



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
IDAHO CHAPTER
ORGANIZED 1870



GILL RAKER GAZETTE

Volume 19, Number 2 May 1999 Fred Partridge, Editor

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Annual Meeting Report

SALMON AND STEELHEAD RECOVERY RESOLUTION, BYLAWS UPDATE

The EXCOM has prepared a draft resolution (attached to newsletter) addressing recovery efforts for Idaho salmon and steelhead. The process for finalizing the resolution will be two-fold. AFS members are being supplied a copy of the draft so that a formalized discussion of contents can be held at the annual meeting. A block of time during the first day has been designated for this issue alone. During that time members will have the opportunity to thoroughly discuss the resolution. Secondly, at the business meeting on Friday (March 5), the EXCOM will be seeking an advisory vote from the membership as to whether or not they should finalized the resolution as a chapter position. Because of the magnitude of the issue, the EXCOM will only proceed with the resolution on a super-majority support (2/3 vote) of the membership at the business luncheon. Please bring your questions and comments to the discussion period on March 4, 1999.

Also in the newsletter is a copy of the Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society Bylaws with a number of changes which have been previously approved of by the EXCOM or at prior annual meetings. However, they have never been offically approved by a ballot vote. Items to be deleted from the bylaws are shown in ~~strikeout~~, items to be added are in **bold**. An offical vote to make these changes in the bylaws will take place at the business meeting on March 5, 1999.

WDAFS Meeting - University of Idaho

July 12 - July 14, 1999

Cindy Deacon Williams

This year's Western Division AFS Annual Meeting is coming to Idaho and it is proving to be one of the most economically reasonable in a long, long time.

Registration fees are all inclusive and cover: meeting attendance, food and drink during morning and afternoon breaks Monday through Wednesday, lunch on Monday and Tuesday, food and entertainment at a Monday night event co-sponsored by the Nez Perce Tribe, and food and entertainment at the Western Division Social on Tuesday night. You can't ask for more!!

Program. Ken Hashagen is program chair for the 1999 WDAFS Annual Meeting. If you want to present a paper, or have a question about one of the special sessions, contact him at:

Ken Hashagen, Coordinator
Department of Fish and Game
Wildlife and Habitat Data Analysis Branch
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: 916/327-0712
Fax: 916/324-0475
Email: khashage@hq.dfg.ca.gov

Best Paper Awards. First, second and third place awards, amounting to \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively, will be made in two categories: student and professional. When submitting your abstract, please indicate in which category you are eligible to compete.

Registration. To benefit from the pre-registration financial break, fill out the attached registration form and send it by June 11, 1999 to the address on the form.

Accommodations. Rooms have been blocked for conference registrants at three motels in Moscow. The Best Western Inn is across the street and a long hike from the University's conference rooms. The Super 8 Motel also is across the street, but is a moderate hike from the conference facility. The Mark IV is a couple of miles away, close to downtown Moscow. Rooms are blocked at all three motels until June 15; make your reservation before Bootstrapping Techniques--Dr. Kirk Steinhorst, Professor in Statistics, University of Idaho will teach this statistics course.

then to ensure room availability and price.

- **Best Western, University Inn (1-800-325-8765);** 75 rooms blocked.
1516 Pullman Road, Moscow, Idaho 83843
Single room rate: \$49.50 (\$10.00 each additional person). Deluxe room rate: \$69.50. Children under 18 stay free with parents. The hotel will provide free transportation to and from the Moscow/Pullman airport only.
- **Super 8 Motel (1-800-800-8000);** 50 rooms blocked.
175 Peterson Drive, Moscow, Idaho 83843
Single room rate: \$38.40 (1 person) or \$42.25 (2 people). Double room rate: \$46.11 (2 people) or \$54.77 (4 people). Children under 12 stay free with parents. A roll-away or floor mat can be provided for an additional \$4.28 per night.
- **Mark IV Motor Inn (1-800-833-4240);** 30 rooms blocked.
414 N. Main, Moscow, Idaho 83843
Single room rate: \$37.50. Double room rate: \$47.50

For an incredibly inexpensive stay, dorm rooms are available through the University of Idaho.

- **University of Idaho;** Rooms may be reserved by contacting:
Norma Jo Johnson, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (208-885-6434)
Approximate double room rate: \$10/day.
Approximate single room rate: \$14.40. There also is a \$6 linenchargeper set. Dorm meals are available on a per meal or daily basis.

Affiliated Events

Two Continuing Education short courses will be offered for credit on Sunday, July 11. For more information, write to Dr. George LaBar, Chair, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844 or contact him by phone at 208/885-6200 or by email at glabar@uidaho.edu.

Metapopulation Analysis--Dr. Oz Garton, Fish and Wildlife Department, University of Idaho will teach this genetics course.

A short course also will be offered on Sunday, July 11. Contact Dr. Matt Powell by phone at 208/837-

9096 or by email at fishdna@micron.net for more information.

