



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

July 28, 1998

To: William W. Taylor, AFS President

From: Peter A. Bisson, Western Division President

Subject: 1997-98 Annual Report to the Governing Board

Copies: Western Division Executive Committee

Action Requested: None

Recommended Motions: None

Officers

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| President | Peter A. Bisson |
| President-Elect | Robert E. Bilby |
| Vice President | Ken A. Hashagen |
| Past-President | Thomas P. Nesler |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Dave Drake |
| Newsletter Editor | Paul Evans |
| Nominating Rep. | <i>vacant</i> |

Chapter Presidents

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Alaska | Mason D. Bryant |
| Arizona-New Mexico | Colleen A. Caldwell |
| Bonneville | William A. Bradwisch |
| California-Nevada | Patrick J. Coulston |
| Colorado-Wyoming | Patrick J. Martinez |
| Colo-Wyoming Student | Scott Mullner |
| Hawaii | Walter N. Ikehara |
| Humboldt | Susan C. McBride |
| Idaho | Tim C. Cochnauer |
| Montana | Mark E. Lere |
| NM State Univ Student | Nikkoal McClelland |
| No. Pac. International | Kurt L. Fresh |
| Oregon | Harold J. Weeks |
| Greater Portland | Richard B. Turner |
| U. Wyoming Student | Andrew D. Gryska |

Committees (internal affairs)

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Archivist | Venice Beske |
| Arrangements | Cindy Hartmann |
| Audit | Lou Carufel |
| Awards/Nominations | Tom Nesler |
| Equal Opportunity | Jerry Salazar |
| FAN Manager | Tom Nesler |
| Membership | Ken Hashagen |
| Policy Review | Dennis Tol |
| Program | Cindy Hartmann |

Committees (external affairs)

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Bull Trout | Shelly Spaulding |
| Endangered Species | <i>vacant</i> |
| Environmental Concerns | Michael Ward |
| Native Peoples Fisheries | Kelly Meyer |
| Riparian | Ron Wiley |
| AFS Resolutions | Dennis Tol |
| AFS Certification Appeals | Pete Bisson |
| Mining Reform | Steve Wolff |
| Professional Conduct | Randy Bailey |

Division Highlights:

Professional Development

The 1998 Western Division annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the 16th Lowell Wakefield Fisheries Symposium on Sept. 30-Oct. 3 in Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting is being co-sponsored by the Western Division, Alaska Chapter, and Alaska Sea Grant. The Wakefield Symposium attracts an international audience of scientists, particularly those interested in marine shellfish and oceanography. The theme of the combined meeting is *Ecosystem Considerations in Fisheries Management*. The combined attendance at the Western Division meeting and Wakefield Symposium is expected to more than double the average attendance at our annual meeting and give members an opportunity to learn about topics not usually highlighted at our meetings. We will have 4 concurrent sessions from Wednesday through Friday and 3 concurrent sessions on Saturday.

The Western Division will continue annual financial awards to outstanding fisheries graduate students within the Division, an initiative that was begun by Carl Burger several years ago.

The Western Division approved a disbursement of \$300 to Washington Trout in support of a forum on *Uncertainty in Salmon Harvest Management*, in which a Bayesian decision model was developed to help managers account for uncertainty in setting harvest limits. Two members of the Excom participated in the program, which was attended by salmon managers from several Pacific Northwest states.

Diversity

The Western Division contributed approximately \$1650 to the AFS International Fisheries Section to help provide AFS journal subscriptions to Russian Far East laboratories (with matching funds from Oregon and Alaska chapters).

The Excom approved a disbursement of \$275 to the AFS Native Peoples Section to help defray Monterey meeting attendance costs for a Native American section member.

The Excom approved a disbursement of \$1000 to the AFS Equal Opportunities Section to help recruit students from underrepresented groups to AFS.

Visibility

The Division completed a review of the proposed Forage Improvement Act with the able assistance of Bill Bradshaw. Our review pointed out significant shortcomings in the proposed bill that would jeopardize riparian zones and streams in watersheds subject to federal grazing allotments. Copies of our review were sent to congressional representatives from each western state.

The Division's Bull Trout Committee provided technical assistance regarding a plan for management of the Wigwam River watershed. The Wigwam River is a transboundary stream between US and Canada and contains a native bull trout population.

The Division's Bull Trout Committee provided a technical review of a draft bull trout conservation plan.

The US-Canada Salmon Treaty will be highlighted at our annual meeting in Anchorage with speakers representing both scientific and political perspectives.

The Western Division has been asked by Washington State to recommend 9 scientists for an Independent Scientific Review Panel, which will review various aspects of the state's salmon recovery plan. An ad hoc nominating committee has been formed, containing AFS, WDAFS, and North Pacific International Chapter representatives.

The Western Division commends the many activities of its chapters, which have significantly improved aquatic resource conservation and management throughout western North America. Many of these activities are highlighted in the following chapter reports.

Chapter Highlights:

Alaska

The 24th Annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society was held in Juneau during November 18-20, 1997. The meeting was attended by more than 190 people. The theme of the meeting was "From the Mountains to the Sea: Linked Ecosystems". The opening session featured David Benton representing Frank Rue, commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, who spoke on the Department's commitment to scientifically based management of salmon stocks; followed by Phil Janik, Regional Forester of the U.S. D.A. Forest Service, Alaska Region, who emphasized the importance of maintaining anadromous salmonid habitat throughout the Tongass National Forest. Following his presentation on the current Forest Service aquatic management direction, Mr. Janik responded to questions from the audience concerning Forest Service policy for protecting and maintaining aquatic habitat.

The first keynote speaker, Jim Sedell, traced the significance and role of large wood from headwater stream through the floodplain and into the open ocean where large wood functions as cover on the high seas and is colonized by a diverse group of marine invertebrates. Marine transport of large wood results in deposit in the river mouths in tundra rivers. The second keynote speaker, Dr. David W. Welch, presented results from high seas surveys of Pacific salmon that showed sharp thermal boundaries limiting high seas rearing areas. Current models of global warming predict large scale northward shifts in marine rearing areas and in one model increases in temperatures in the north Pacific would restrict sockeye salmon rearing in the high seas to the Bering sea by the middle of the next century. More than 60 papers in eleven special and contributed paper sessions covered topics from presentations on the development of the Tongass Land Management Plan, Pacific Herring research and management, the function and management of headwater streams in the Pacific Northwest to shellfish management and research. Abstracts of most presentations are available on the Alaska Chapter homepage.

