

Tributary

WINTER 2021

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TRIBUTARY

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Advancing fisheries and aquatic science and professionals in western North America.

**In this issue: President's
Hook, 2022 Spokane Meeting
Information, Committee Up-
dates, and more...**

President: Dan Brauch **President-Elect:** Laurie Earley

Vice President: Eric Fetherman **Past-President:** Todd Pearsons **Sec.-Treasurer:** Laura Burckhardt **Student Representative:** Kat Dale **Tributary Editor:** Timothy D'Amico

PRESIDENT'S HOOK

Dan Brauch

Hello Western Division! We are nearing the end of 2021 and, although we thought we would be back to our normal interactions by now, we find that we are still dealing with concerns about in-person meetings and the safety of traveling due to Covid-19. I appreciate the many ways that we have been able to continue AFS and work related tasks throughout the Covid-19 pandemic by taking advantage of advances in our knowledge of and use of online virtual platforms. During our recent AFS Meeting in Baltimore, however, it really hit home how valuable in-person participation is.

At Baltimore, we enjoyed hosting an in-person 150th anniversary celebration for AFS. As one of your representatives to the AFS Governing Board, along with your President Elect Laurie Earley, I also attended the Governing Board Meeting. I found that meeting in person was notably more interesting, comfortable, and I could see the human side of people that is just not as apparent in a video conference call. I found it easier to participate and be engaged in discussions in person. Why was meeting in-person such a better experience and a more productive meeting, for me? My interest piqued, I jumped on my computer and found a couple TED Talks addressing the value of human interactions.

The first TED talk was a talk given by Psychologist Susan Pinker. According to Dr. Pinker, face to face contact releases a whole cascade of neurotransmitters: Making eye contact, shaking hands, and other physical interaction releases oxytocin which increases level of trust, reduces cortisol levels which reduces stress, and releases dopamine, a naturally produced morphine, which gives us a little high and reduces pain. Certainly our response is likely related to the degree of positive interaction, but virtual meetings just do not provide the same opportunities for interaction that are present before, during, and after in-person meetings.

Another TED Talk which I thought was very interesting was given by Organizational Psychologist Tanya Menon. Her talk related to opportunity created by interacting with others outside our usual groups. We often find it most comfortable to interact with people that look and act like us or that we already have a relationship with. Sticking with our groups often lead to missed opportunities, however. Instead, we should look for opportunities for, as Dr. Menon described it, unpredictable diversity. In meeting diverse people outside our known networks, we find new solutions and create new opportunities for personal and professional growth. Those of us that have attended multi-state chapter, divisional, or AFS level meetings know how beneficial it can be to interact and network outside our usual groups!

We have transitioned to a new Western Division Excom for the coming year with the advancement of Division officers and a new group of Chapter Presidents. We welcome our new Vice President, Eric Fetherman, our new Secretary / Treasurer, Laura Burckhardt and our new Student Representative, Kat Dale to the Excom. We look forward to working together in the coming year on creating opportunities to grow as fisheries professionals and to effectively move AFS forward for the next 150 years!

In the coming year, I look forward to interacting with many of you virtually and for opportunities to participate in person. We will see many of you when the Washington-British Columbia Chapter and Western Division host the AFS Annual Meeting in Spokane this coming August. Let me or other Planning Committee members know if you would like to get involved with the meeting and I hope to see you in Spokane!

Happy Holidays!

Dan



152nd ANNUAL MEETING
Spokane
AUGUST 21-25, 2022

2021 AFS MEETING—BALTIMORE HIGHLIGHT PHOTOS



WDAFS MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS

WDAFS MISSION: The mission of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society is to: 1) improve the conservation and sustainability of unique fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems in western North America by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals, and 2) serving as an effective bridge between the Society and Chapters within the Western Division, promoting communication among and support of the Chapters and membership, and being the American Fisheries Society's representative to the public in western North America.

