



THE ANGLER

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Newsletter Staff (Co-editors):

Anna Senecal
WY Game and Fish Dept.
Anna.Senecal@wyo.gov
307-733-2321

Eric Fetherman
CO Parks and Wildlife
Eric.Featherman@state.co.us
970-472-4436

The Vent Bobby Compton

I am extremely happy to invite you all to Laramie for the 50th Annual Meeting of the CO/WY Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. After I was elected Secretary/Treasurer, Wayne Hubert congratulated me and wished me luck as a CO/WY AFS Excom member. He told me the experiences would be rewarding, which they have been, but warned me about planning an annual meeting. Annual meetings in the good old days were a day or two long and were held at the local hotel, county fairground, or restaurant. There was a steak fry and a coffee kitty. Meeting registration for our first meeting in 1966 was \$1, there were 26 attendees, and they ended the year with \$12 in the bank. In 1989, the year Wayne was Chapter President and almost 25 years later, registration was \$5 and they ended the year with about \$500 in the bank. In 2016, meeting registration is \$155, we expect 175 attendees, and should end the fiscal year with about \$60,000 in the bank.

George Post was our second Chapter President and stated in his annual message in 1967, "The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Society has passed a milestone in that we have succeeded in staging a second annual meeting. The first year of such organizations is usually the crucial time and we have passed that hurdle". Over the last half-century, the CO/WY Chapter has grown in all aspects. We now have close to 250 members and three student sub-units. We host top-notch annual meetings with valuable continuing education courses and fund student scholarships, small grants, and travel awards to national AFS meetings. The work that has been presented throughout the years by our members continues to be some of the best in the United States. Past-president Post – I am pleased to say that our Chapter has indeed passed that hurdle and then some!



I have had the pleasure to plan an annual meeting that celebrates our rich fisheries heritage. Through that process I have worked to recognize many of the people that have made our Chapter excellent. Looking through the lists of our 50 past-presidents and the hundreds of committee members that have served, it is no wonder our Chapter has succeeded.

To recognize our past-presidents and their lasting contributions, we have invited them all to Laramie for the annual meeting, and it appears that a good portion will attend! We will also host a retrospective symposium that looks back at the Chapter's history as well as changes (or lack thereof) in fisheries management, research, and job duties over the past 50 years. Additionally, we will discuss the history of women in both our Chapter and in fisheries. A past-president from each decade will speak about "their times" as an Excom member and current fisheries topics during their respective ten years. They will also participate in a panel discussion following their talks. Steve Facciani, Bob Wiley, Wayne Hubert, Pat Martinez, and Lori Martin have all graciously volunteered to serve on this panel.

The banquet social following the symposium will allow everyone to catch up and reminisce about all the good times we have shared over the years. We will again recognize all who have made the Chapter excel. To those who have been involved over the years, but will not be able to attend this meeting, your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Wayne was correct, planning a gathering of this size has been challenging at times, but I couldn't be more excited about the upcoming meeting that will commemorate our 50 years as a Chapter. With that, I invite you all to Laramie!

50th CO-WY Annual Meeting March 1-3, 2016 Laramie, WY

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held March 1-3, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Laramie, Wyoming. We will be celebrating the Chapter's 50th Anniversary this meeting and a retrospective review of our history will be highlighted. The meeting will kick off with three continuing education courses on Tuesday, March 1st and will be followed by a welcoming reception at the University of Wyoming Legacy Hall (across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn).

A block of rooms has been reserved at a rate of \$83.00 per night. Room reservations can be made by calling the Hilton Garden Inn at 307-745-5500. Please reference Colorado/Wyoming AFS, or C-CWAF16, to receive the meeting rate. Everyone should clearly state to hotel staff that they are making reservations to attend the meeting so we get credit for room reservations. This is important because we need to meet our room obligations.

Reservations can be made in the hotel block until February 15, 2016 to be guaranteed the federal rate.

Meeting registration information is available on the Colorado/Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org). Online registration, with the option of credit card payments, is currently open and the **deadline for early registration is January 31, 2016.**

2016 Meeting Agenda at a Glance

Tuesday, March 1st

9a-12p: Continuing Education -- Genomics and ecology of catostomid hybrids

1p-5p: Continuing Education -- Morphological characteristics of upper Colorado River basin catostomids and their hybrids

8a-5p: Continuing Education -- Communication in Science

6p-10p: Welcoming Social – beverages and snacks provided (UW Legacy Hall)

5p-7p: Registration

Wednesday, March 2nd

7a – 5p: Registration

8a-12p: Opening remarks and presidential message, Contributed papers

1:30p-4:30p: Contributed papers

5p-6p: Student Job Fair (Laramie Railroad Depot)

5p-10p: Student-Mentor Social (Laramie Railroad Depot)

Thursday, March 3rd

7a – 5p: Registration

8a-12p: Contributed papers

12p-1:30p: Chapter Business Lunch

1:30p-3p: Contributed papers

3p-5p: 50th Anniversary Symposium

6p-10p: Banquet Social

Meeting Deadlines



Photo Credit: Laura Burckhardt

Don't miss the boat!
Remember these important Annual Meeting deadlines

January 29th

- ✓ Early Meeting Registration

February 15th

- ✓ Hotel Block Reservations

February 1st

- ✓ Presentation and Poster Abstract Submission
- ✓ Photo Contest Entries

February 6th

- ✓ Awards Nominations

March 2nd

- ✓ Secretary/Treasurer Voting

Final Call for Papers

We are once again looking for members to share all of the great work they have been doing over the past year by giving a presentation or poster at the 2016 Annual Meeting. All papers are welcome including formal scientific papers as well as general informational. Authors will be notified of their acceptance 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Abstracts can be submitted clicking this [link](#) or visiting the Colorado/Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org).