John Clark was awarded the Walley Norenburg award for 1997 and Dr. Fred Everest received the meritorious service award for his work on the Tongass Land Management Plan which included significant advances in protection of aquatic habitat in the Tongass National Forest. The outstanding paper for the 1997 meeting was presented by John Hudson on "Salmon carcasses increase stream macroinvertebrate abundance in Alaska." Carol Kerkvliet, who also received a cultural diversity travel assistance award, along with her co-authors, P. Crane, and L. Seeb, were recognized for the best poster session of the meeting. Her poster was "Genetic Relationships Among Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) Populations in Alaska Based on Variation at Multiple Allozyme and Microsatellite Loci."

A new student sub-unit was organized at the University of Alaska Southeast located in Juneau. Since its inception the sub-unit has elected officers, organized a mini-symposium on student research, and sponsored a workshop on writing.

- The Fish Ecology in Arctic Symposium (American Fisheries Society Symposium 19) edited by Jim Reynolds was published in 1997 and was available for purchase at the 1997 chapter meeting; copies will also be available at the 1998 meeting in Anchorage. It contains 32 papers that range from management and population dynamics marine and freshwater species to taxonomy and genetics of fish in northern Canada and Alaska. Selected papers from the Habitat Restoration Symposium held at Girdwood in 1992 have been collected, edited, and published. It is in the process of being distributed to all participants. Work is continuing on the "Fishes of Alaska Key", a large and comprehensive compilation of all species in marine and freshwaters of Alaska. Completion of the first complete draft is expected this winter, 1998.
- The Chapter web page (www.alaska.net/~fishak/) has been renovated and has links to various fisheries related activities and organizations including the parent society. Information on the page includes Abstracts from the most recent (1997) annual chapter meeting, the newsletter, chapter by-laws and procedures, and the EXCOM and how to contact them. The page is maintained by Norma Sands.
- The chapter completed and submitted a review and comments on the 1997 final Tongass Land Management Plan to the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Region. Other environmental issues has included comments on the development of State of Alaska, DNR proposal for timber management of Spruce bark beetle kill on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Two continuing education courses are offered in conjunction with the Annual Chapter/Western Division Meeting on September 29 --Internet applications and fish and wildlife software and GIS Applications in Fish and Wildlife Management.

Arizona-New Mexico

The Chapter held their annual meeting in conjunction with the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of the Wildlife Society in Sierra Vista, Arizona February 5-7, 1998. Membership is up to 256 members.

Chapter members, Tom McMahon (2001 co-chair arrangements committee), Joe Janisch (2001 co-chair arrangements committee) and Colleen Caldwell (2001 co-chair, program committee) are already busily preparing for the national meeting to be held in Phoenix, AZ in 2001. They will be attending the national meeting in Hartford to coordinate activities and brainstorm with AFS executives.

Bonneville

The Bonneville AFS Chapter held a joint Technical and Poster Session Meeting with the CO/WY AFS Chapter in Grand Junction, CO on March 3 and 4, 1998. The Bonneville Chapter had 109 members attend. The technical session had three concurrent presentations with excellent paper presentations in all. Individual Chapter Business Meetings were held to handle the appropriate business. A list of awards presented is as follows:

Scientist of the Year Award (two presented): Mark Holden, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission; Dr. Chris Luecke, Utah State University.

Lifetime Achievement Award (two presented): Ron Goede, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; Tom Pettengill, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Culturist of the Year Award: Wayne Gustaveson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Awards of Merit (eight presented): Bruce Barrett, Thomas Ryan and Edward Vidmar, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Chris Keleher, Roger Wilson, Bob Spateholts, Don Wiley and Bryce Nielson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

The Best Technical Professional Paper Award was given to Dan Duffield, U.S. Forest Service, Ogden, Utah.

On March 5, following the Chapter's Technical Session, a jointly sponsored a Continuing Education Course dealing with Management of Large Lakes and Reservoirs was taught. Fifty five members from both chapters attended.

Bonneville Chapter activities have involved increasing membership, reviewing and commenting on Central Utah Projects involving the restoration of two state fish hatcheries, writing a letter of support to legislators sponsoring a bill to provide a Balanced, policy making Fish Health Board with an independent chairperson. The Chapter is also following closely the status of the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout listing issue.

Colorado-Wyoming

Continuing Education, 5 March 1998, Drs. Brett Johnson (Colo. State Univ., CO/WY Chap) and Dave Beauchamp (Utah St. Univ, Bonneville Chap) instructors -- "Reservoirs: New Perspectives and Techniques for Research and Management". Course seeks to follow guidelines found in "Continuing Education Manual" to facilitate course approval and receipt of credit (CUE's) by participants.

2nd Joint Annual Meeting with Bonneville Chapter, 3-5 March 1998. Regional Cutthroat Species Forum: Should Any if the CO/WY/UT's Cutthroat Subspecies be Federally Listed as Endangered?" The cutthroat session included differing perspectives/point-counter point from agency, environmental, university and lay-person interests (see details in item #4). Contributed papers from three-state area on 4 March 1998.

CO/WY Chapter will arranged and hosted the "**Conservation Symposium**" at The Mitsubishi Motors 17th Annual World Fly Fishing Championship and Conservation Symposium in Jackson, WY, September 1997. The 1997 symposium was recognized as the "**best ever in the history of the Championships**" providing "**world-wide participants information on stream management and conservation techniques**".

Participating Chapter members included:

Chapter Representative - Mark Novak (U.S. Forest Service)

Symposium Moderator - Pat Martinez (Colo. Div. of Wildlife)

Presenters - Dr. Bob Behnke (Colo. St. Univ.), R. Remmick (Wy. Game & Fish), John Varley (Yellowstone Nat'l Park), Kurt Nelson (U.S. Forest Service), John Kiefling (Wy. Game & Fish)

Poster - Rob Gipson (Wy, Game & Fish)

2nd Joint Annual Meeting with Bonneville Chapter, 3-5 March 1998. Theme: "Following the Leaders, Leading the Followers". Top agency administrators responded to questions intended to get at the "leadership" direction for difficult and contentious aquatic resource conservation topics.