WDAFS VISION: The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society seeks to be recognized as the pre-eminent organization providing fisheries information to decision makers in all arenas of western North America. While fulfilling our vision, we will recruit and develop new fisheries professionals by offering learning and training opportunities crucial to maintaining a well-trained profession, support pro-

grams and efforts to increase diversity and inclusion, and enhance the value of American Fisheries Society professional certification.

WDAFS SLOGAN: Advancing fisheries and aquatic science and professionals in western North America.

WDAFS CHALLENGE: Ignorance of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems is our arch enemy. We will fight against ignorance by communicating science to other scientists, decision makers, influencers, and the Public, and we will advocate for conducting and using science to achieve sound management and policy decisions. We will expose suppression and misuse of science and enhance scientific credibility by attempting to maintain purity of the scientific enterprise. It is our hope that elevating science will help influencers and decision makers to achieve what is best for current and future generations.

2022 MEETING—WDAFS, WA/BC & AFS (SPOKANE)



Photo Credit: Visit Spokane



152nd ANNUAL MEETING
Spokane
AUGUST 21-25, 2022



Photo Credit: Visit Spokane

2022 WDAFS MEETING—CALL FOR SYMPOSIA

Start Planning for Spokane 2022, August 21-25!

The Washington-British Columbia Chapter and the Western Division are excited to co-host the 2022 American Fisheries Society meeting in Spokane. The meeting theme is “What Do Fish Mean to Us: Perspectives Above and Below the Waterline”. For more information about the meeting and meeting theme please visit the [website](#).

The call for Symposium proposals, CE courses/workshops, and innovative sessions will open on December 20th.

In preparation, we ask that those considering or planning to submit a proposal check out a new tool that we are implementing this year. We’ve created the “AFS Spokane Symposium Proposal Platform” which can be found [here](#). In an effort to make the proposal process more transparent and to encourage collaboration, we are requesting that you submit a working draft or an initial concept of your symposium or innovative session (lightning talks, etc.) on this

site. To use, you will need to create an account and fill in as much of a description of your proposed symposium or session as possible. Please indicate in the title if you are proposing an innovative session idea. Others can view your proposals and comment on them. We encourage authors to be open to new collaboration opportunities. The intent is to facilitate symposium refinement prior to the deadline and allow the program committee to track proposal topics and to actively recruit proposals in areas not yet developed. We hope this tool will spark new ideas and partnerships! Final proposals will need to be submitted to our formal submission page which will open on December 20th. The deadline for proposals is January 28th, 2022.



WDAFS CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Western Division bestows awards on individuals and entities who have distinguished themselves through their contributions to fisheries education, science, management, and conservation. All of us know people who are deserving of recognition. Please consider nominating a worthy person or group for one of the WDAFS awards listed below. Nominations are due March 1, 2022 and WDAFS will select award winners and notify nominees of the outcome no later than April 1, 2022. Award winners will be announced in AFS' Fisheries magazine and online through AFS and WDAFS social media. Their accomplishments will be highlighted in the WDAFS newsletter (The Tributary), and they will be publicly recognized and awarded a plaque at the 2022 WDAFS annual meeting hosted by the WABC Chapter in Spokane, WA August 21-25, 2022. Awardees are encouraged but not required to attend the annual meeting.

For more information, including nomination instructions and the names of past award recipients, please visit the WDAFS website: <https://wdafs.org/awards/>

AWARDS GIVEN TO INDIVIDUALS

Award of Excellence – This award recognizes sus-

tained professional excellence; it is the most prestigious award offered by the Division. It is given annually to an AFS member who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and exceptional competence in fishery resource applications through monumental works, new methodologies, or multiple successful contributions that benefit our resources and profession.

Award of Merit – This award is given to AFS member (s) who have made positive and regionally significant contributions to the Western Division, to our profession, and to fisheries resources.