Final Deadline for abstract submissions is February 1, 2016.

For additional information, please contact Christina Barrineau at 307-754-5180 ext. 240, Christina.Barrineau@wyo.gov or Jason Burckhardt at 307-527-7125, Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov.

Oral Presentation Guidelines

Oral presentations are limited to a 20 minute time slot and we recommend limiting your presentation to 15 to 18 minutes to allow for questions.

Poster Presentation Guidelines

Poster Presentations - Please restrict your poster to a maximum size of 3' high (0.92 m) x 4' wide (1.22 m) and have a smooth finish. Poster can be attached to the walls with double-sided adhesive strips or hook and loop (VELCRO®) type fasteners. If using VELCRO®, provide both sides (adhesive backing will be required). You are responsible for providing your own form of attachment. Or posters can be mounted on display boards and displayed on stands, supplied by the author. Please contact us for further guidelines on poster presentations if desired.

Final Call for Nominations: CO/WY Chapter AFS Awards

Thinking about that outstanding coworker, citizen, landowner, colleague, mentor, or "character"? Know someone who has made a significant contribution this past year to fishery or habitat management, science, or policy...or someone who was involved in an infamous fish folly? The Colorado/Wyoming Chapter has four award classifications for recognizing our fisheries professionals and the Awards Committee needs your help in determining qualified candidates. This is an opportunity for you to see that your professional peers receive the deserved recognition from this society. Please take a moment and think about your professional peers that have made significant contributions and accomplishments to our aquatic resources. It is your responsibility to make sure our professionals receive this recognition.

Award of Excellence: Recognizes (since 1980) an individual who has made significant contributions in the fishery-aquatic resource field. This award was formerly (1977-79) known as Fishery Worker of the Year Award. The Award of Excellence was not awarded last year.

Max Award of Merit: In honor of Max Rollefson (WGFD), this award recognizes a short-term professional accomplishment in management, administration, research or culture. This award evolved from the original Stream Habitat Award (1977-1982) and since 1991 has been broadened to recognize accomplishments in a wider range of aquatic endeavors. Last year's Max Award recipients were Eriek Hansen, Bill Atkinson, Kendall Bakich, Kyle Battige, Jon Ewert, Jennifer Logan, Lori Martin, and David Longrie.

Outstanding Mentor Award: This award will recognize a fisheries professional who has shown substantial devotion to assisting or mentoring prospective fisheries students/professionals, current fisheries students, or fisheries professionals. Last year's Outstanding Mentor Award recipient was Chris Myrick.

Leaky Boot Award: Recognizes the most outrageous behavior of any fisheries student or professional in the year subsequent to the chapter's annual meeting. Please limit applications to one page for the "Max", Mentor, and Leaky Boot Awards. Award of Excellence nominations are typically more detailed with letters of support from multiple individuals. Last year's Leaky Boot recipient was Bill Atkinson.

For more information or to submit a letter of nomination please contact:

Jason Burckhardt
CO/WY AFS Awards Committee Chair
2820 State Highway 120
Cody, WY 82414
307-527-7322 x*814
Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov

Deadline for awards nominations is February 6th



Volunteers Needed

Students!

CO/WY AFS needs your help to run the 2016 annual meeting. We are looking for volunteers to help with audiovisual support and the raffle during the meeting. Hours of volunteer time will be credited and count towards meeting fees. Four hours of volunteer time will count as \$42.50 and eight hours will count as \$85.00 towards early registration fees (1/2 and full early student parent society member registration fee, respectively). We would like to encourage as many students as possible to volunteer their time.

For more information on volunteering please contact Eriek Hansen at Eriekhansen@Coloradomesa.edu

Paper and Poster Judges

Volunteers are needed to judge papers and posters at the 2015 CO/WY AFS meeting in Fort Collins. We would like to have three judges per paper and poster, so a great deal of help will be needed from CO/WY AFS members. Government agency and private consulting professionals are preferred for judging volunteers. Please consider volunteering some of your time at the meeting!

If you are interested in judging please contact Mandi Brandt @ 970-842-6330 or Mandi.Brandt@state.co.us.

CO/WY AFS Secretary-Treasurer Election

This year we are excited to have two nominees for the incoming Chapter Secretary-Treasurer position. Eric Fetherman and Boyd Wright have accepted the nomination to lead our Chapter. **Candidate biographies follow on pages 8 and 9.**

Vote by E-mail: To vote by e-mail, send an e-mail with your name and candidate of choice to kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov. We encourage chapter members to vote early. E-mail and ballot voting submissions must be received by **7:00 PM on Tuesday March 3rd**. **Only current chapter or subunit AFS members are**

Paper Ballot: Members can vote by paper ballot at the annual meeting in Laramie. Paper ballots will be available at the registration desk at the annual meeting. Completed ballots must be returned to the registration desk or to Kevin Gelwicks.