In 1997, the CO/WY Chapter became a life member of the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) and donated \$500 toward construction of a second "Stream Trailer", a powerful educational tool which demonstrates stream channel and habitat dynamics. During summer 1998, the CRA in conjunction with CO/WY AFS will be onsite at the Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Exposition (website: [ww://gf.state.wy.us](http://gf.state.wy.us)) in Casper, WY, to display, operate, and discuss stream habitat dynamics using the "Stream Trailer". This event is co-hosted by: Wyoming Game & Fish Dept., The North American Pronghorn Foundation, The Wyoming Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, Federal Cartridge Corporation, H&R 1871 Inc., Friends of the NRA, The Wyoming Outdoor Council, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Outfitter and Guide Association.

Several Chapter members were co-recipients of AFS Management Award for Habitat Restoration, Little Mountain Project, Wyoming, 1997.

Colorado-Wyoming Student

A full spring semester is planned for the UW student sub-section. On January 26th, Dirk Miller of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department spoke to the sub-section about employment opportunities with the WGFD Fisheries Division. He also explained the process to obtain professional certification through the American Fisheries Society. In April, Dr. Tim Patton agreed to come and inform the sub-section of the lifestyles of some of Wyoming's lesser known and appreciated fauna, reptiles and amphibians. Dr. Patton is a recent grad from the UW Cooperative Research Unit and long-time member of the student sub-section.

On Saturday January 31, we held our annual ice-fishing extravaganza on Diamond Lake, west of Laramie. The weather was favorable, and 20 students participated in the event. Both rainbow and cutthroat trout were caught, the biggest over 18" and a total of five fish being the most caught by one student.

The student sub-section co-sponsored the 1998 Wyoming Anglers Symposium with the University of Wyoming Flycasters. The symposium is entitled "Western Angling: A Perspective on Land Access in the Rocky Mountain Region." This two day event took place on April 24-25 and featured two days of individual fly-tying and casting techniques demonstrated by world renowned fly fishermen Jack Dennis and Gary LaFontaine. They also presented lectures around campus on Friday. On Saturday, the symposium included more time with Jack and Gary, as well as technical presentations pertinent to Wyoming's anglers by regional resource management experts and professors. This day was topped off with a formal catered banquet featuring both Jack and Gary as keynote speakers.

- In addition, for the first time the student sub-section has been in existence, we are submitting a budget to ASUW (Associated Students of the University of Wyoming). This is an annual process that allows student organizations to secure funding for programs, speakers, and other activities that are of broad appeal and otherwise would not be affordable. Our budget proposal included totaled \$9423.24. As a result, in the 1998-99 academic year we plan to bring six accomplished fisheries scientists/ecologists/orators to campus for seminars and individual meetings with students and faculty. We will also be planning a few educational/recreational outings to points of interest around the state (fish hatcheries, fishing hot spots, and other areas of interest). Through these programs we hope to contribute to the

quality of seminar speakers brought to UW. We hope this will increase campus and community awareness of fisheries concerns, AFS interest, and student involvement in the sub-section.

- Our sub-section also applied for funding from ASUW for registration fee supplements for students attending the CO/WY chapter meeting in Grand Junction. We received \$300 from ASUW for this event and will be sending ten students to the annual meeting. We have also applied for funding through the UW Graduate School for five sub-section students. This money will pay all costs for the students trips. The UW Cooperative Research Unit and Department of Zoology and Physiology will be sponsoring our transportation costs to and from the annual meeting. Of the students attending, seven will be presenting papers or posters. The sub-section is also participating in the adopt-a-buddy program, allowing WGFD employees to travel to and from Grand Junction in the UW sponsored vehicles. Hopefully, little incentives like these will increase awareness and participation in AFS and associated activities.
- Finally, UW sub-section member Doug Novinger designed a new CO/WY Chapter and sub-section logo. Through a loan from the CO/WY chapter, we will be able to print nearly 100 shirts for sale at the annual meeting by our sub-section. The funds from these shirts provide a major source of our sub-sections independent fund raising, with all funds being used for increasing UW student sub-section activities and visibility.

Humboldt

ESA Workshop - April 25, 1997, Arcata, CA. We organized this workshop to address local concerns about the coho listing. Speakers addressed ESA sections 4, 7 and 10 during the one day event. Over 100 agency personnel, students, timber company representatives, non-profit restoration groups, county supervisors, and environmental groups attended. We prepared a 500+ page binders with a copy of the Act, the Federal Register and handbooks developed by NMFS or USFWS for each sections.

President-elect, Dr. Kristine Brennaman, HSU Fishery Faculty, is working with the Cal-Neva chapter and the CDFG to put on one of their California Stream Bioassessment Procedure, 3-day workshops.

Our fall seminar series included 5 presentations by fishery professionals and a PhD candidate. Topics and speakers were:

Sept 18 - Mike Orcutt, Fisheries Director, "Overview of Hoopa Tribal Fisheries"

Oct 18 - Mary Yoklavich, PMEL-NOAA- Coastal Rockfishes: Surviving to Old Age in a sea of technology

Nov 3 - Tammy Newcomb, Michigan State - Watershed Analysis of Juvenile Steelhead Production and Environmental Limitations

Nov 10 - Joe Cech, UC Davis- Temperature effects on California Fishes: Chinook Salmon, Bat Rays, and Delta Smelt

Nov 20 - Pete Kalvass, CDFG - The California Red Sea Urchin, *Strongylocentrotus franciscanus*: Catch, Effort and Management Trends

Our spring seminar series was:

Feb 5 - Jon Heiftz, NMFS - Emerging issues in marine fisheries management in the North Pacific: habitat, endangered species, and ecosystem considerations

Feb 26 - Claude Singleton, BLM- Fitzhugh Creek rehabilitation: a high desert fishery

Mar 12 - George Watters, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission-Chilean sea bass:
Out of the frying pan and into the fire: a case history of the Antarctic fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides*

Apr 16- Robert N. Lea, CDFG- Fishes of the San Benito Islands: California and Panamerican fish connections

We held our 24th Annual Joint Technical Conference with the North Coast Chapter of the Wildlife Society on March 28 at Humboldt State University. The theme is "Current Biological Research on the North Coast and Klamath Region."