Award of Special Recognition – WDAFS gives this award to an AFS member or non-member (or, alternatively, to an organization) whose actions have directly benefited the Western Division and its members.

Robert Borovicka Conservation Achievement Award – This award is presented to an AFS member or non-member who has significantly contributed to fisheries conservation within the geographic region of the Western Division.

Diversity and Inclusion Awards – The WDAFS Diversity & Inclusion Committee presents the Diversity &

WDAFS CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS, *cont.*

Inclusion Service Award to an AFS member who has demonstrated service to supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion in fisheries and the Diversity & Inclusion Mentorship Award to an AFS member or non-member who is interested in further developing their diversity, equity, and inclusion leadership skills, especially towards promoting involvement in fisheries.

AWARDS GIVEN TO ORGANIZATIONS

WDAFS gives awards to several government and non-government entities each year in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the conservation of fisheries, aquatic, and riparian resources, to AFS, and to its members. We welcome nominations of organizations, including local, state, and federal government agencies, tribes, non-profit organizations, private businesses, committees, and other entities for the awards described below. A nomination can identify more than one organization that worked on a single project, but only one entity can be named to receive the award.

Award of Special Recognition – This award is given to an organization (as defined above) whose actions have directly benefited the Western Division and its members. Individuals (AFS member or non-member) are also eligible for this award.

Conservation Achievement Award – This award is pre-

sented to an organization (as defined above) for their efforts to promote the conservation, development, and wise use of fisheries resources within the geographical region of the western United States that comprises the Western Division.

Excellence in Riparian Management Award – Also known as the Riparian Challenge Award, this award recognizes organizations that have restored riparian systems along lakes, streams, and wetlands in the geographical region of the western United States that comprises the Western Division. Each year, WDAFS gives an award to the implementer of an outstanding riparian project in each of the following categories: (1) U.S. Forest Service (USFS) projects; (2) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) projects; and (3) projects completed by entities other than the USFS and BLM.

CHAPTER AND SUBUNIT AWARDS

Each year, the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society recognizes the large chapter, small chapter, and student subunit that best exemplify a commitment to the mission of the Society by actively working to achieve the goals set forth in the AFS Strategic Plan. We encourage you to nominate your chapter or student subunit for these awards.

WDAFS SMALL PROJECT GRANTS

The WDAFS is currently accepting applications for funding of small fisheries-related projects in the western United States, US territories, Mexico, and Canadian provinces represented by the WDAFS. Grants are usually modest, averaging less than \$1,000, but can help get a project started or be used to supplement funding from other sources. Applications must be emailed to WDAFS Past President Todd Pearsons at tpearso@gcpud.org no later than February 1, 2022.

Funding Priorities

Projects that further the mission and strategic objectives of the American Fisheries Society and the Western Division will be targeted for Small Project Grant funding. AFS' mission is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries

professionals. The Western Division endeavors to provide a forum for exchanging technical and policy information, promote understanding by regional, federal, and state policy-makers of the nature and extent of fishery matters of concern to the membership, facilitate timely exchange of information to chapters and the general membership, and provide a vehicle for the active participation of individual members in Society business and professional activities.

The Executive Committee will consider the following project elements when making grants funding decisions. Does the proposal:

Promote the AFS mission and WDAFS objectives? Please also refer to the AFS Strategic Plan, available on the AFS website.

Incorporate and promote science-based management, conservation, or understanding of fisheries resources?

WDAFS SMALL PROJECT GRANTS, *cont.*

Elevate the visibility of fisheries issues to a broad audience?

Need WDAFS funding to complete the project?

Have potential for generating revenue that would benefit the WDAFS?

Application Instructions

An AFS member or a Student Sub-unit must submit the application. Applications must be received via email no later than February 1, 2022 for consideration. Applications over 3 pages in length will be disqualified (at a minimum, use 1-inch page margins and 11 pt font). All of the information requested below must be included in the application:

Project title

Name of AFS member or Student Subunit seeking funding

Applicant's AFS member number

Name, address, phone number, and email address of one or more contacts

Project description (limit to 1 page). Describe how the project aligns with and furthers AFS's mission and WDAFS' objectives.