Raffle

Every year we look forward to the annual meeting live and silent auctions, not just for the fundraising, but also for the camaraderie (and good-natured heckling) they create. This is your annual reminder that it is up to all of us to make it a great raffle! **So, we are asking that attendees bring items to donate to our cause.** These could be items that you personally contribute, or that you solicit from a local business, organization, or person. Items may include backpack trips, guided fishing trips, handmade flies, original artwork, prints, or other cool fish and wildlife related items. Each of us in the Chapter probably has at least one business, organization, or person willing to donate something towards the mission of AFS. **Please take a few minutes to ask.**

If you would like to make contributions please bring your item(s) with you to the meeting or send them to:

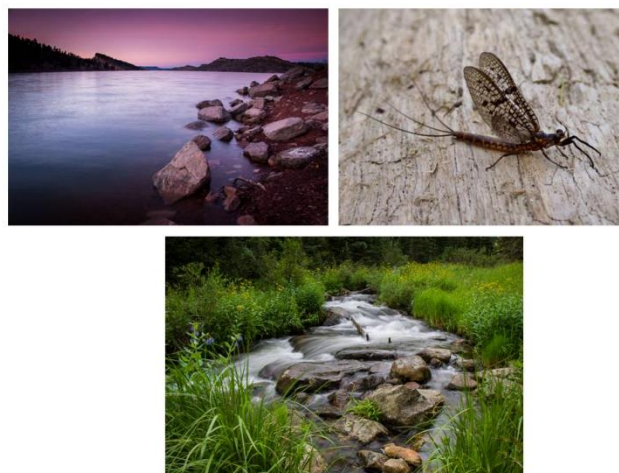
Boyd Wright
317 W. Prospect
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Boyd.wright@state.co.us

or

Adam Leiferman, Wyoming Game and Fish,
8200 Speas Road
Casper, WY 82604
Adam.Leiferman@wyo.gov



Seventh Annual CO/WY AFS Photo Contest



We know all too well that a picture is worth a thousand words, but your pictures may be worth so much more than words! Please consider submitting one or more of your photos in this year's photo contest. **The deadline for submissions is February 1.** The Raffle and Executive Committees will vote for the top three photographs, which will be framed and featured in the live or silent auction at the upcoming 2016 Colorado/Wyoming Chapter AFS annual meeting. Besides helping us out in fundraising efforts, you can be honored for your photographic skills and may even win a prize! The Photo Contest at the annual chapter meeting celebrates this unique aspect of our jobs, while contributing to the Raffle Committee's fundraising efforts.

Please email your digital photographs to:
boyd.wright@state.co.us

Photo Caption: The three member photo contest winners from 2015. In clockwise order: (1) "Horsetooth Sunset" by Taylor Barnes, (2) "Match the Hatch" by Kort Kirkeby, (3) "Pingree Park" by Taylor Barnes.



Colorado-Wyoming Chapter
American Fisheries Society

Continuing Education Workshop CO/WY AFS

Continuing Education Workshops will be held March 1. Please register ASAP as workshop capacity is limited and will fill up. We have a smorgasbord of three workshops to choose from this year:

Communicating Science

Scientists need to be able to communicate effectively about their research, in order to educate the public, conduct successful media interviews, and help policymakers make informed decisions. Too often, important research and management projects receive at best a passing mention in the press. This is largely because scientists fail to explain their work in a way that journalists and the general public can understand. This workshop will help bridge that gap. We will cover how to talk about what you do in layman's terms, how to pitch your research or management projects to the press, how to conduct a successful interview, and how to put together a clear and engaging public presentation. This full-day course will be taught by Willow Belden (University of Wyoming Biodiversity Institute). **Registrant capacity = 25.**

Genomics and Ecology of Catostomid Hybrids

Elizabeth Mandeville (University of Wyoming) will present her research regarding the genomics and ecology of hybridization between Catostomids fishes in Colorado and Wyoming river systems. Time will be planned during the session for a discussion on the management and research implications of her work. This will be a half-day course taught in the morning.

Morphological Characteristics of Upper Colorado River Basin Catostomids and their Hybrids

Catostomid fishes of the upper Colorado River basin are declining in distribution and abundance in part due to negative effects of non-native and invasive congeners. We will use photographs and described morphological characteristics to examine putative pure and hybrid suckers. We will then match pictures of suckers with associated molecular identifications to determine potential hybrids. Comparison of molecular and morphological data gathered from the same specimens is the most appropriate method to understand accuracy of identifications made in the field, information which would inform management and conservation of native catostomids. This half-day course will be taught in the afternoon by Kevin Bestgen (Colorado State University) and Kevin Thompson (Colorado Parks and Wildlife).



Photo Credit: Diana Sweet

CO/WY Student Social March 2nd, 2016

The subunits will be hosting the
Wednesday night social at the Train Depot
(<http://laramiedepot.org/>) from 5-10p.

In addition to being fed and provided with local adult beverages, you can expect to be entertained by live music, a mentor-mentee mixer and job board. Shuttle service from the Hilton Garden Inn provided. Mentoring Minglers and job-seekers should plan to meet at 5p.

Students: bring your resumes and questions and be sure to catch presentations from our Mentorship Committee.

Professionals: bring your new grad project ideas, job vacancies and words of wisdom to pass along to the generation that will help carry our field and Chapter for the next 50 years!

Please send posted job details or employer information for the job board to Richard (RWalker2442@gmail.com) in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Thanks and see you there!