Montana

Continuing work toward completion of status summaries for 17 species of special concern in the state

Continuing work toward completion of an educational poster depicting species of special concern

Provided Chapter representation on the state's Montana Bull Trout Restoration Team and tracked ongoing efforts

Provided Chapter representation on the state's Westslope Cutthroat Trout Steering committee and tracked ongoing efforts

Provided comments on the state's draft westslope cutthroat trout recovery goals

Provided comment on two landscape assessments, a salvage timber sale and a grazing permit re-evaluation

Provided comment to a governor's appointed task force addressing floodplain management on the upper Yellowstone River

Provided technical comment on the proposed McDonald gold project on the Blackfoot River

Tracked FERC re-licensing of the Madison/Missouri dams

Provided Chapter representation on the state's Grazing Best Management Practices technical group

Provided \$8,500.00 in funding assistance for four projects through our Chapter's Resource Action Fund. These projects included an educational "comic book" on bull trout; a children's fishing club newsletter; modification of a diversion structure on a stream to insure passage by bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout; and a re-naturalization project on a bull trout/westslope cutthroat trout stream that was altered in the past by placer mining

Helping organize and co-chairing two upcoming symposia: 1) fisheries management in Yellowstone National Park and 2) conservation strategies for native salmonids in the Rocky Mountains

Provided Chapter representation on the Intermountain Journal of Science editorial board

Distributed recruitment letters to all former members of the Chapter and annual meeting attendees from last year

Published and distributed three Chapter newsletters and held 3 EXCOM meetings

Developed a Chapter Web page

Provided comment on Montana Fish Wildlife and Park's Cherry Creek Native Fish Introduction EA

Provided comment to the USFWS (subsequently routed to the U.S. Corp of Engineers) about concerns over reservoir operations of Fort Peck Dam and its impacts to native fish, including the endangered pallid sturgeon

Provided comment to the Montana congressional delegation and Montana governor Marc Racicot endorsing the "Teaming with Wildlife" proposal

Provided comment to the USFS on the draft EIS for the proposed ASARCO mine on Rock Creek

Provided comment to the USFS endorsing the proposed temporary suspension of road construction within roadless areas

Approved and incorporated into the Chapter bylaws a student subunit from the University of Montana

Revamped the Chapter's Resource Action Fund to ensure applications are reviewed in a fair and equitable manner and to provide appropriate tracking of Chapter funds

Provided \$8,000.00 in funding assistance for three projects through our Chapter's Resource Action Fund. These projects included funding for fluvial arctic grayling recovery in Montana; publication and distribution of an informational brochure on "whirling disease"; and construction of educational salmonid identification boards

- Published and distributed an additional two chapter newsletters and held two additional EXCOM meetings
- Organized and held a Chapter summer workshop on the Ruby, Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers addressing stream restoration and bank stabilization

Information and highlights from our 1998 annual meeting:

Theme - From Genes to Landscapes: Protecting and Restoring Montana's Aquatic Diversity

Technical sessions included: "Regional Restoration Plans: Promises, Progress, and Pitfalls"; "Watershed Restoration: Citizen Groups and Agency Folks Working Together to Improve Fish Habitat"; 2 "Student Paper Sessions"; "Emerging Issues"; and "Contributed Papers"

Held in Helena on February 2 through February 5

154 people registered

Held a one day continuing education workshop on "Genetics in Fisheries Management" taught by Dr. Ann Kapuscinski of the Univ. of Minnesota, Dr. Dave Philipp of the Illinois Natural History Survey and Bill Ardren, PhD student at the Univ. of Minnesota -

56 people registered

At our Awards luncheon, presented awards to folks in the following categories: 1) Individual; 2) Groups and Organizations with two awards given; 3) Industry or Companies; and 4) Montana Fishery Worker of the Year

Dr. Charles Coutant, Immediate Past President of the Parent Society, attended and presented the Presidential Conservation Award to Montana's Governor Marc Racicot (in attendance) at our Awards luncheon (local press and television covered the event)

Dr. Charles Coutant gave a special presentation during the meeting addressing his thoughts on the "State of AFS"

Approved \$8,000.00 in funding assistance to three projects through our Resource Action Fund at our business meeting

Oregon

The ANNUAL MEETING, ("Population, Economics, and Ecosystems: Is sustainability Attainable") was held in Sunriver, Oregon February 11-13, 1998, and attended by 465 people. Five nationally-known speakers addressed the plenary session, and discussed the meeting theme from widely varying points of view. Sixty-one technical papers and 12 posters were presented. Also, a special luncheon on diversity issues in the workplace was held.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH activities included:

- A workshop on technical writing
- An Advanced Stream Biology Workshop for Secondary-level Teachers
- A project to supply AFS journals to fisheries labs in eastern Russia
- Distribution of 250 Stream Continuum posters to educators throughout the Pacific Northwest and other regions.
- Sponsorship of the Desert Fishes Conservation and Management Course

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Proceedings from "Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout: Biology, Management, and Future Conservation" (J. Hall, P. Bisson, and R. Gresswell, eds.)

Proceedings from the Inland Rainbow Trout workshop/symposium are expected to be published in 1999. ((D. Buchanan, P. Howell, and J. Maule, eds.)

Lessons from Floods , an essay in Fisheries (Sept. 1997; K. Schroeder and C. Savonen, authors).

MEMBER COMMUNICATION

Oregon AFS published quarterly issues of the Piscatorial Press. Three editors produce this 12-page newsletter, distributed free to all members. The newsletter contains photos, essays, announcements, and other Chapter information.

Email is used by all Executive Committee members, to improve response time on legislative issues and other important items. Many of the Chapters committees also use email because of these advantages.

The Chapter also has a home page on the Internet, containing a calendar of events, alerts on important issues, and links to the national chapter.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Oregon AFS retained a legislative liaison, Stephen Kafoury, to keep the Chapter apprised of issues affecting aquatic resources. The Chapter wrote over 20 letters with detailed technical comments to numerous federal and state agencies and special task forces. Issues addressed included:

- essential salmonid habitat,
- regulation of placer mining,
- the Interior Columbia EIS,
- water quality and federal grazing permits,
- passage issues and dam removal,
- proposed rules for state forestry lands,
- status of bull trout,
- habitat conservation plans and the "no surprises" policy,
- recommendations for the Multidisciplinary Science Team, and
- recommended change of the official common name of the Northern squawfish to bigmouth minnow.

The Chapter also provided oral testimony on several of these issues.

AWARDS

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| Best student paper 1998 | Kristopher Wright, Oregon State University, |
| Best student poster 1998 | Kimberly Cleveland, Oregon State University |
| Fishery Worker of the Year 1998: | Kirk Schroeder |
| Award of Merit 1998: | Hiram Li, Doug Markle |
| Broken Oar Award 1998: | Ray Perkins |
| Past-President Award 1998: | Thomas Backman |

DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Oregon AFS gave out two \$1000 scholarships to graduate students at Oregon State University. Recipients were Stephanie Gunckel and Thomas Williams

Other grants went to Oregon Trout, Malheur Field Station, and Northwest Steelheaders

RECRUITMENT AND MEMBER SERVICES

The Chapter has initiated an interest and expertise survey to help involve members in appropriate committees. We have also begun a Lost Member Survey. Beginning with the 1999 annual meeting, some funds will be available for members with non-reimbursed travel expenses.

