



The Angler

Newsletter of the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

www.fisheries.org/co-wy/

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Newsletter Staff:

Editor:

Scott Gangl
WY Game and Fish Department
Scott.Gangl@wgf.state.wv.us
307-473-3415

Assistant Editor:

Rod O'Connor
Vice President - Student sub-unit
University of Wyoming
rrroc@uwyo.edu

The Vent

Anita Martinez

Though our chapter has increased in numbers over the years we are still a small and intimate group of highly motivated and concerned professionals. However, with the changing of the guard (approximately 40% of us will retire in the next 5 years) we are seeing many new faces. It is my hope that they will join us in preserving, protecting and enhancing our aquatic wildlife resource. There are so many challenges facing aquatic professionals. These range from providing quality recreational fisheries; protecting aquatic habitat with increased urbanization, pollution, and water usage; maintaining/enhancing angler satisfaction in a political environment; reversing dramatic reduction in abundance of some native aquatic wildlife species; and balancing preservation of native fish while maintaining desirable nonnative fisheries. Our jobs are so much more than throwing in a net to see what is there. We are culturists, biologists, researchers, managers, administrators, teachers, and students. The American Fisheries Society (AFS) helps us maintain a knowledge base critical in today's challenging climate. It is the oldest professional fisheries organization in the United States. It not only offers us a vast array of literature through special publications, journals, and books but also numerous opportunities to exchange information face-to-face at Chapter, Division, and National meetings and symposia. In addition, AFS provides a means of professional recognition for outstanding performance by individuals, teams and Chapters and contributions in the field of

Aquatic Sciences at the local, regional and national level.

Our Chapter recently received the coveted **Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award** from the Parent Society!!!! Many folks contributed to our receiving this award. The key areas in which they worked included 1) revising our Bylaws, Rules, and Procedures; 2) creating scholarships through endowments established at the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University; 3) providing outstanding Continuing Education at our annual meetings; 4) publishing a well received Chapter newsletter (*The Angler*); 5) maintaining an accurate in informative web site (www.fisheries.org/co-wy/) 6) reaching out to potential members by the Membership Committee through recruiting packages, a booth at the Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Expo, and the Hutton Program; 7) offering 12 Parent Society gift memberships to undergraduate students that have and interest in fishery careers; 8) co-hosting annual meetings with the Western Division AFS, Bonneville Chapter, and Whirling Disease Foundation in Salt Lake City (2004), and Bonneville Chapter in Grand Junction (2003); and 9) working with our two very active student subunits at the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University. This award was received by Hilda Sexauer in Madison, Wisconsin. We really are an outstanding chapter and the members have proven this time and time again!!!

(The President's Vent is continued on page 2)



(The President's Vent continued...)

Mark your calendars. Our 2005 annual meeting will be in Fort Collins, March 7-10th at the University Park Holiday Inn. There will be a welcoming social the evening of the 7th and our business meeting breakfast and banquet/raffle will be on the 9th. Presentations will be given and posters can be viewed on both the 8th and 9th. Continuing Education, on the 10th, will be taught by Dr. Paul Doherty and Dr. Gary White. They will address one of the topics, how to collect routine and trend fish data with statistical validity, that was highly rated by our membership in a survey conducted by Barb Horn. A tentative title is "Conceptual and Practical Issues in Monitoring Animals". Paul Mavrakis and Mark Smith are co-chairs of the Program Committee and Rosemary Black and Ken Kehmeier are chairing the Arrangements Committee. Lori Martin and Hilda Sexauer will do the Registration, Paul Bailey and Craig Amadio will handle logistics/AV, and Dan Brauch and Tracy Stephens will ensure we have a fun and profitable Raffle.

This newsletter includes a contact list of the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs and active members who participate in specialized functions. Please feel free to contact these individuals if you would like to lend a hand in making our meeting/organization a success or have questions concerning the Society.

WELCOME to those of you who are new to fisheries and the AFS, and THANKS to all the ol' salt and short-timers who have made our Chapter a wonderful organization.



Our Chapter is Outstanding!

CO-WY Wins 2004 Outstanding Chapter Award

The hard work of Chapter members was rewarded when the Western Division selected our Chapter as the **Western Division's Outstanding Chapter of the Year**. This achievement was made even greater in August, when we received the **Parent Society's 2004 Outstanding Chapter Award** for the large membership category. Chapter vice president Hilda Sexauer was at the 134th Annual Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin to accept the award on behalf of the Chapter.