WDAFS Student Colloquium April 13-16, 2016 Lander, WY

The UW student sub-unit is pleased to announce that we will be hosting the WDAFS Student Colloquium in Lander, Wyoming. This meeting will be FREE for all students and you get a t-shirt! We highly encourage undergraduate and graduate participation from all sub-units in this conference. The Student Colloquium will provide students with an opportunity to network, attend workshops, play trivia, practice presentations, and learn about the diverse fisheries research being conducted throughout the Western United States. Our theme this year will follow along with the Society for Freshwater Science: **Running on Empty: Increasing Demands on Freshwater Resources in the Face of a Changing Climate**



Hey Students, Looking for Advice? How about some Field Experience?

Students can submit their applications to the Mentoring Committee to be paired up with TOP NOTCH biologists throughout the member states to gain real hands-on experience in fisheries and habitat management and research. Applications are due March 15th. To learn more about this program, visit the website (www.cowyafs.org) or sip a beer and mingle with past and current Mentors and Mentees at the Wednesday evening student social.



Photo: Past mentees Mark Sandersen, Lisa Le and Patricia Bugh (left to right) at work in the field.

Eric Fetherman

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer



My interest in fishery and wildlife biology began at an early age. Both of my parents attended CSU and earned degrees in wildlife biology. As a result, most of our family time revolved around the outdoors. Some of my favorite memories involve fishing trips with my father, from fishing for cutthroat trout in Yellowstone, to after dinner trips to local city ponds to catch bass, crappie, bluegill, and sunfish. After working as a park naturalist aid through high school at Bear Creek Lake Park in Lakewood, CO, I knew that I too wanted to pursue a career in natural resources.

I began that career in 2002, attending CSU and working toward a degree in wildlife biology. In 2003, I was hired by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help raise razorback suckers (my favorite native species!) at the Ouray National Fish Hatchery in Utah. I also got to go on two non-native fish removal trips through Dinosaur National Monument and excursions into the Green and Yampa Rivers to collect native fish fry. After spending the summer in Utah chasing fish, I knew I was hooked on a career in fisheries, and added fishery biology as a major upon returning to CSU. The following summer, I started working as a fisheries technician for the Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) helping rear and experiment with the whirling disease-resistant Hofer strain of rainbow trout. I graduated with a B.S. in wildlife biology, with fishery biology as a second major, in 2006. My work with CDOW led to a master's project examining the effects of whirling disease exposure on the physiological performance of resistant and susceptible strains of rainbow trout. I earned my master's degree from CSU in 2009. I continued on with whirling disease research, focusing on introduction and management of resistant rainbow trout strains in Colorado rivers, and earning my Ph.D.

from CSU in 2013. I was hired by Colorado Parks and Wildlife in 2011 as an aquatic research scientist (salmonid disease research) and continue to research the introduction and management of resistant rainbow trout strains, among other topics. In recent years, I have also had the opportunity to serve on master's committees through CSU and help mentor many new, aspiring fisheries professionals. I believe that focusing on increasing student involvement in AFS, and participation in programs like the Colorado/Wyoming AFS mentoring program, is an excellent way to help these new professionals find lasting and meaningful careers in fishery biology.

AFS has played an important role in my career development. I have been a member of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter and National AFS since 2006. Since then, I have been able to attend and present at many National, Western Division, and Colorado/Wyoming Chapter meetings. These meetings allowed me to develop my presentation skills, share my research with others, and learn more about the great work being done in neighboring states. Interactions with other AFS members, both during the meeting and at socials and banquets, have lead to new experiments, the development of new questions, and some great collaboration with colleagues that I would not otherwise have had the opportunity to work with. I believe the annual meeting is very important for the development of new and current fisheries professionals and the sharing of ideas. If elected, I hope to continue the tradition of hosting fun, productive, and informational annual meetings so they continue to be a useful forum for social and professional engagement. A focus of mine would be to increase funding opportunities and address other potential barriers to attending meetings to increase meeting attendance and participation.

The committee structure of the Chapter is also very important for maintaining involvement and ownership in AFS. I have been fortunate in the past couple of years to be able to serve as both a co-editor of the Colorado/Wyoming newsletter, *The Angler*, as well a member of the Environmental Policy Committee. Serving on both committees has allowed me to learn more about the great work being conducted in Colorado and Wyoming, including the interactions that occur within the Chapter, the student subunits, and externally, and the important role AFS plays in making decisions for the resource. I am excited to have been nominated as a candidate for secretary-treasurer, for the opportunity to serve as your Chapter officer, and to give back to the Chapter that has helped me in furthering my fisheries career while continuing to promote the standard of excellence exhibited by the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter.

Boyd Wright

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer



Looking back at the events and life choices that led me down this fishy career path, I can't help but marvel at the fact that I am getting paid to pursue my passion for all things aquatic. My parents love to tell the story of the time my Dad informed me about "the birds and the bees." He took me to my favorite neighborhood fishing hole, sat me down along the water's edge, and uncomfortably proceeded to tell me everything I needed to know prior to entering adolescence. When he was done talking, he turned to me and asked, "do you have any questions, son?" Without breaking my fixed gaze on the water, I asked, "Did you see that fish jump?!" I'm still not sure if my parents tell this story to highlight my love for fish, or to poke fun at my tendency toward distraction, or both. Heck, I don't know, I always trail off when they tell the story and instantly start thinking about fish...