Greater Portland

The first GPAC bi-monthly meeting, held in November, was a discussion of El Nino that was presented by Jack Bohl of the National Weather Service. This meeting was held on the Portland State University campus.

The second Chapter bi-monthly meeting was held in January at Mt. Hood Community College. The subject of this meeting was the efforts to develop an Oregon and Washington joint recovery plan for the Lower Columbia River steelhead. The speaker for this meeting was Chuck Willis of S.P. Cramer & Associates, Inc.

The third Chapter meeting in March looked at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Lower Columbia River Eco-

Restoration Program. Tyrae Mahan discussed the Corps efforts to fund and find sponsors for eco-restoration projects in waterways under the Corps jurisdiction.

The GPAC 4th Annual Conference was held May 15, 1998 at McMenasins Edgefield and was titled "*Fish, Fisheries, and Biologists in the New Millennium -- Threatened, Endangered, or full recovery?*" The GPAC Annual meeting was supported by donations from Portland General Electric, the Port of Portland, the Habitat Conservation Branch of the National Marine Fisheries Portland office. In addition, 7 student memberships to the American Fisheries Society were funded by a donation from Paul Fishman of Fishman's Environmental Services.

Other chapter reports not received as of mid-July.

WDAFS 1997-98 Division and Chapter Highlights

Officers

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III. Visibility

- The Division completed a review of the proposed Forage Improvement Act with the able assistance of Bill Bradshaw. Our review pointed out significant shortcomings in the proposed bill that would jeopardize riparian zones and streams in watersheds subject to federal grazing allotments. Copies of our review were sent to congressional representatives from each western state.
- The Division's Bull Trout Committee provided technical assistance regarding a plan for management of the Wigwam River watershed. The Wigwam River is a transboundary stream between US and Canada and contains a native bull trout population.
- The Division's Bull Trout Committee provided a technical review of a draft bull trout conservation plan.
- The US-Canada Salmon Treaty will be highlighted at our annual meeting in Anchorage with speakers representing both scientific and political perspectives.
- The Western Division has been asked by Washington State to recommend 9 scientists for an Independent Scientific Review Panel, which will review various aspects of the state's salmon recovery plan. An ad hoc nominating committee has been formed, containing AFS, WDAFS, and North Pacific International Chapter representatives.
- The Western Division commends the many activities of its chapters, which have significantly improved aquatic resource conservation and management throughout western North America. Many of these activities are highlighted in the following chapter reports.

Chapter Highlights:

Alaska

- The 24th Annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society was held in Juneau during November 18-20, 1997. The meeting was attended by more than 190 people. The theme of the meeting was "From the Mountains to the Sea: Linked Ecosystems". The opening session featured David Benton representing Frank Rue, commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, who spoke on the Department's commitment to scientifically based management of salmon stocks; followed by Phil Janik, Regional Forester of the U.S. D.A. Forest Service, Alaska Region, who emphasized the importance of maintaining anadromous salmonid habitat throughout the Tongass National Forest. Following his presentation on the current Forest Service aquatic management direction, Mr. Janik responded to questions from the audience concerning Forest Service policy for protecting and maintaining aquatic habitat.
- The first keynote speaker, Jim Sedell, traced the significance and role of large wood from headwater stream through the floodplain and into the open ocean where large wood functions as cover on the high seas and is colonized by a diverse group of marine invertebrates. Marine transport of large wood results in deposit in the river mouths in tundra rivers. The second keynote speaker, Dr. David W. Welch, presented results from high seas surveys of Pacific salmon that showed sharp thermal boundaries limiting high seas rearing areas. Current models of global warming predict large scale northward shifts in marine rearing areas and in one model increases in temperatures in the north Pacific would restrict sockeye salmon rearing in the high seas to the Bering sea by the middle of the next century. More than 60 papers in eleven special and contributed papers

sessions covered topics from presentations on the development of the Tongass Land Management Plan, Pacific Herring research and management, the function and management of headwater streams in the Pacific Northwest to shellfish management and research. Abstracts of most presentations are available on the Alaska Chapter homepage.

- John Clark was awarded the Walley Norenburg award for 1997 and Dr. Fred Everest received the meritorious service award for his work on the Tongass Land Management Plan which included significant advances in protection of aquatic habitat in the Tongass National Forest. The outstanding paper for the 1997 meeting was presented by John Hudson on "Salmon carcasses increase stream macroinvertebrate abundance in Alaska. Carol Kerkvliet, who also received a cultural diversity travel assistance award, along with her co-authors, P. Crane, and L. Seeb, were recognized for the best poster session of the meeting. Her poster was Genetic Relationships Among Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) Populations in Alaska Based on Variation at Multiple Allozyme and Microsatellite Loci.
- A new student sub-unit was organized at the University of Alaska Southeast located in Juneau. Since its inception the sub-unit has elected officers, organized a mini-symposium on student research, and sponsored a workshop on writing.
- The Fish Ecology in Arctic Symposium (American Fisheries Society Symposium 19) edited by Jim Reynolds was published in 1997 and was available for purchase at the 1997 chapter meeting; copies will also be available at the 1998 meeting in Anchorage. It contains 32 papers that range from management and population dynamics of marine and freshwater species to taxonomy and genetics of fish in northern Canada and Alaska. Selected papers from the Habitat Restoration Symposium held at Girdwood in 1992 have been collected, edited, and published. It is in the process of being distributed to all participants. Work is continuing on the "Fishes of Alaska Key", a large and comprehensive compilation of all species in marine and freshwaters of Alaska. Completion of the first complete draft is expected this winter, 1998.
- The Chapter web page (www.alaska.net/~fishak/) has been renovated and has links to various fisheries related activities and organizations including the parent society. Information on the page includes Abstracts from the most recent (1997) annual chapter meeting, the newsletter, chapter by-laws and procedures, and the EXCOM and how to contact them. The page is maintained by Norma Sands.
- The chapter completed and submitted a review and comments on the 1997 final Tongass Land Management Plan to the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Region. Other environmental issues have included comments on the development of State of Alaska, DNR proposal for timber management of Spruce bark beetle kill on the Kenai Peninsula.
- Two continuing education courses are offered in conjunction with the Annual Chapter/Western Division Meeting on September 29 --Internet applications and fish and wildlife software and GIS Applications in Fish and Wildlife Management.

