

THE ANGLER

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

www.cowyafs.org

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The Vent

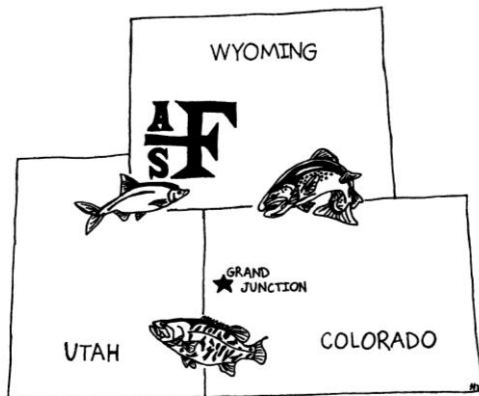
Rick Henderson

This year we celebrate the fifth joint meeting of the Utah and Colorado/Wyoming Chapters of the American Fisheries Society. We first gathered in 1992 followed by meetings in 1998, 2003, and most recently co-hosted the Western Division AFS meeting in 2004. The central premise for these joint meetings has been the similarity in aquatic species, conservation of our natives, and management of sport fisheries. Each meeting has included talks on native cutthroat trout and the Colorado River Recovery Program, reservoir management, and aquatic nuisance species control and eradication. It has been 13 years since we last held a joint meeting and I am looking forward to re-connecting with our Utah colleagues and continuing discussions on these and other emerging issues.

This year's theme "Crossing Borders – Crossing Barriers" was our attempt to emphasize the joint nature of the meeting and highlight programs that span geographic, organizational, scientific, and cultural boundaries. The meeting will start with a plenary session on Wednesday morning which highlights four programs that are addressing emerging issues by thinking/working outside our traditional boundaries:

- **Paul Burnett** – Building Collaboration in the Weber River through the Weber River Partnership

CROSSING BORDERS – CROSSING BARRIERS



JOINT MEETING – GRAND JUNCTION 2017

- **Wendy Estes-Zumpf** – Rocky Mountain Amphibian Project: a collaborative effort to monitor amphibians in the Rocky Mountain Region
- **Dave Speas** – Use of passive integrated transponder technology in recovery of endangered fish in the Upper Colorado and San Juan River basins
- **Mike Young** - The Aquatic eDNA Atlas: an open-access, all-lands database for all species in the American West

We are also looking forward to other posters and presentations that further address this subject.

The final call for papers has now passed and it is looking like we will have at least two concurrent sessions. In addition to the general sessions, there was interest in hosting three symposia. These will focus on 1) new techniques using PIT technology, 2) non-native species removal efforts, and 3) boreal toad research and restoration. The meeting will also include two continuing education courses that are highlighted later in the Newsletter.

Finally, we have always struggled with participation when holding meetings outside of the Fort Collins, Laramie, and Cheyenne triangle. Tight travel budgets, out-of-state travel restrictions, and a long commute are proving difficult for many of you. So I wanted to personally thank our members from Wyoming who have been supportive of holding this meeting in Grand Junction, continue to work on various meeting planning committees, and are working hard to attend.

I look forward to seeing you all in Grand Junction.

Utah & CO-WY Annual Meeting February 21-23, 2017 Grand Junction, CO

The 2017 Joint Annual Meeting of the Utah and Colorado/Wyoming Chapters of the American Fisheries Society will be held February 21-23,

2017 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Grand Junction, Colorado. We will be celebrating the 5th Joint Meeting of the Chapters and focusing on our theme of Crossing Borders – Crossing Barriers. The meeting will kick off with two continuing education courses on Tuesday afternoon, February 21st followed by a welcoming reception in the Grand Ballroom Foyer with a light dinner.

A block of rooms has been reserved at a rate of \$97 per night. This includes a free buffet breakfast for each guest staying in the room. Room reservations can be made by calling the Hotel at [970-257-8133](tel:970-257-8133) and booking under “American Fisheries Society” or click [Here](#) to follow link. Group cutoff date to make a reservation is February 7th.

Meeting registration information is available on the Colorado/Wyoming AFS website (cowyafs.org). **The early registration deadline has passed but you can still register up until the meeting or at the meeting.**

2017 Meeting Agenda at a Glance

Tuesday, February 21

1:00pm – 5:00pm: Continuing Education – Innovative developments and technical considerations in the use of PIT-tag technology
1:00pm – 5:00pm: Continuing Education – Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling for freshwater species: a practitioner’s perspective on its development, characteristics, and application
5:00pm – 7:00pm: Registration
6:00pm – 10:00pm: Welcoming social

Wednesday, February 22

7:00am – 5:00pm: Registration
8:00am – 10:00am: Opening remarks and Plenary session
10:20am – 12:00pm: Contributed papers
12:00pm – 1:30pm: Lunch
1:30pm – 3:10pm: Contributed papers
3:30pm – 4:30pm: Poster session
5:00pm – 10:00pm: Student social