I grew up with my family of 6 (I have three sisters) moving a lot; fishing my way through Texas, Colorado, and Illinois. Two years out of high school, still unsure of what I wanted to do and unaware of what exactly fishery biology was, I enrolled in Wildlife Biology as a major at CSU because I "wanted to work outside." A guest lecture by Dr. Kurt Fausch on the basics of fishery biology in my "Intro to Wildlife Biology Class," became a pivotal moment in my life. I walked into Dr. Fausch's office that same day and said, "this is exactly what I want to do, tell me what I need to do to make it happen." Since that day, I have not looked back and have been guided by strong ambition.

I completed my B.S. in Fishery Biology at CSU in 2005. While at CSU I worked as an assistant in Dr. Chris Myrick's Fish Physiology Lab, primarily

assisting with experiments testing brook trout jumping ability. I then worked two field seasons as an Aquatic Research Technician with CPW (then CDOW) in Steamboat Springs, assisting with research related to boreal toad and cutthroat trout recovery efforts. This was followed by two years as a Research Associate at the CSU Cooperative Research Unit, assisting with whirling disease and endocrine disruption studies. I was in the process of applying for grad school when I landed my dream job as an Aquatic Biologist with CPW (then CDOW) in Meeker, CO in 2007. There, I managed native and sport fisheries in the White and Yampa River basins. That was an amazing experience, but in 2011 I transferred to Fort Collins to my current position as Aquatic Conservation Biologist, where my focus is on conservation of native fish and amphibians of the South Platte Basin. I love every aspect of my job; from working with diverse fish communities of the eastern plains, to working with boreal toads, to planning and implementing cutthroat trout restoration projects. My wife, Alissa, and I live in Fort Collins, where we have embraced the bicycle-riding/craft-beer drinking cliché. In May of 2015, we welcomed our son, Byron, into the world, with who we have already begun to share our love for the aquatic world.

Since I embarked on my fisheries career path, the American Fisheries Society has been there every step of the way. I was offered my first technician job with CPW while volunteering as a student at a Western Division meeting in Salt Lake City. As the President of the CSU sub-unit we resurrected the College Lake Fishing Derby, which had been languishing due to landowner issues at College Lake, and to this day remains the primary funding source for the sub-unit. Serving the Chapter as Membership Committee Co-Chair from 2009 to present, and the Raffle Committee Co-Chair from 2013 to present, provided insight into Chapter administrative operations and annual meeting planning.

I feel extremely fortunate to be in the position I am in today. My professional success is a tribute to my propensity for teamwork and willingness to dive head-first into sometimes uncomfortable waters, while learning on the fly, and always doing whatever it takes to get a job done right. It is this spirit of dedication and teamwork I would bring to the Executive Committee of the COWY Chapter of AFS, while continuing the tradition of well organized and relevant annual meetings. I would seek to continue fostering strong integration among the varied disciplines, agencies, institutions and private organizations that make up the membership of this organization that I owe so much to.

Inaugural Membership Drive

Hi folks, I am Tom Fresques, recently-anointed co-chair of the Membership Committee, along with Mr. Boyd Wright. So consider the following a light “twisting-of-the-arm” or plea from the new guy:

Before becoming a dues-paying member of AFS, my thought was “I gave at the office - why should I pay to join AFS?” We are obviously all passionate about aquatic species, streams, rivers, lakes, riparian areas, and the like. We all chose our professions for this passion (or glory), certainly not for money. And we all do a lot every day to help conserve and manage aquatic species and their habitats. So why should we give up our hard-earned money to pay into AFS you ask?!

Because it kicks as#!

But don't take my word for it. Please visit the parent society website to see all of the many benefits that AFS membership provides! It is easy to join just follow the simple instructions on the website and click away...SIMPLE!!



As long-standing or potential CO/WY AFS Chapter members I am requesting that you do one or more of the following: 1) renew your AFS membership if you haven't already, 2) if you have never been a dues paying member consider joining, 3) pass this along to others whom you think might be interested in joining. ***As a reminder, to be an official voting CO/WY AFS Chapter member, and to register for the annual meeting at the reduced rate, you have to be a dues-paying parent society member!***

See - membership really does have its privileges!

Thanks for your time and if you need time to mull over membership no worries...you can look for the CO/WY AFS Chapter Membership booth at the joint meeting in Laramie in March and join then!

Committee and Subunit Updates

Mentoring (Steve Gale, Lori Martin, Dana Winkelman, Darren Rhea)

Please remember to submit your nominations for the 2016 Outstanding Mentor Award to the Awards Committee (Jason.Burckhardt@wyo.gov). The 2014 Outstanding Mentor Award was presented to Dr. Brett Johnson at the Annual Meeting in Laramie.

Thanks to all those who submitted their Mentor Applications for 2016, we have some great opportunities for those who submit their Mentee Applications. Mentee Applications are **due March 15th**. Mentee application packages must include a contact and general information page, a student statement of interest, and one recommendation from a college/university professor or fisheries or wildlife professional. You can find the application form on our

Chapter website www.cowyafs.org under the “Mentoring Program” tab.

