Report of the Western Division

Howard M. Bassett, President

The Western Division of the American Forest

The Western Division was organized in 1975 by a group of forest managers and researchers who recognized the need for a regional organization to address the unique challenges faced by forest professionals in the western United States. The Division's goals are to promote research and education in forest management, to foster collaboration among professionals, and to support the development of sustainable forest management practices.

The Western Division has grown significantly since its inception, with membership now exceeding 1,000. The Division's annual meeting is held each fall, providing a forum for networking, professional development, and the exchange of ideas.

Recommendations

The Western Division recommends the following actions to further strengthen its role in forest management:

1. Increase the budget to support more research and education programs.
2. Expand the membership to include a broader range of professionals.
3. Develop partnerships with other organizations to enhance collaboration.
4. Increase outreach efforts to engage the public and decision-makers.

By taking these steps, the Western Division can continue to be a leader in the field of forest management, ensuring that the nation's forests are managed sustainably for the benefit of current and future generations.

One Hundred-Fourth Annual Meeting
mittee. Ned Rathbun of Arizona was appointed as the first Chairman. The primary duty of this committee is to serve as a coordinator concerning progress and problems in the water quality area within the Western Division States, and to help in developing more meaningful and standardized water quality criteria. The committee will also supply information to the similar committee of the parent body.

Our committee to standardize stream survey flows and criteria throughout the Western States also continued to function during the 1973–74 year. This committee enjoyed widespread input and participation, and we look forward to some extremely meaningful final results within the next year.

An ad hoc committee was also formed at the 1973 meeting to study problems and progress in the field of optimum stream flow throughout the Western States. This committee functioned throughout the year, and was mandated for an additional year. Its primary purpose will be to explore all sources of data available in the stream flow field and to report on areas where work and research is needed. We suppose that the work of this committee will eventually result in a publication of the Western Division.

Our July 1974 meeting was held in New Mexico, again in conjunction with the Western Association of Game and Fish Commissioners. At this meeting our Water Quality Committee was voted into the status of a permanent committee of the Western Division.

One Resolution, directed to the Secretary of the Interior, was passed at our New Mexico meeting. It asked that the Federal bureaucracy fill a supportive, rather than a dictatorial, role in the field of rare and endangered species. This would involve eventual alteration of the Rare and Endangered Species Act.

During the year, our Chapters continued to function as the main seats of activity within the Western Division. We presently have Chapter Newsletters, making up for a lack of newsletters at the Division level. We further have committees at the Chapter level fully as active as those of the Division. It is unfortunate that the Division Officers are limited by time, distance and funds from attending the meetings of the various Chapters, as this would appear to be the surest way of strengthening the Division operation.

**Report of the Southern Division**

**F. G. Banks, President**

The 22nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society was held in conjunction with the 27th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Game and Fish Commissioners in Hot Springs, Arkansas, October 14–17, 1973. One hundred fifteen members of the American Fisheries Society registered for the meeting.

Southern Division President James P. Clugston presided over the business meeting. In his address he commented on the past year’s activities and presented his observations and feelings on changes taking place. He stated the Southern Division membership had steadily increased to over 1,200 at present with increased attendance at our annual meetings. Mr. Clugston explained our relationship with the Southeastern Association of Game and Fish Commissioners, pointing out the mutualistic relationship; we should think long and hard before giving it up.

New officers elected for 1973–74 were: F. G. Banks, President; L. Glenn McKay, President-Elect; Wendell Lorio, Secretary-Treasurer; and Southern Division representative to the Parent Society Nominating Committee, Alex Montgomery.

Committee Chairmen appointed for 1974 are: Auditing, Don Baker, North Carolina; Awards, John Dequine, Florida; C. W. Watson Award (Southern Division Representative) Bernard T. Carter, Kentucky; Fish Disease, Don Lewis, Texas; Local Arrangements & Publicity, Reid Tatum (Co-Chairman), Tennessee, and Bob Ross (Co-Chairman), West Virginia; Membership, John Hall, Georgia; Pollution, Peter Plefker, Kentucky; Program, Bill Rogers, Alabama; Reservoir, Bob Grinstead, Tennessee; Resolutions, Archie Hopper, Alabama; Striped Bass, Forrest Ware, Florida; Trout, Donley Hill, Tennessee; Warmwater Streams (ad hoc), Dan Holder, Georgia.

Awards Committee Chairman John Dequine