We are honored to be selected for this award. This year we developed an Annual Program of Work that coordinates Chapter efforts with those in the AFS Strategic Plan and the Western Division Annual Program of Work. We have been actively updating our Bylaws and Rules and recently completed a draft Procedures Manual. The Chapter continues to provide excellent continuing education workshops and an outstanding newsletter and web site. Our membership committee actively recruits new members. We have demonstrated our commitment to the future of fisheries professionals through the creation of scholarships at both the University of Wyoming and Colorado State University. We have a long-standing tradition of being an active and enthusiastic Chapter. Our involvement and commitment to the fisheries resource goes beyond preparation of the annual Chapter meeting and is a year-long process.

Many of our accomplishments in recent years resulted from collaboration with the Bonneville Chapter. We held a joint meeting in Grand Junction, Colorado in 2003 and co-hosted the Western Division meeting in Salt Lake City in 2004. We offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all the Bonneville Chapter members that have worked so diligently with us to make our annual meetings so successful.

Congratulations to all of our chapter members on this great achievement!

Annual Meeting Announcement

Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society March 7-10, 2005 Fort Collins, Colorado

The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is holding its annual meeting at the University Park Holiday Inn in Fort Collins, Colorado on March 7-10th, 2005. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel at (970) 482-2626. When making reservations tell the reservation clerk that the block name is CO/WY AFS and our group code is GWF. A block of 50 rooms has been reserved at costs of \$74.00/night single and \$84.00/night double. These rates are guaranteed through January 24th, 2005. Help us get an early head count by registering early!!!!

First Call for Papers and Posters

This is the First Call for Papers and Posters for the annual meeting in Fort Collins, Colorado. Please start generating ideas for papers and posters, and consider presenting at this year's meeting. The meeting has no theme, thus any and all papers are encouraged.

Abstracts should be submitted in Word format adhering to the following example:

CENTERED PAPER TITLE IN 12 POINT TIMES NEW
ROMAN FONT
Mark Smith
Wyoming Game & Fish Department
2820 Highway 120
Cody WY, 82414

The summary abstract should contain a statement of the scope of work, study objectives, primary findings and their significance. Please submit abstracts in Times New Roman 12 font. **Deadline for submissions is February 23rd.**

Please submit a title and abstract—in electronic-format to:

Mark.Smith@wgf.state.wy.us

Mark Smith
Wyoming Game & Fish Dept.
2820 Highway 120
Cody, WY 82414

Work Hard, Get an Award

Has this ever happened to you?

You're sitting at your desk, working diligently on end-of-season reports, analyzing data, or minding your own business, when over the loudspeaker an announcement for employees to gather in the conference room for some goodies and awards. Of course you go because you want some sugar to help you get through the afternoon and you sit through countless presentations to people receiving awards for just doing their job!!! They get these awards because there is money left over in the budget and it needs to be spent before the end of the year. If you find this is tiresome and boring, then the **Colorado-Wyoming AFS Chapter Awards** are the perfect antidote for you. These awards go to well-deserving people, who may be doing their job but are not recognized for their commitment to the aquatics resource, their professionalism, their jobs well done, even their faux pas. Please review the award categories below and nominate that well-deserving person to stop this horrific trend.

The following are the awards and criteria.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

- Significant efforts in the advancement of the fisheries' profession, beyond routine expectations.
- A milestone work contributing to the understanding/conservation/management of aquatic resources.
- Original advancement or innovations in fishery research, culture, or management techniques.
- Significant contributions, via public education and participation to conservation of aquatic resources.
- Imaginative and successful programs in aquatic resource conservation education.
- Leadership in recognition/development of habitat issues that lead to a legislation/policy that protect/enhance the aquatic resource.
- Development of aquatic research, culture or management programs of regional or national significance.

(Awards continued on P. 4)

(Awards continued...)

- Important ecological discoveries or new taxonomic criteria.
- New philosophies or ideas that contribute to the understanding or management of aquatic resources.
- This is a lifetime award; therefore an individual may only win this award once.

“MAX” AWARD of MERIT

- “Atta Boy or Girl” award for a job well done, an outstanding effort in aquatic resource conservation, a major contribution to the well being of the fisheries’ professions, creation of a new “whiz bang” idea or any act that elicits that warm all over feeling. This award generally recognizes significant short-term accomplishments.
- All persons associated with water resources, regardless of affiliation are eligible for this award.

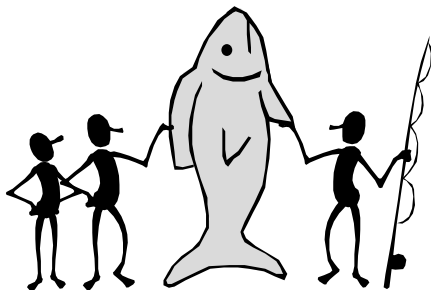
LEAKY BOOT AWARD

- This is an award for recognition of extreme decadence even beyond the norms for a fish squeezer. It recognizes the most outrageous behavior in the year subsequent to the Chapter’s annual meeting. The benefits is to show that all persons have value, even if it’s only for use as an example of initiative gone awry.
- This award can be given to any fisheries student or professional, even if they might not want it.