General project timeline, including estimated time to completion

Total estimated project cost, amount of funding requested from WDAFS, and amount of funding provided by other entities (identify sources).

Disposition of unused funds

Typically, small project grant awards cannot be used for travel (mileage or per diem) except in special situations. If your application budget includes travel funds, please contact the Committee Chair below to find out if they may be covered by the award.

The WDAFS Executive Committee will review applications, select grantees, and notify applicants of their decision by March 1, 2022. Again, in order to realize the greatest value from limited WDAFS resources, projects addressing AFS goals and objectives, those with high visibility, and those with a greater positive impact on fisheries resources will be given priority. The number and amount of funds provided to grantees is contingent on funding priorities and the availability of funds. We reserve the right to offer a grant amount that is different than that requested. Payment will be by check.

The WDAFS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization dedicated to the professional advancement of its members and the conservation and wise use of the fisheries resource. Anyone wishing to donate to the WDAFS Small Project Grants fund is urged to contact WDAFS Past President Todd Pearsons at tpearso@gcpud.org.

WDAFS GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduate Student scholarship available!

The Western Division is pleased to announce that applications for its graduate-level student scholarships are now being solicited. The Eugene Maughan Graduate Student Scholarship fund provides up to \$5,000 annually to masters or doctoral students in the general area of fisheries science with one to three awards to individual students. Click [here](#) for more information on Dr. Gene Maughan. An award committee of five fisheries scientists from the Western Division will make the decision regarding the award of scholarships. Selection criteria include demonstration of:

Excellent scholarship as evidenced by grades in rigorous course work during the last 60 hours as an un-

dergraduate and during graduate studies.

Potential for future contributions to the fisheries profession through management, research, or teaching.

Significant progress toward attaining a graduate degree in fisheries science with a defined thesis or dissertation project.

Scholarship Applications are due March 1, 2022. The 2022 scholarships will be awarded at the 2022 WDAFS Annual Meeting in Spokane, August 21-25, 2022 (exact date/time TBD).

For more information, including application instructions, please visit the WDAFS website: <https://wdafs.org/students/scholarship-travel-award-information/>

WDAFS COMMITTEE UPDATES

Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Laura Slater & Emily Chen (WDAFS Diversity & Inclusion Committee)

The WDAFS Diversity & Inclusion Committee is proud to offer two Diversity & Inclusion awards: one for Mentorship and one for Service. The D&I Mentorship Award will be presented to a promising student or early career professional interested in developing diversity, equity, and inclusion leadership skills. We highly encourage nominations, including self-nominations, for individuals belonging to historically underrepresented minority groups in the fisheries field. AFS membership is not required to apply to this award. Funds to support attendance for an AFS meeting in 2022 are available to the Mentorship award winner (up to \$1000). The D&I Service Award will be presented to an AFS Western Division Member who has exhibited service and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within the fisheries profession. The purpose of the award is to celebrate everyday, unsung heroes who dedicate their time and passion to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. For more information about the D&I awards and how to submit a nomination, visit: <https://wdafs.org/awards/information-deadlines-applications/>

[individual-awards/](#). Please send your nominations to wdafsdiversityinclusion@gmail.com by March 1, 2022.

