.fisheries.org/afs2011.

10/15 — Fall application deadline for **Sigma Xi Grants in Aid of Research** undergraduate and graduate research grant program. See www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml.



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