Please take some time and think about your peers that deserve recognition. Our goal is to make Chapter awards significant and truly recognize our peers and others that help the fishery and aquatic resource. We need your nominations to make this happen. Include a one-page description of the contributions or accomplishments that qualify the nominee for the award.

Please submit your nominations by February 18, 2005, attention:

Kathy Foster, Medicine Bow – Routt National Forests, 925 Weiss Drive, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487, (970) 870-2219, FAX (970) 870-2284, email kfoster02@fs.fed.us



Seeking Entries for the 2005 Riparian Challenge

The Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee is seeking entries for the Western Division’s 2005 Riparian Challenge Award. The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other conservation agencies or private industries in the states encompassed by the Western Division are invited to participate in the Riparian Challenge. Winners will receive the Western Division’s *Award of Excellence in Riparian Management*. The purpose of the award is to:

- Encourage the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and other conservation agencies or private industry to strive for excellence in riparian and watershed habitat management,
- Encourage agencies to progress in on-the-ground accomplishments which when added together throughout the West, will significantly improve riparian systems,
- Recognize managers and resource specialists for their efforts in maintaining, restoring, and improving riparian and watershed ecosystems.

We hope to receive a number of quality nominations from USFS, BLM and other conservation agencies or industry this year representing their efforts in riparian management. If you are aware of a project that should be considered, please ask the appropriate USFS, BLM, conservation agency or industry to submit an entry form. Winners will be selected in the following categories (depending on the number of submissions received):

BLM - Best Resource Area or Field Office

Forest Service - Best Ranger District

Other - Best Riparian Project

More information, along with a description of the entry format and the criteria for evaluating entries can be found on the Western Division AFS web site www.wdafs.org or the Colorado/Wyoming AFS Chapter website www.fisheries.org/co-wy/. Entries must be received no later than April 15, 2005. The 2005 *Awards of Excellence in Riparian Management* will be presented at the Western Division’s meeting in Anchorage, Alaska in September. The date and location will be announced at a later date.

Completed entries should be submitted to the Riparian Challenge Committee Chair, Hilda Sexauer, and **must be received by April 15, 2005**. Contact Hilda for more information (307-367-2147 ext. 231). Her address can be found in the contact list in this newsletter.

Chapter ExCom Meeting Highlights Laramie, Wyoming September 3, 2004

Editor's note: Due to limited space, the ExCom meeting minutes are only highlighted here. The full minutes can be found on the Chapter website.

Attendees: Dave Zafft (Past President), Paul Mavrikakis (2005 Annual Meeting-Program), Hilda Sexauer (Vice-President), Anita Martinez (President), Rosemary Black (2005 Annual Meeting-Arrangements), Lori Martin (Secretary-Treasurer)

Anita Martinez called the meeting to order. The advancement of officers was completed. Anita Martinez assumed the role of Chapter President, Hilda Sexauer accepted the position of Vice-President, and Lori Martin became the Secretary-Treasurer.

The March 2004 Annual Business Meeting minutes were approved.

Hilda Sexauer summarized her trip to the 2004 Parent Society Meeting in Madison to accept the Western Division's Outstanding Chapter award.

Dave Zafft commented on the Procedures Manual revision, indicating that the revision is not quite complete, and will need to be discussed at the next ExCom meeting in December. Dave and Bill Bradshaw will also provide drafts of the endowment and grant funding guidelines at the ExCom meeting in December. These guidelines will also need to be incorporated into the Procedures Manual.

The 2005 Annual Meeting was discussed. Members of the Arrangements, Registration, and Program Committees were present. The Raffle Committee has been formed, and other members have been contacted for participation on the Continuing Education Committee, as well as the Best Student Paper/Poster Judging Committee. Student and professional travel assistance to the annual meeting was discussed. This year's budget includes \$300 for student travel assistance.

The UW and CSU student subunit presidents were not in attendance, but will be invited to the December ExCom meeting to provide the ExCom with subunit updates.

Hilda Sexauer provided an update on the Chapter website. Hilda will follow-up on the idea to tie the Chapter's website into the Western Division's website.

Standing committee reports were given for the Membership Committee, Newsletter Committee, Environmental Policy Committee, Chapter Archivist,

Endowment Funding Committee, and the Budget Committee.