Arizona-New Mexico

- The Chapter held their annual meeting in conjunction with the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of the Wildlife Society in Sierra Vista, Arizona February 5-7, 1998. Membership is up to 256 members.
- Chapter members, Tom McMahon (2001 co-chair arrangements committee), Joe Janisch (2001 co-chair arrangements committee) and Colleen Caldwell (2001 co-chair, program committee) are already busily preparing for the national meeting to be held in Phoenix, AZ in 2001. They will be attending the national meeting in Hartford to coordinate activities and brainstorm with AFS executives.

Bonneville

- The Bonneville AFS Chapter held a joint Technical and Poster Session Meeting with the CO/WY AFS Chapter in Grand Junction, CO on March 3 and 4, 1998. The Bonneville Chapter had 109 members attend. The technical session had three concurrent presentations with excellent paper presentations in all. Individual Chapter Business Meetings were held to handle the appropriate business. A list of awards presented is as follows:

Scientist of the Year Award (two presented): Mark Holden, Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission; Dr. Chris Luecke, Utah State University.

Lifetime Achievement Award (two presented): Ron Goede, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; Tom Pettengill, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Culturist of the Year Award: Wayne Gustavson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Awards of Merit (eight presented): Bruce Barrett, Thomas Ryan and Edward Vidmar, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Chris Keleher, Roger Wilson, Bob Spatcholts, Don Wiley and Bryce Nielson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

The Best Technical Professional Paper Award was given to Dan Duffield, U.S. Forest Service, Ogden, Utah.

- On March 5, following the Chapter's Technical Session, a jointly sponsored a Continuing Education Course dealing with Management of Large Lakes and Reservoirs was taught. Fifty five members from both chapters attended.
- Bonneville Chapter activities have involved increasing membership, reviewing and commenting on Central Utah Projects involving the restoration of two state fish hatcheries, writing a letter of support to legislators sponsoring a bill to provide a Balanced, policy making Fish Health Board with an independent chairperson. The Chapter is also following closely the status of the Bonneville Cutthroat Trout listing issue.

Colorado-Wyoming

- Continuing Education, 5 March 1998, Drs. Brett Johnson (Colo. State Univ., CO/WY Chap) and Dave Beauchamp (Utah St. Univ, Bonneville Chap) instructors -- "Reservoirs: New Perspectives and Techniques for Research and Management". Course seeks to follow guidelines found in "Continuing Education Manual" to facilitate course approval and receipt of credit (CUE's) by participants.
- 2nd Joint Annual Meeting with Bonneville Chapter, 3-5 March 1998. Regional Cutthroat Species Forum: Should Any if the CO/WY/UT's Cutthroat Subspecies be Federally Listed as Endangered?" The cutthroat session included differing perspectives/point-counter point from agency, environmental, university and lay-person interests (see details in item #4). Contributed papers from three-state area on 4 March 1998.
- CO/WY Chapter will arranged and hosted the "Conservation Symposium" at The Mitsubishi Motors 17th Annual World Fly Fishing Championship and Conservation Symposium in Jackson, WY, September 1997. The 1997 symposium was recognized as the "**best ever in the history of the Championships**" providing "**world-wide participants information on stream management and conservation techniques**". Participating Chapter members included:
 - Chapter Representative - Mark Novak (U.S. Forest Service)
 - Symposium Moderator - Pat Martinez (Colo. Div. of Wildlife)
 - Presenters - Dr. Bob Behnke (Colo. St. Univ.), R. Remmick (Wy. Game & Fish), John Varley (Yellowstone Nat'l Park), Kurt Nelson (U.S. Forest Service), John Kiefling (Wy. Game & Fish)
 - Poster - Rob Gipson (Wy, Game & Fish)
- 2nd Joint Annual Meeting with Bonneville Chapter, 3-5 March 1998. Theme: "Following the Leaders, Leading the Followers". Top agency administrators responded to questions intended to get at the "leadership" direction for difficult and contentious aquatic resource conservation topics.
- In 1997, the CO/WY Chapter became a life member of the Colorado Riparian Association (CRA) and donated \$500 toward construction of a second "Stream Trailer", a powerful educational tool which demonstrates stream channel and habitat dynamics. During summer 1998, the CRA in conjunction with CO/WY AFS will be onsite at the Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Exposition (website: [ww://gf.state.wy.us](http://wf.state.wy.us)) in Casper, WY, to display, operate, and discuss stream habitat dynamics using the "Stream Trailer". This event is co-hosted by: Wyoming Game & Fish Dept., The North American Pronghorn Foundation, The Wyoming Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, Federal Cartridge Corporation, H&R 1871 Inc., Friends of the NRA, The Wyoming Outdoor Council, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Wyoming Outfitter and Guide Association.

- Several Chapter members were co-recipients of AFS Management Award for Habitat Restoration, Little Mountain Project, Wyoming, 1997.