Our Committee Members will be at the Job Fair hosted by the Student Sub-units at this year's meeting in Laramie to answer questions on the Mentoring Program. In addition at this year's meeting, Mentee's from 2015 will be giving short presentations (with pictures!) on their experiences in the Mentoring Program during the Student Social at the Depot on Wednesday Night.

If you have additional questions please contact Steve Gale (Steve.Gale@wyo.gov), Lori Martin (Lori.Martin@state.co.us), Dana Winkelman (Dana.Winkelman@colostate.edu), or Darren Rhea (Darren.Rhea@wyo.gov).

CSU Student Subunit (Estevan Vigil) The CSU student subunit is looking forward to a busy and informative semester with multiple conference opportunities, events, and guest speakers. We are excited to announce that our bylaws have been accepted by the AFS parent chapter, officially making us a nationally recognized student subunit.

We have multiple members travelling to attend and present at professional meetings this semester. These events include: the Colorado Aquaculture Association meeting in Nathrop, Aquaculture 2016 in Las Vegas (at which one of our members will be receiving the joint US Aquaculture Society/AFS Fish Culture Section best Student Abstract Award), CO-WY AFS in Laramie, the Western Division meeting and Student Colloquium in Reno, and the 12th International Congress on the Biology of Fish in San Marcos, Texas.

We have three outreach/volunteer events and a speaker series planned for this semester. The subunit will assist CPW with their 2 community ice fishing clinics in addition to hosting our annual Derby. The **31st annual Evan Lefort Memorial College Lake Fishing Derby** attracts 100 anglers to compete for prizes and is the subunit's main fundraiser. The speaker series will cover topics ranging from AFS and AIS to large reservoir and native fish management. A detailed complete schedule of all of our events can be found on our website at <http://warnercnr.colostate.edu/afs-home>.

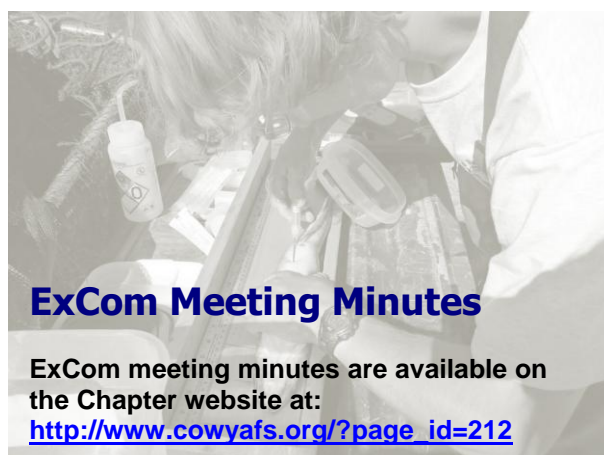
For up to date information about the CSU subunit and upcoming events please follow our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/American-Fisheries-Society-Colorado-State-University/450549101699139>

UW Student Subunit (Richard Walker) The University of Wyoming student subunit has been busy this fall semester. We have hosted monthly meetings with guest speakers that have presented on various fisheries topics. Our first meeting of the semester kicked off with aquatic-focused UW professors introducing themselves and their research to the subunit. Bobby Compton joined us for the October meeting to discuss why being part of AFS is important, as well as the associated benefits. During our November meeting, Kevin Gelwicks discussed the role of the Wyoming aquatic assessment crew and his job as the aquatic assessment crew director. We also participated in annual Brown Trout red counts on Spring Creek with Steve Gale in late October. Our subunit is beginning a project with

Steve Gale looking at a population of Iowa Darters from Huck Fin pond in Laramie to potentially help supplement low populations of darters in the Laramie and North Platte Rivers. We are currently in the process of planning the Western Division Student Colloquium that we will be hosting in Lander this April, and securing a venue for the Student Social for this year's CO/WY Chapter Meeting. Stay tuned for further details about these upcoming events.

CMU Student Subunit (Kelsi Antonelli)

Recent months have been quiet for the Colorado Mesa University Fish and Wildlife Club due to finals and Winter Break, but we plan to start the spring semester with a bang! We are currently putting together a club ice fishing trip for January, and formal meetings with guest speakers will resume in February. Along with fish and wildlife professionals, we hope to hear from some of our own students. A few of our members have completed internships/held jobs with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and others have done fish/wildlife research through CMU's biology department. We feel it would be beneficial for other club members to hear from these students about their experiences and be able to ask them questions, perhaps in panel form, at one of our meetings. At our February meeting, we will also finalize who will be attending the CO/WY AFS Annual Meeting and discuss designing and selling T-shirts with our new, CMU-approved logo on them as a fundraiser



ExCom Meeting Minutes

ExCom meeting minutes are available on the Chapter website at: http://www.cowyafs.org/?page_id=212