The ExCom began discussion on the topic of separating the Secretary/Treasurer position into two positions. Suggestions were made to include the Treasurer position as a multi-year position, while the Chapter membership would vote to fill the Secretary position. The Secretary position would then be on track to the President position. The ExCom decided that further discussion regarding this topic was warranted for the next ExCom meeting.

Checking and Savings Account Information

As of September 1, 2004

US Bank-Checking Account Balance = \$11,767.71

US Bank-Savings Account Balance = \$26,004.91

US Bank-Total Account Balance = \$37,772.62

US Bank-Total Account Balance

Starting Balance =	\$37,772.62	
<i>Description</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Credits</i>
ExCom expense lunch 9/3/2004	\$52.10	
WGFD Expo expense copies	\$48.00	
WGFD Expo expense UW subunit t-shirt	\$21.70	
WGFD Expo expense booth rental	\$26.55	
ExCom expense office supplies	\$99.80	
CSU student gift membership/ hard copy newsletter	\$43.00	
Savings interest earned (September + October)		\$8.95
Ending Balance (as of 11/1/2004) =	\$37,490.42	

As of November 1, 2004

US Bank-Checking Account Balance = \$11,476.56

US Bank-Savings Account Balance = \$26,013.86

US Bank-Total Account Balance = \$37,490.42

The approved FY05 Chapter Budget, which is posted on the Chapter website, assumed a fiscal year starting balance of \$36,363. The Chapter will begin the fiscal year with a budget of \$37,772.62, \$1,409.62 more than anticipated.

Membership Committee Update 10/30/2004

Membership- The chapter continues to look for a Colorado representative to Co-Chair the Membership committee.

Since the annual meeting, I have communicated with the Parent Society and have corrected our membership accounting by reminding them that our Chapter bylaws recognize that members having a Colorado or Wyoming address are members of our Chapter. The current membership stands at approximately 255 members.

Expo- The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society participated in the 7th Annual Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Expo held September 10,11,12 in Casper Wyoming. This was the second year the chapter participated in this Wyoming Game and Fish Department sponsored event.

The Wyoming Hunting and Fishing Heritage Expo provides learning and participation opportunities that communicate the relevance of wildlife and habitat management, teach outdoor skills, encourage ethical behavior and stewardship, and perpetuate Wyoming's hunting, fishing and wildlife watching heritage. The Expo is a free educational event for all ages and skill levels. It is not a sports or trade show. The Expo offers hands-on learning for a myriad of topics, ranging from fish and wildlife management to shooting skills to outdoor survival skills.

Our Colorado/Wyoming Chapter participated by setting up a booth, which promoted the American Fisheries Society mission, our chapter, careers in fisheries, and contained several displays that participants could read and interact with. The fisheries topics included the Hutton Program, AFS Mission, Fish aging techniques, Western Native Species, and Aquatic Nuisance Species. After viewing our display, a 4-question quiz was presented and those that completed all the questions with the correct answer were then entered into a daily drawing for an AFS T-shirt. The t-shirts were donated and provided by the Parent Society and the University of Wyoming Student Chapter. This was a great event for us to showcase AFS and our chapter. Nine Wyoming chapter members were involved with designing, set up and manning the booth during the event. Members were able to interact with the public and explain important fishery issues. The expo had 13,669 in attendance for the three-day event.

Student Gift Memberships- The Membership committee continues to give out gift memberships to undergraduate students in each state. Congratulations to UW students Ray Bredehoft and Matt Gruszczynski and CSU students Zach Shattuck and Garrett Thomas.

Membership Packets-The committee has membership-recruiting packets available for current members to give out to potential new members.

Hutton Program- Its time to sign up for the Society's Hutton Program. Members can access the Parent Society's Web site at www.fisheries.org and find Mentor and Student forms.

I am happy to report that Scott Gilmore of the CDOW in Denver is a Hutton Mentor and has two students enrolled in the program. We also gained Scott as a Chapter member. Eric Hughes of the CDOW provided Scott with the Hutton information.

Budget Proposal- Professional display board. I have submitted the following to the chapter EXCOM and provide the following for membership consideration.

"I would like the EXCOM and chapter members to consider the purchase of a professional display board.

A professional display board would complement annual meetings and would provide the chapter an area ("booths") to promote the Hutton Program, Professional Certification Program and other materials that would benefit the membership of the chapter. This could also be used to take displays to special events and other meetings like the Wyoming Game and Fish Heritage Expo, Trout Unlimited meetings, and other sport shows or meetings where we want to represent our chapter.