Recent Events

Committee Meeting November, 19, 2021

Chapter Discussions on Diversity & Inclusion November, 18, 2021

Interrupting Bias Training November, 12, 2021

Upcoming Events

Next Committee Meeting January 21, 2022 9AM PST

Working Groups

Conference Planning

Education and Training

Visibility and Awards

Equity and Access

Outreach and Recruitment

Resource Policy & Environmental Concerns Committee

Bob Hughes (WDAFS Resource Policy & Environmental Concerns Committee)

The Resource Policy & Environmental Concerns Committee (RPECC), together with an expert committee, has completed a manuscript evaluating the fisheries science behind lower Snake River dam breaching for submission to Fish & Fisheries in December. The RPECC is also organizing a special session (sponsored by the Western Division, AFS Water

Quality Section, AFS Fish Habitat Session, AFS Bioengineering Section, and AFS Invasive & Introduced Fishes Section) on dam breaching and culvert replacement for the 2022 Society annual meeting in Spokane. If interested in presenting, please contact Bob Hughes (hughes.bob@amnisopes.com).

Western Native Fishes Committee

Timothy D'Amico & Luke Schultz (WDAFS Western Native Fishes Committee)

After a slight delay due to schedules and busy field seasons, the Western Native Fishes Committee is excited to reconvene and focus our efforts on the final leg of completing our Western Native Fishes Database. Any and all interested partners can view the

database here, or contact us at westernnativefishes@gmail.com. Additionally, we plan on hosting yet another annual symposium of native fish enthusiasts at the upcoming 2022 WDAFS/AFS/WA-BC meeting in Spokane.

*WDAFS COMMITTEE UPDATES, cont.***Early Career Professional Committee**

(WDAFS Early Career Professional Committee)

Attend the WDAFS Student colloquium!

Who: All students in the WDAFS region (you do not need to be an AFS member to attend!)

When: January 21-23, 2022

Cost: FREE, and we'll likely be able to provide limited travel support.

Where: In-person at Blue Oak Ranch Natural Reserve (outside of San Jose, CA) and virtual

What: Including but not limited to activities like research talks, fish games, hiking, and field trips to area sites to explore things related to native fishes, the CA aqueduct (like a tour of the Skinner fish sorting facility), and indigenous history of the area. We will have meaningful ways for virtual participants to participate in as many activities as possible.

Reserve your virtual or in-person spot on [Eventbrite!](#) (tickets are free!)**AFS Members from Multiple Divisions Join Together to Build a New Model for Collaboration****What**

Over 60 American Fisheries Society members from the North Central, Southern, Northeastern, and Western Divisions have expressed interest in joining a new collaboration to address problems related to prairie stream fish research and conservation. This collaboration will advance through a symposium at

the 2021 national AFS meeting in Baltimore entitled "Creating and Implementing an Ecosystem-wide Integrated Research Agenda and Conservation Plan for Prairie Streams: A Shared Vision, Next Generation Synthesis, and Future Action Plan."

AFS Members from Multiple Divisions Join Together to Build a New Model for Collaboration, cont

Why

Prairie ecosystems once covered 2.8 million square kilometers of North America. Numerous Great Plains fish species have been declining for decades. Prairie stream ecosystems face unprecedented threats from surface and groundwater depletion caused by human development, stream fragmentation, invasive species, native species loss, energy development, and climate change. These stressors compromise the integrity and function of stream ecosystems and result in continued loss of native biota.

A New Vision

Increasing threats to aquatic resources demand new collaborative approaches. For large ecosystems, such as prairie streams, one state, one agency, or one research lab cannot be effective alone. Collaborative synthesis in ideas, data, and action is needed for restoration and preservation of prairie fish assemblages. However, this collaboration requires creative and innovative ideas, a common vision, good coordination among participants, and a clear plan for future action.

The Symposium

This symposium will serve as a forum for retrospective and historic analyses, current studies, projections to help provide directions for a future region-wide ecosystem-based synthetic conservation plan, and guidance for future research on prairie fishes and ecosystems.

Nine organizers are joined by 23 other coauthors to present 15 talks and a panel discussion. Topics address: (1) conservation vision and objectives, (2) existing tools and information resources, (3) information gaps, and (4) resource management challenges. The diverse fisheries experts involved in the symposium represent three federal agencies, one non-governmental organization, six state agencies, five cooperative fish and wildlife research units, and six universities.