Photo credit: Zach Underwood

Mail-in Registration Form

Registration Form for the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society March 1-3, 2016 Hilton Garden Inn, Laramie, WY			
Name: _____			
Title: _____			
Affiliation: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: _____		E-Mail: _____	
AFS Member ID #: _____			
Early registration deadline for the meeting and continuing education workshop is January 31, 2016. Early registration is required to attend the banquet and lunch. Registration: Includes all breaks, Tues. and Wed. evening socials, and Business Meeting Lunch			
	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	
Regular Parent Society Member	\$155	\$175	\$ _____
Student or Young Professional Parent Society Member	\$70	\$85	\$ _____
Regular Non-Parent Society Member	\$170	\$190	\$ _____
Student or Young Professional Non-Parent Society Member	\$85	\$100	\$ _____
Retired	\$0	\$0	\$ _____
One-Day (Parent Society Members and Non-Members)	\$90	\$100	\$ _____
Tuesday Evening Welcoming Social (Free)		# attending	_____
Wednesday Evening Student Mentoring Social (Free)		# attending	_____
Banquet Registration			
Dinner Buffet <i>Thursday, March 3rd @ 6:00 PM</i>	Student	\$20	\$ _____
	All other registrants	\$30	\$ _____
	Additional tickets	\$35	\$ _____
Meal options: Check preference	Corn and Vegetable Ravioli	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
	Martini Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
	BBQ Beef Brisket	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
	Broiled Salmon	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
CO/WY Business Meeting Lunch Buffet (Included with registration)			
<i>Thursday, March 3rd</i>		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
Continuing Education Workshop Registration (Free)			
Communication in Science		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tuesday March 1 (8:00-5:00)</i>			
Genomics & Ecology of Catostomid Hybrids		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tuesday March 1 (9:00-12:00)</i>			
Morphological Characteristics of UCRB Catostomids and their Hybrids		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tuesday March 1 (1:00-5:00)</i>			
Make checks payable to: CO-WY AFS		Total Due	\$ _____
Send completed form and registration fee to: Kevin Gelwicks, Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., 528 S. Adams St., Laramie, WY 82070 Please contact Kevin for more information at (307) 745-5180 ext. 236 or kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov			

2015-2016 Chapter Officers and Committee Members

Chapter Officers		
President	Bobby Compton	bobby.compton@wyo.gov
Vice President	Rick Henderson	rhenderson01@fs.fed.us
Secretary/Treasurer	Kevin Gelwicks	kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov
Past-President	Dan Brauch	dan.brauch@state.co.us
UW Subunit President	Richard Walker	rwalker2442@gmail.com
CSU Subunit President	Estevan Vigil	afscsu@gmail.com
CMU Subunit President	Kelsi Antonelli	kantonel@mavs.mesa.edu
Standing Committees		
Arrangements	Steve Gale	steve.gale@wyo.gov
	Beth Bear	beth.bear@wyo.gov
Chapter Archivist	Greg Anderson (chair)	greg.anderson@wyo.gov
	Venice Beske	venice.beske@state.co.us
Continuing Education	Diana Miller (co-chair)	diana.miller@wyo.gov
	Dan Kowalski (co-chair)	Dan.kowalski@state.co.us
Environmental Policy	Rick Henderson	rhenderson01@fs.fed.us
	Jim White	j.white@state.co.us
	Laura Burckhardt	laura.burckhardt@wyo.gov
	Eric Fetherman	eric.fetherman@state.co.us
Membership	Boyd Wright (chair)	boyd.wright@state.co.us
	Tom Fresques	tom_fresques@blm.gov
Newsletter	Eric Fetherman (co-chair)	eric.fetherman@state.co.us
	Anna Senecal (co-chair)	anna.senecal@wyo.gov
Nominating Program	Dan Brauch	dan.brauch@state.co.us
	Jason Burckhardt	jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov
	Christina Barrineau	christina.barrineau@wyo.gov
Special Committees		
Aquaculture	Lars Alsager	lars.alsager@wyo.gov
Audio-Visual	Benjamin Felt	benjamin.felt@state.co.us
Awards	Jason Burckhardt	jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov
Endowment Funding	Travis Neebling	travis.neebing@wyo.gov
Fundraising	Paul Gerrity	paul.gerrity@wyo.gov
	Matt Kondratieff	matt.kondratieff@state.co.us
Gifts	Erin Sobel	erin.sobel@wyo.gov
Mentoring	Steve Gale	steve.gale@wyo.gov
	Lori Martin	lori.martin@state.co.us
	Darren Rhea	darren.rhae@wyo.gov
	Dana Winkelman	dana.winkelman@colostate.edu
Paper/Poster Judging	Mandi Brandt	mandi.brandt@state.co.us
Raffle	Boyd Wright (chair)	boyd.wright@state.co.us
	Adam Leiferman	adam.leiferman@wyo.gov
Registration	Kevin Gelwicks	kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov
Student Liaison	Eriek Hansen	erihansen@coloradomesa.edu
Website	Joe Skorupski	joe.skorupski@wyo.gov

News and Events

What is this summer CO/WY AFS Excom retreat I keep hearing about?

By Bobby Compton



So you think CO/WY AFS Chapter members are pretty cool, you have attended and presented your work at annual meetings, you have volunteered on various committees, and then you are miraculously elected Secretary-Treasurer. What just happened!? You are handed a big box of stuff – a gavel, an old printer, and a couple of 3-ring binders with receipts and bank statements. Past Excom members say you will figure it out- just read the bylaws and procedure manuals. They also tell you the upcoming commitment won't take up too much time – all very funny stuff. It's true, you figure out (trial by fire) how the Chapter runs and you succeed at various roles over a 4-year term. Your confidence grows annually.