Practical Genetics for Fisheries Biologists--Dr. Matt Powell and Dr. Rick Williams will teach this course. If you've got money for genetics work in next year's budget...this course will help you identify what you need to know to use the money wisely.

A number of other affiliated meetings are being scheduled for the weekend before or the days after the WDAFS Annual Meeting. Additional information regarding participation in these affiliated events will be included in an upcoming issue of *Tributary*.

Exhibit/Trade Show. The WDAFS will host a Trade Show in conjunction with the 1999 Annual Meeting. Interested companies, government agencies and public concern organizations are cordially invited to participate. Booth space (10' x 10') will be assigned on a first come, first served basis and is available for \$300/space. For more information, to discuss any specific needs you may have, or to receive a registration form, contact Bill Bradshaw by phone at 307/672-7418, or by email at Bbrads@missc.state.wy.us.

Western Division Award Nominations Due
Pete Bisson, WDAFS Awards Chair

Nominations are now being solicited (**deadline: May 15**) for several Western Division awards that will be presented at the Moscow, Idaho, Meeting. The awards summarized below are for individual and group achievements within the Division, some of which are given to non-AFS members. Please consider a nomination within the following categories:

Award of Excellence. This is the most prestigious award offered by the Western Division and it is intended to recognize sustained professional excellence. 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. Successful nominees have usually excelled in research or management programs at the regional, national, or international levels. Other examples include fresh, innovative approaches to improving our understanding of aquatic resources, and imaginative and successful programs in education at any level of

teaching.

Award of Merit. This award is given to an AFS member(s) who has made a regionally significant and worthy contribution to our Division, our profession, or our fishery resources.

Award of Special Recognition. This award is given to an individual or to an entity making a significant contribution to the development and success of the Western Division.

Robert Borovich Award. This award is given annually to an individual who has significantly contributed to fishery conservation within the Division. The individual may be a non-member of AFS.

Conservation Achievement Award. This award is typically given to an entity (such as an agency, tribe, or organization) that has demonstrated a significant contribution to the conservation of fishery resources within the Division. Similar to the Borovich Award, the entity may be a non-member of AFS.

We all know some very deserving individuals and groups who have made some outstanding contributions to our resources and profession. What better way to recognize them?! Please take the time to nominate an individual or group whom you feel would qualify for a Western Division award. To do so, send a short letter justifying your nominee and include any other supportive information you may have. Your letter should summarize the accomplishments and contributions of the nominee within a particular award category, and it should be received **by May 15, 1999**. Thank you!

Pete Bisson, WDAFS Awards Chair
bissonp@olywa.net
USDA Forest Service
Pacific Northwest Research Station
Olympia Forestry Sciences Laboratory
3625 93rd Avenue SW
Olympia, WA 98512-9193
(360) 753-7671

COMMITTEE REPORTS**NOMINATIONS....**

Steve Elle

Funding Committee Update

Rick Wilkison

PALUSE UNIT

Lance Clarke

The new presidents for the Palouse Unit are Erik Stark (star8155@novell.uidaho.ui) and David Hogen (hoge9101@uidaho.edu 208-285-0175).

Idaho Chapter AFS Scholarships

Tim Cochnauer

Past President
Tim Cochnauer

Phone: (W) 799-5010
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ICAFS EXCOM

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Secretary /
Treasurer
Fred Partridge

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Nominations
Chair
Steve Elle

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Boise, ID 83707

WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
1999 ANNUAL MEETING
MOSCOW, IDAHO
REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Title: _____
 Affiliation: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Fax number: _____
 Email Address: _____

Pre-registration (Must be postmarked no later than June 11, 1999)		
Regular	\$ 115.00	
Student	80.00	
Registration (If postmarked June 12, 1999 or later, or if handled in Moscow at the meeting)		
Regular	130.00	
Student	95.00	
Non-AFS member surcharge	15.00	
Credit Card Processing Fee	10.00	
TOTAL DUE		

If you intend to pay by credit card, please provide the following information:

Type of card: _____ Cardholder's name: _____
 Card number: _____ Expiration date: _____
 Cardholder's signature: _____
 Cardholder's address (if different than registration address): _____

There is a \$15.00 pre-registration financial break. To benefit, **your pre-registration form must be postmarked no later than June 11, 1999** and sent to:

Western Division AFS — Registration
 c/o Environmental Consultants
 P.O. Box 925
 Eagle, Idaho 83616

**Resolution of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
On the Role of Dams and Snake River Salmon and Steelhead Recovery**

March 21, 1999

Whereas:

Many, and perhaps most, stocks of Snake River salmon and steelhead now are extinct;

Whereas:

The remaining stocks of Snake River salmon and steelhead populations have declined to perilously low levels from historical levels, and all are currently listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act;

Whereas:

Snake River salmon and steelhead extinctions and declines occurred as a result of the impacts from a variety of physical, chemical, and biological factors, including those that have been summarized as the “four H’s” - Hatcheries, Harvest, Habitat, and Hydropower facilities;