Organizers of the symposium include: David Hu (US Geological Survey), Patrick M. Kocovsky, (US Geological Survey), Sarah Gaughan (Bellevue University), Martha Mather (Kansas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit), Kevin Mayes (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), Joshua Perkin (Texas A&M

University), Dana Winkelman (Colorado Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit), Melissa Wuellner (University of Nebraska at Kearney) and Jane Rogosch (Texas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit).

Other speakers include: Thomas Archdeacon (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Caitlyn Aymami (Kansas State University), Carli Baum (Colorado Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit), Evan Booher (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), Natalie Coash (University of Wisconsin Stevens Point), Stephen Davenport (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Jessica Davis (Tennessee Valley Authority), Daniel Fenner (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Joanna Hatt (New Mexico Department of Game & Fish), Brian Hickerson (Arizona Game and Fish Department), Mark Kirk (Murray State University), Keith Koupal (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission), Steven Krentz (US Fish and Wildlife Service), Erin Nguyen (Texas A&M University), Kevin Pope (Nebraska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit), Olivia Rode (Kansas State University), Anthony Rodger (Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation), Ryan Smith (The Nature Conservancy), Trevor Starks (Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation), Steve Thomas (University of Nebraska), Joe Trungale (Texas Conservation Science), Samuel Wallick (University of Nebraska at Kearney), and Annika Walters (Wyoming Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit).

Ultimate Outcome

The ultimate outcome of the collaboration is to foster broader landscape and riverscape efforts to preserve and protect these important native fish resources of the North American Great Plains before additional extirpations and extinctions result in irreversible ecosystem impacts.

In addition, we hope to develop a new model for across-employer, across-location, and across-disciplinary synthesis that can be transferred to other systems and locations. This model will promote high quality science, facilitate excellent monitoring data collection, aid decision-making, and guide future research and management activities.

UPCOMING 2022 WDAFS CHAPTER MEETINGS

Chapter	Meeting Dates	Location	Website
Alaska 	Feb 28—March 3, 2022	Virtual	https://units.fisheries.org/ak-mtg/
AZ/NM 	Feb 3—5, 2022	Virtual	https://arizona-newmexico.fisheries.org/jam-2020-announcement-call-for-papers/
Cal-Neva 	May 25—27, 2022	Folsom, CA	https://afs-calneva.org/meetingsandtraining/annual-meeting/
CO/WY 	March 1—3, 2022	Virtual	https://units.fisheries.org/cowyafs/home/annual-meeting/
Idaho 	March 1—4, 2022	Fort Hall, ID (in person) and Virtual	https://www.idahoafs.org/2022/index.php
Montana 	March 1—4, 2022	Virtual	https://units.fisheries.org/montana/event/annual-chapter-meeting/
Oregon 	March 2—4, 2022	Virtual	https://orafs.org/2022-annual-meeting/
WA-BC/ WDAFS/ AFS 	Aug 21—25, 2022	Spokane, WA	https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/
Utah 	March 7—9, 2022	Ogden, UT	https://utah.fisheries.org/utah-afs-annual-meeting-2022/



Call for Papers

The Wild Trout Symposium XIII: Reducing the Gap Between Science and Public Opinion

September 27-30, 2022

Holiday Inn Conference Center, West Yellowstone, Montana, USA

<http://wildtroutsymposium.com/>

The Wild Trout Symposium brings together a broad and diverse audience of governmental agencies, non-profit conservation groups, media representatives, educators, anglers, fishing guides, and business interests associated with trout fisheries to exchange technical information and viewpoints on wild trout management and related public policy. Held every three years, each symposium has led to innovative wild trout management approaches.

Wild Trout XIII offers a unique forum for professionals and anglers to interact, and where participants are exposed to the latest wild trout science, technology and philosophies. This conference will equip participants to better manage, preserve, and restore these significant but threatened resources.