Colorado-Wyoming Student

- A full spring semester is planned for the UW student sub-section. On January 26th, Dirk Miller of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department spoke to the sub-section about employment opportunities with the WGFD Fisheries Division. He also explained the process to obtain professional certification through the American Fisheries Society. In April, Dr. Tim Patton agreed to come and inform the sub-section of the lifestyles of some of Wyoming's lesser known and appreciated fauna, reptiles and amphibians. Dr. Patton is a recent grad from the UW Cooperative Research Unit and long-time member of the student sub-section.
- On Saturday January 31, we held our annual ice-fishing extravaganza on Diamond Lake, west of Laramie. The weather was favorable, and 20 students participated in the event. Both rainbow and cutthroat trout were caught, the biggest over 18" and a total of five fish being the most caught by one student.
- The student sub-section co-sponsored the 1998 Wyoming Anglers Symposium with the University of Wyoming Flycasters. The symposium is entitled "Western Angling: A Perspective on Land Access in the Rocky Mountain Region." This two day event took place on April 24-25 and featured two days of individual fly-tying and casting techniques demonstrated by world renowned fly fishermen Jack Dennis and Gary LaFontaine. They also presented lectures around campus on Friday. On Saturday, the symposium included more time with Jack and Gary, as well as technical presentations pertinent to Wyoming's anglers by regional resource management experts and professors. This day was topped off with a formal catered banquet featuring both Jack and Gary as keynote speakers.
- In addition, for the first time the student sub-section has been in existence, we are submitting a budget to ASUW (Associated Students of the University of Wyoming). This is an annual process that allows student organizations to secure funding for programs, speakers, and other activities that are of broad appeal and otherwise would not be affordable. Our budget proposal included totaled \$9423.24. As a result, in the 1998-99 academic year we plan to bring six accomplished fisheries scientists/ecologists/orators to campus for seminars and individual meetings with students and faculty. We will also be planning a few educational/recreational outings to points of interest around the state (fish hatcheries, fishing hot spots, and other areas of interest). Through these programs we hope to contribute to the quality of seminar speakers brought to UW. We hope this will increase campus and community awareness of fisheries concerns, AFS interest, and student involvement in the sub-section.
- Our sub-section also applied for funding from ASUW for registration fee supplements for students attending the CO/WY chapter meeting in Grand Junction. We received \$300 from ASUW for this event and will be sending ten students to the annual meeting. We have also applied for funding through the UW Graduate School for five sub-section students. This money will pay all costs for the students trips. The UW Cooperative Research Unit and Department of Zoology and Physiology will be sponsoring our transportation costs to and from the annual meeting. Of the students attending, seven will be presenting papers or posters. The sub-section is also participating in the adopt-a-buddy program, allowing WGFD employees to travel to and from Grand Junction in the UW sponsored vehicles. Hopefully, little incentives like these will increase awareness and participation in AFS and associated activities.
- Finally, UW sub-section member Doug Novinger designed a new CO/WY Chapter and sub-section logo. Through a loan from the CO/WY chapter, we will be able to print nearly 100 shirts for sale at the annual meeting by our sub-section. The funds from these shirts provide a major source of our sub-sections independent fund raising, with all funds being used for increasing UW student sub-section activities and visibility.

Humboldt

- ESA Workshop - April 25, 1997, Arcata, CA. We organized this workshop to address local concerns about the coho listing. Speakers addressed ESA sections 4, 7 and 10 during the one day event. Over 100 agency personnel, students, timber company representatives, non-profit restoration groups, county supervisors, and environmental groups attended. We prepared a 500+ page binders with a copy of the Act, the Federal Register and handbooks developed by NMFS or USFWS for each sections.

- President-elect, Dr. Kristine Brennaman, HSU Fishery Faculty, is working with the Cal-Neva chapter and the CDFG to put on one of their California Stream Bioassessment Procedure, 3-day workshops.
- Our fall seminar series included 5 presentations by fishery professionals and a PhD candidate. Topics and speakers were:
 - Sept 18*-Mike Orcutt, Fisheries Director, "Overview of Hoopa Tribal Fisheries"
 - Oct 18* - Mary Yoklavich , PMEL-NOAA- Coastal Rockfishes: Surviving to Old Age in a sea of technology
 - Nov 3* - Tammy Newcomb, Michigan State - Watershed Analysis of Juvenile Steelhead Production and Environmental Limitations
 - Nov 10* - Joe Cech, UC Davis- Temperature effects on California Fishes: Chinook Salmon, Bat Rays, and Delta Smelt
 - Nov 20* - Pete Kalvass, CDFG - The California Red Sea Urchin, *Strongylocentrotus franciscanus*: Catch, Effort and Management Trends
- Our spring seminar series was:
 - Feb 5* - Jon Heiftz, NMFS - Emerging issues in marine fisheries management in the North Pacific: habitat, endangered species, and ecosystem considerations
 - Feb 26* - Claude Singleton, BLM- Fitzhugh Creek rehabilitation: a high desert fishery
 - Mar 12* - George Watters, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission-Chilean sea bass: Out of the frying pan and into the fire: a case history of the Antarctic fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides*
 - Apr 16*- Robert N. Lea, CDFG- Fishes of the San Benito Islands: California and Panamerican fish connections
- We held our 24th Annual Joint Technical Conference with the North Coast Chapter of the Wildlife Society on March 28 at Humboldt State University. The theme is "Current Biological Research on the North Coast and Klamath Region."

Montana

- Continuing work toward completion of status summaries for 17 species of special concern in the state
- Continuing work toward completion of an educational poster depicting species of special concern
- Provided Chapter representation on the state's Montana Bull Trout Restoration Team and tracked ongoing efforts
- Provided Chapter representation on the state's Westslope Cutthroat Trout Steering committee and tracked ongoing efforts
- Provided comments on the state's draft westslope cutthroat trout recovery goals
- Provided comment on two landscape assessments, a salvage timber sale and a grazing permit re-evaluation
- Provided comment to a governor's appointed task force addressing floodplain management on the upper Yellowstone River
- Provided technical comment on the proposed McDonald gold project on the Blackfoot River
- Tracked FERC re-licensing of the Madison/Missouri dams
- Provided Chapter representation on the state's Grazing Best Management Practices technical group
- Provided \$8,500.00 in funding assistance for four projects through our Chapter's Resource Action Fund. These projects included an educational "comic book" on bull trout; a children's fishing club newsletter; modification of a diversion structure on a stream to insure passage by bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout; and a re-naturalization project on a bull trout/westslope cutthroat trout stream that was altered in the past by placer mining
- Helping organize and co-chairing two upcoming symposia: 1) fisheries management in Yellowstone National Park and 2) conservation strategies for native salmonids in the Rocky Mountains

- Provided Chapter representation on the Intermountain Journal of Science editorial board
- Distributed recruitment letters to all former members of the Chapter and annual meeting attendees from last year
- Published and distributed three Chapter newsletters and held 3 EXCOM meetings
- Developed a Chapter Web page
- Provided comment on Montana Fish Wildlife and Park's Cherry Creek Native Fish Introduction EA
- Provided comment to the USFWS (subsequently routed to the U.S. Corp of Engineers) about concerns over reservoir operations of Fort Peck Dam and it's impacts to native fish, including the endangered pallid sturgeon
- Provided comment to the Montana congressional delegation and Montana governor Marc Racicot endorsing the "Teaming with Wildlife" proposal
- Provided comment to the USFS on the draft EIS for the proposed ASARCO mine on Rock Creek
- Provided comment to the USFS endorsing the proposed temporary suspension of road construction within roadless areas
- Approved and incorporated into the Chapter bylaws a student subunit from the University of Montana
- Revamped the Chapter's Resource Action Fund to ensure applications are reviewed in a fair and equitable manner and to provide appropriate tracking of Chapter funds
- Provided \$8,000.00 in funding assistance for three projects through our Chapter's Resource Action Fund. These projects included funding for fluvial arctic grayling recovery in Montana; publication and distribution of an informational brochure on "whirling disease"; and construction of educational salmonid identification boards
- Published and distributed an additional two chapter newsletters and held two additional EXCOM meetings
- Organized and held a Chapter summer workshop on the Ruby, Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers addressing stream restoration and bank stabilization
- Information and highlights from our 1998 annual meeting:

Theme - From Genes to Landscapes: Protecting and Restoring Montana's Aquatic Diversity

Technical sessions included: "Regional Restoration Plans: Promises, Progress, and Pitfalls"; "Watershed Restoration: Citizen Groups and Agency Folks Working Together to Improve Fish Habitat"; 2 "Student Paper Sessions"; "Emerging Issues"; and "Contributed Papers"

Held in Helena on February 2 through February 5

154 people registered

Held a one day continuing education workshop on "Genetics in Fisheries Management" taught by Dr. Ann Kapuscinski of the Univ. of Minnesota, Dr. Dave Philipp of the Illinois Natural History Survey and Bill Ardren, PhD student at the Univ. of Minnesota - 56 people registered

At our Awards luncheon, presented awards to folks in the following categories: 1) Individual; 2) Groups and Organizations with two awards given; 3) Industry or Companies; and 4) Montana Fishery Worker of the Year

Dr. Charles Coutant, Immediate Past President of the Parent Society, attended and presented the Presidential Conservation Award to Montana's Governor Marc Racicot (in attendance) at our Awards luncheon (local press and television covered the event)

Dr. Charles Coutant gave a special presentation during the meeting addressing his thoughts on the "State of AFS"

Approved \$8,000.00 in funding assistance to three projects through our Resource Action Fund at our business meeting

Oregon

- The ANNUAL MEETING, ("Population, Economics, and Ecosystems: Is sustainability Attainable") was held in Sunriver, Oregon February 11-13, 1998, and attended by 465 people. Five nationally-known speakers addressed the plenary session, and discussed the meeting theme from widely varying points of view. Sixty-one technical papers and 12 posters were presented. Also, a special luncheon on diversity issues in the workplace was held.
- EDUCATION AND OUTREACH activities included:
 - A workshop on technical writing
 - An Advanced Stream Biology Workshop for Secondary-level Teachers
 - A project to supply AFS journals to fisheries labs in eastern Russia
 - Distribution of 250 Stream Continuum posters to educators throughout the Pacific Northwest and other regions.
 - Sponsorship of the Desert Fishes Conservation and Management Course
- SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS
 - Proceedings from "Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout: Biology, Management, and Future Conservation" (J. Hall, P. Bisson, and R. Gresswell, eds.)
 - Proceedings from the Inland Rainbow Trout workshop/symposium are expected to be published in 1999. ((D. Buchanan, P. Howell, and J. Maule, eds.)
 - Lessons from Floods , an essay in Fisheries (Sept. 1997; K. Schroeder and C. Savonen, authors).
- MEMBER COMMUNICATION
 - Oregon AFS published quarterly issues of the Piscatorial Press. Three editors produce this 12-page newsletter, distributed free to all members. The newsletter contains photos, essays, announcements, and other Chapter information.
 - Email is used by all Executive Committee members, to improve response time on legislative issues and other important items. Many of the Chapters committees also use email because of these advantages.
 - The Chapter also has a home page on the Internet, containing a calendar of events, alerts on important issues, and links to the national chapter.
- ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION
 - Oregon AFS retained a legislative liaison, Stephen Kafoury, to keep the Chapter apprised of issues affecting aquatic resources. The Chapter wrote over 20 letters with detailed technical comments to numerous federal and state agencies and special task forces. Issues addressed included:
 - essential salmonid habitat,
 - regulation of placer mining,
 - the Interior Columbia EIS,
 - water quality and federal grazing permits,
 - passage issues and dam removal,
 - proposed rules for state forestry lands,
 - status of bull trout,
 - habitat conservation plans and the "no surprises" policy,
 - recommendations for the Multidisciplinary Science Team, and
 - recommended change of the official common name of the Northern squawfish to bigmouth minnow.

The Chapter also provided oral testimony on several of these issues.

- **AWARDS**

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Best student paper 1998 | Kristopher Wright, Oregon State University, |
| Best student poster 1998 | Kimberly Cleveland, Oregon State University |
| Fishery Worker of the Year 1998: | Kirk Schroeder |
| Award of Merit 1998: | Hiram Li, Doug Markle |
| Broken Oar Award 1998: | Ray Perkins |
| Past-President Award 1998: | Thomas Backman |

- **DONATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Oregon AFS gave out two \$1000 scholarships to graduate students at Oregon State University. Recipients were Stephanie Gunckel and Thomas Williams

Other grants went to Oregon Trout, Malheur Field Station, and Northwest Steelheaders

- **RECRUITMENT AND MEMBER SERVICES**

The Chapter has initiated an interest and expertise survey to help involve members in appropriate committees. We have also begun a Lost Member Survey. Beginning with the 1999 annual meeting, some funds will be available for members with non-reimbursed travel expenses.

Greater Portland

- The first GPAC bi-monthly meeting, held in November, was a discussion of El Nino that was presented by Jack Bohl of the National Weather Service. This meeting was held on the Portland State University campus.
- The second Chapter bi-monthly meeting was held in January at Mt. Hood Community College. The subject of this meeting was the efforts to develop an Oregon and Washington joint recovery plan for the Lower Columbia River steelhead. The speaker for this meeting was Chuck Willis of S.P. Cramer & Associates, Inc.
- The third Chapter meeting in March looked at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Lower Columbia River Eco-Restoration Program. Tyrae Mahan discussed the Corps efforts to fund and find sponsors for eco-restoration projects in waterways under the Corps jurisdiction.
- The GPAC 4th Annual Conference was held May 15, 1998 at McMinnamins Edgefield and was titled "*Fish, Fisheries, and Biologists in the New Millennium -- Threatened, Endangered, or full recovery?*" The GPAC Annual meeting was supported by donations from Portland General Electric, the Port of Portland, the Habitat Conservation Branch of the National Marine Fisheries Portland office. In addition, 7 student memberships to the American Fisheries Society were funded by a donation from Paul Fishman of Fishman's Environmental Services.

Other chapter reports not received as of mid-July.