Whereas:

Recent incremental improvements and adjustments in management of hatcheries, harvest, habitat and hydropower facilities have not led to any apparent significant increases in Snake River salmon and steelhead stock abundances;

Whereas:

Dramatic action must be taken soon to prevent some, or perhaps even most remaining Snake River salmon and steelhead stocks from extinction;

Whereas:

Recent scientific reviews, including those conducted as part of the Independent Scientific Advisory Review process and the Plan for Analyzing and Testing Hypotheses, have indicated that restoration of natural river conditions where the lower four Snake River dams occur has the highest likelihood of preserving and recovering listed salmon and steelhead and poses the least risk of unanticipated side-effects;

Whereas:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office, charged with compensating for salmon and steelhead losses associated with mortality caused by the four lower Snake River dams, has concluded it cannot meet its salmon compensation objectives;

Whereas:

The first objective in the constitution of the American Fisheries Society is to promote the conservation, development, and wise use of the fisheries, and the AFS further commits to promote enlightened management of aquatic resources for optimum use and enjoyment, by the public;

Whereas:

Past management of Snake River salmon and steelhead stocks and their environment has resulted in a failure to conserve and use wisely the fisheries, or to provide for optimum use and enjoyment by the public; and

Whereas:

At least two important decision points soon will be reached by federal agencies regarding management of the lower four Snake River dams and recovering Snake River salmon and steelhead: one by the Army Corps of Engineers for managing federal dams on the lower Snake River, and one by the National Marine Fisheries Service on whether the operation of those dams jeopardizes the continued existence of Snake River salmon and steelhead;

Therefore be it resolved that:

Based on the best scientific information available, it is the position of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society that the four lower Snake River dams are a significant threat to the continued existence of remaining Snake River salmon and steelhead stocks;

Let it be further resolved that:

If society-at-large determines that Snake River salmon and steelhead are to be restored or recovered in their native ecosystem, then one biologically required action is to eliminate or greatly reduce impacts to salmon and steelhead from the four lower Snake River dams by removing, breaching, or bypassing the dams, or otherwise allowing the lower Snake River to flow freely, without impoundment; and

###Let it be further resolved that:

In conjunction with actions to allow the lower Snake River to flow freely, without impoundment, actions to address detrimental impacts to habitat, from harvest, or from hatcheries likely will be required to further increase the likelihood of recovering Snake River salmon and steelhead stocks.

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How the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Will Use the

Resolution of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society On the Role of Dams and Snake River Salmon and Steelhead Recovery

April 4, 1999

The Executive Committee of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and all Chapter members will use the above-mentioned resolution on Snake River anadromous fish and dams in a manner that is professional and serves the goals of the Society. The two primary goals of discussing the science of, and voting on whether to pass the resolution are to serve the Society objectives of: promoting the conservation, development, and wise use of the fisheries (by focusing the scientific debate on the role of dams in salmon and steelhead recovery); and gathering and disseminating scientific information to Society members and the general public (by putting into writing a position the Chapter could vote to support, or not, and then reporting the results).

The guiding principle for sharing the resolution will be that we share it openly and professionally, and only to the extent that we have the scientific support and credibility to do so. For example, this resolution was carefully worded to say that, “*IF* society-at-large determines that Snake River salmon and steelhead are to be restored...” so that we clearly communicate that the Chapter does not purport to “know” with scientific authority that recovering salmon and steelhead is more important than other goals of society-at-large, and therefore dams should be removed. Such decisions are the job of political leaders.

The message we seek to send is that the “common-sense” opinion of Idaho Chapter AFS fish biologists - most of whom are not salmon experts - is: if Snake River anadromous fish are to be recovered, then effects the dams have on salmon must be greatly reduced or eliminated, and other actions will likely also be needed. Of course, anadromous fish protected under the Endangered Species Act are required by that statute to be “recovered,” and we can even point out that fact, but we should not represent the Society’s interests as being more important or relevant than other people’s livelihoods that may be tied to lower

Snake River dams, for example.

Upon final passage of the revised resolution by the Executive Committee, the Chapter will communicate to those individuals and entities who may be interested in becoming aware of the content of the resolution. To facilitate this, the Executive Committee will send letters with the resolution attached to appropriate individuals such as agency personnel, informing them of this action by the Chapter. In addition, we have one standing request from the media for a copy of the resolution when it is officially adopted, so it will likely be reported on in the media. In fact, it's possible that it may receive a great deal of attention, and that we would have to make appropriate accommodations to ensure clear communication. However, we will not use passage of this resolution to organize and instigate a pre-meditated, overt media campaign that advocates breaching the dams at any cost. We should seek to share the content of this resolution to the same degree that we would have if the advisory vote were to not pass the resolution. Our role will be to clearly communicate our understanding of the science of the issue so that decision-makers and the public can be better informed.