The symposium plenary session will explore the gap between fisheries science and the opinions of the angling public. While public opinion is often based on knowledge of the latest fisheries science, that is not always the case, placing management decisions in the gap between science and the desires of anglers. The plenary speakers will discuss ways to reduce that gap, from scientific, management, and conservation perspectives.

The following topics are of particular interest to the organizing committee and may be developed as entire sessions, given sufficient interest. We especially encourage submissions on the first two topics, to further the discussion of ideas presented by the plenary speakers. However, presentations on all aspects of wild trout research, management, conservation, education, and recreation are welcome and will be considered in the call for papers.

Proposed session topics:

- Applied science to address public viewpoints
- Engaging the public in science and management of wild trout
- Wild trout: worldwide perspectives

- Molecular studies to support wild trout conservation
- Special regulations: have we gone full circle or have some issues never gone away?
- Wild trout socioeconomics: understanding a diverse group of users and values
- Wild trout population monitoring techniques – including further understanding of impacts of global climate change, population dynamics, and evolutionary ecology
- Brook trout research and management across the species' historic and introduced range
- Cold, clean, complex, and connected: understanding and restoring wild trout habitat to prepare for a changing world

Additional session topics will be added based on the papers that are submitted. Presentations will be accepted in oral or poster format. Please note the authors who are selected for oral presentations at the symposium must submit a complete manuscript (about 8 pages single spaced including tables, figures, and references) ready for Symposium Proceedings publication by August 1, 2022. Successful applicants will receive further information upon acceptance of their paper. We anticipate providing notification to authors by the third week of May.

Complete abstract preparation guidelines and online submission forms can be found at: <https://www.wildtroutsymposium.com/callForPapers.php>
Deadline for abstract submission: April 1st, 2022



Meet Your WDAFS Officers

President: Dan Brauch

Hometown: Meeker, CO

Education: B.S, Colorado State University

Employer: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Gunnison, CO

Interests: Looking forward to travelling more and hopeful that Covid related travel concerns are soon part of our past! I enjoy hiking, hunting, fishing, and seeing the awesome scenery throughout much of the West with my family.



President-Elect: Laurie Earley

Hometown: Colchester, VT

Education: B.S., University of Rhode Island; M.S., Auburn University

Employer: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Red Bluff, CA

Interests: Outdoor recreation, traveling, gardening, cooking, and live music. More recently preparing for our new addition to the family.



Vice President: Eric Fetherman

Hometown: Lakewood, CO

Education: B.S., Colorado State University; M.S., Colorado State University; Ph.D., Colorado State University

Employer: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Fort Collins, CO

Interests: I enjoy hiking and backpacking with my wife, especially in Rocky Mountain National Park on any free weekend we can find, as well as hunting, fishing, birdwatching, and photography. Looking forward to attending football games (Denver Broncos and CSU Rams) in person again this fall!



Past-President: Todd Pearsons

Hometown: Woodland Hills, CA (via Boston, MA)

Education: B.A., University of California at Santa Barbara; M. S., and PhD,

Oregon State University

Employer: Grant County Public Utility District (Science), Ephrata, WA

Interests: Underwater photography, Biblical archaeology, Krav Maga, human powered transportation, surfing, gigging on drums and blues harmonica, paleontology



Secretary-Treasurer: Laura Burckhardt

Hometown: Casper, WY

Education: M.S, University of Arizona

Employer: Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Cody Wyoming

Interests: I enjoy exploring nature. Including hiking, kayaking, rafting, paddleboarding, backpacking, camping, skiing, fishing, hunting, harvesting and preserving my own food. I also enjoy helping kids learn to love and take care of our natural resources.



Student Representative: Kat Dale

Hometown: Hereford, PA

Education: B.S., University of Miami (FL)

Employer: PhD student at the University of California, Santa Cruz

Interests: Outside of marine science and fish things, I am obsessed with all things bikes! I also love geocaching, skiing, and staying up too late reading books.



Western Division
American Fisheries Society