I have found a unit that would cost \$1,750.50. I would like to budget a little more to cover shipping and handling and any cost increase that may occur in the future. With that, I would like to spend up to \$2,000.00 dollars if necessary. The display board I am proposing is an 8'x 8' carpeted board and includes a hard case and light accessories. This unit is versatile in that it can be set up as an 8'X8' floor model or two 4'X8' panels that could be placed on a standard 8' tables.

I realize a purchase of this amount is required to go before the membership and would like the Excom to consider this purchase and budget item of 2,000.00 dollars."

I will bring this budget proposal to the March 2005 business meeting.

The committee strives to accomplish the projects it has undertaken and some projects will require time and additional funding. The committee continues to have the support of the chapter Excom and appreciates their patience as we work together to build membership and membership services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Anderson, Membership Chair

2004-2005 CO/WY AFS Contact List

<p>President Anita Martinez CO Division of Wildlife 711 Independent Ave. Grand Junction, CO 81505 Anita.Martinez@state.co.us (970) 255-6143 FAX 970-255-6111</p>	<p>Vice President Hilda Sexauer WY Game and Fish P.O. Box 850 Pinedale, WY 82941 Hilda.sexauer@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 367-4353</p>	<p>Secretary-Treasurer Lori Martin CO Division of Wildlife 711 Independent Ave Grand Junction, CO 81505 Lori.Martin@state.co.us (970) 255-6126</p>
<p>Past President Dave Zafft WY Game and Fish 528 S. Adams Laramie, WY 82070 David.Zafft@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 745-5180 ext. 235 FAX 307-745-8720</p>	<p>UW Student Sub-unit President Mike Bower WY Coop. Fish & Wildl. Res. Unit University of Wyoming P.O. Box 3166 Laramie, WY 82071 mbower@uwyo.edu (307) 766-2322 (w); (307) 321-0556 (c)</p>	<p>CSU Student Sub-unit President Boyd Wright Colorado State University Wagar Building Fort Collins, CO 80523 fbwright3@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Angler Editor Scott Gangl WY Game and Fish 3030 Energy Lane, Suite 100 Casper, WY 82604 Scott.Gangl@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 473-3415</p>	<p>Archivist/Historian Venice Beske HC76 Box 43 Hawk Springs, WY 82217 Vbeske@state.wy.us (307) 777-7982</p>	<p>Membership Committee Chair Greg Anderson WY Game and Fish P.O. Box 168 Daniel, WY 83115 Greg.Anderson@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 859-8252</p>
<p>Procedures Manual Matt Kondratieff Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. 117 South Sublette Ave. Pinedale, WY Matt.Kondratieff@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 367-4347</p>	Program Committee Chairs	
<p>Continuing Education Chair Brett Johnson Dept Fish & Wildl. Bio. 1474 Campus Delivery CSU Fort Collins, CO 80523-1474 brett@cnr.colostate.edu (970)491-5002</p>	<p>Paul Mavrakis Wyoming Game & Fish Department 3030 Energy Lane, Suite 100 Casper, WY 82604 Paul.Mavrakis@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 473-3413</p>	<p>Mark Smith Wyoming Game and Fish Dept. 2820 State Hwy 120 Cody, WY 82414 Mark.Smith@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 527-7125</p>
<p>Awards Committee Chair Kathy Foster 290 Blue Sage Circle Steamboat Springs, CO 80477 Kfoster02@fs.fed.us (970) 870-2219</p>	Arrangement Committee Chairs	
<p>Best Paper Chair Kevin Gelwicks 528 S. Adams St. Laramie, WY 82070 (307)745-5180 Kevin.gelwicks@wgf.state.wy.us</p>	<p>Rosemary Black CO Division of Wildlife 317 W. Prospect Fort Collins Rosemary.Black@state.co.us (970)472-4320</p>	<p>Ken Kehmeier CO Division of Wildlife 317 W. Prospect Fort Collins Ken.Kehmeier@state.co.us (970)472-4350</p>
<p>Environmental Policy Committee Hilda Sexauer (chair)</p>	<p>Raffle Committee Chairs</p> <p>Dan Brauch CO Division of Wildlife 300 New York Ave Gunnison, CO 81230 Dan.Brauch@state.co.us (970) 641-7070</p>	<p>Scholarship Committee Chair Bill Bradshaw WY Game and Fish P.O. Box 6249 Sheridan, WY 82801 bill.bradshaw@wgf.state.wy.us (307) 672-7418</p>
<p>Budget Committee Dave Zafft (chair) Hilda Sexauer</p>		<p>Annual Meeting Funding Paul Dey WY Game and Fish 5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006 paul.dey@wgf.state.wy.us (307)777-4559</p>