Luckily for me, I've been able to participate in every summer retreat since its inception. The wise Ryan Fitzpatrick and savvy Paul Gerrity came up with the idea of meeting for a couple of days before or after the summer Excom meeting (officer switch-over) to get to know the people you are about to work with

over the coming years. Think about it, if not for this gathering, the Excom meets face-to-face for a half day in July and December, and then at the Chapter meeting –not much time to figure it all out as a team. The incoming president chooses the setting and does the planning, and is armed with a Chapter approved \$275 to make it happen. What happens over those couple of days is priceless. This outing allows for plenty of time to discuss Chapter matters, ask questions, discuss fiscal issues, and inform the incoming Secretary-Treasurer about the ins and outs of the Chapter – around a campfire instead of conference room. Finally, we are able to share work experiences and figure out how the other agencies or organizations do it....I mean figure out why the fisheries in Wyoming are far superior.

We've hiked to high mountain lakes for golden trout in the Wind River Range, navigated the remote Gunnison Gorge with rafts (OK – this Colorado fishery is pretty amazing), and floated lazily down the North Platte River on a pleasant Wyoming summer day. This retreat is just one of the perks of volunteering for a great organization full of top-notch earthlings.



News and Events

Presentations

Workshops

Field Trips

Banquet

Vendors

THE 41st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

In Collaboration with the California-Nevada Chapter

*"FISHERIES, SOCIETY, AND THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD: CHALLENGING
OUR PERCEPTION OF SCIENCE, POLICY, AND MANAGEMENT"*

Over 200 presentations on fisheries and aquatic resource issues

Information: <http://wd2016.fisheries.org/>

21-24 March 2016

Grand Sierra

2500 E 2nd St, Reno, NV 89502



The deadline for submitting abstracts is 21 January 2016

We invite you to present a paper or poster at the upcoming WDAFS annual meeting. More than a dozen symposia comprising a wide range of relevant topics have been organized for the meeting. If your oral presentation abstract is accepted, you will be invited to present a paper in one of the special symposia or contributed papers sessions. Abstracts for poster presentations are also welcome. More than one abstract per author/presenter is allowed. We will let you know by early February if your abstract has been accepted.

The abstract submission deadline is 21 January 2016. To submit an abstract, go to the [2016 WDAFS meeting website](http://wd2016.fisheries.org/program/abstract-submission/), or click on the link below:

<http://wd2016.fisheries.org/program/abstract-submission/>

**Winter Training Opportunities for Acoustic Tag & Hydroacoustic Assessments
Co-Hosted by HTI and the University of Washington (UW)
Student Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
at the UW School of Aquatic and Fishery Science**



Using Acoustic Tags to Track Fish

4-5 February 2016

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or at University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

http://www.HTIsonar.com/at_short_course.htm

This short course addresses all aspects of tracking fish movement with acoustic tags, including three-dimensional tracking with sub-meter resolution. The course includes hands-on-operation and a variety of applications are covered. Lunch is provided. To reserve a seat or ask a question, email **HTI** at support@HTIsonar.com.

Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations. http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm



Using Hydroacoustics for Fisheries Assessment

11-12 February 2016

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Attend Online or at University of Washington School of Aquatic Fishery Sciences, Seattle, WA

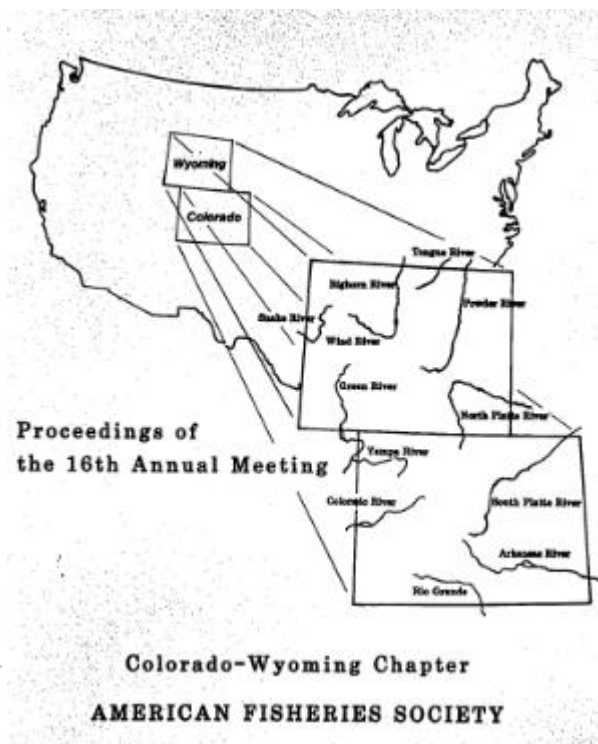
http://www.HTIsonar.com/ha_short_course.htm

The hydroacoustic short course covers mobile and fixed-location survey techniques, and subjects include basic hydroacoustic theory, deployment logistics, data collection and processing, as well as typical results. Split-beam, single-beam, and multi-beam frequency techniques are discussed in detail. Lunch is provided. To reserve a seat or ask a question, email **HTI** at support@HTIsonar.com.

Tuition Rate Offer (50% discount) for university students, university staff, non-profit and tribal organizations. http://www.htisonar.com/Training_Special_Offer.htm



Colorado-Wyoming Chapter
American Fisheries Society



REPRESENTING ALL DISCIPLINES OF FISHERY SCIENCE

American Fisheries Society
COLORADO-WYOMING CHAPTER

1981-82 Chapter Report

REPRESENTING ALL DISCIPLINES OF FISHERY SCIENCE



AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

COLORADO-WYOMING CHAPTER