Thursday, February 23

7:00am – 5:00pm: Registration

8:00am – 9:40pm: Contributed papers

10:00pm – 11:20pm: Contributed papers

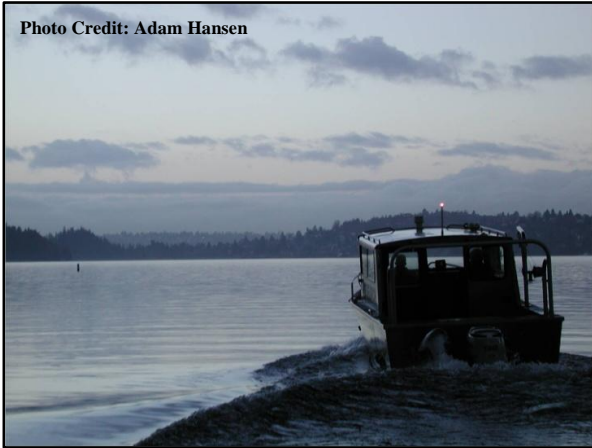
11:20 – 1:00pm: Business lunch

1:00pm – 5:00pm: Boreal Toad Symposia and contributed papers

6:00pm – 10:00pm: Awards banquet and raffle

Meeting Deadlines

Photo Credit: Adam Hansen



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

February 7th

✓ Hotel Block Reservations

February 1st

✓ Photo Contest Entries

Session moderator volunteers wanted! If you are interested in moderating a session, please contact Laura, Jason, or Christina.

For additional information, or to

volunteer, contact: Laura Leslie Burckhardt at 307-250-1213 (lleslie@swca.com), Jason Burckhardt at 307-527-7125 (jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov), or Christina Barrineau at 307-745-5180 (christina.barrineau@wyo.gov).

Awards Nominations:
CO-WY Chapter AFS Awards

Thinking about that “character” you work with?
Know someone who is involved in an infamous fish

folly? There's an award for that! Please take a moment and think about your professional peers that have committed noteworthy acts deserving of public roasting. It is your responsibility to make sure our professionals receive this recognition.

Leaky Boot Award: Recognizes the most outrageous behavior of any fisheries student or professional in the year subsequent to the chapter's annual meeting. The Leaky Boot was not awarded last year.

Please limit applications to one page and send to:

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 other awards nominations has passed.



Volunteers Needed

Students!

CO/WY AFS needs your help to run the 2017 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 \$35.00 and eight hours will count as \$70.00 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 Erick Hansen at Erihansen@Coloradomesa.edu

Paper and Poster Judges!

Volunteers are needed to judge papers and posters at the 2017 Joint Annual Meeting of the Colorado-Wyoming and Utah Chapters of the American Fisheries Society in Grand Junction. We need 30-40 judges from Colorado and Wyoming (combined) to have three judges per paper and poster, so a great deal of help is needed from CO/WY AFS members. Government agency, private consulting professionals, and college professors 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 @ 970-768-9649 (Mandi.Brandt@state.co.us) or Mark Belk @ 801-422-4152 (Mark_Belk@byu.edu)



Raffle



We are looking forward to a lively raffle and auction to complement the awards portion of the banquet at our 2017 Annual Meeting. We will also be conducting a silent auction, a game raffle (with prizes), a general raffle, and a member photo contest.

To maximize our fundraising efforts, 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

Stephen Siddons, WY Game and Fish,
528 South Adams Street
Laramie, WY 82070
Stephen.Siddons@wyo.gov

The **RAFFLE** is now accepting **CREDIT CARDS!**



2017 Colorado-Wyoming AFS Photo Contest and Slideshow

Please consider submitting your high quality fish, wildlife, and landscape photos to the CO/WY AFS Raffle Committee for the 2017 Member Photo Contest. A special sub-committee will vote on the top three photographs, which will be framed and featured in the live or silent auction during the banquet at the joint Annual Meeting between the Colorado/Wyoming and Utah Chapters, on February 23, 2017. Besides helping us out with our fundraising efforts, you can be honored for your photographic skills and may even win a prize! **The deadline for submissions is February 1.** 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 email your high resolution digital photographs for the Photo Contest to: boyd.wright@state.co.us



Photo Caption: The three member photo contest winners from the 2016 Annual Meeting. In clockwise order: (1) "Golden Opportunity" by Mark Smith, (2) "Hooked" by Mark Smith (3) "Grayling" by Mark Smith.

In addition to the photo contest, **the Utah Chapter will be putting together a slide show** that will run during the banquet to showcase who we are as fishery professionals in Colorado, Wyoming, and Utah. Please provide any of your epic, or otherwise intriguing, field and lab photos from the past year to be played during the slide show.

Please email your photos for the slide show to: Brian Englebert at bengelbert@utah.gov.

Continuing Education Workshop Utah & CO-WY AFS

This year's Continuing Education is comprised of two courses:

(1) Innovative developments and technical considerations in the use of PIT-tag technology

Instructed by:

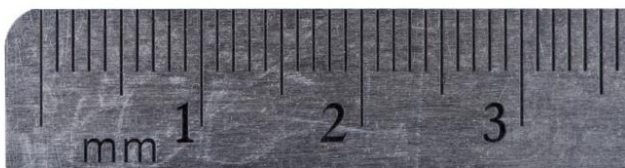
Peter MacKinnon, Biomark Project Manager and
Research Associate, Utah State University

And

Mary Conner, Research Associate Professor, Utah
State University

The goal of the continuing education short course is to provide an overview of the uses of pit tag technology in fisheries research with a focus on the use of passive pit tag antenna arrays in the unique environments of the Colorado River Basin. The course will cover the basics of and possible problems related to; site selection, system design, power sources, cost, remote data access, and continued system monitoring and maintenance. The course will include a section discussing how the use of pit tag antenna arrays can help answer specific research questions and a brief overview of the models available for processing pit tag antenna data. The course will NOT be intended to teach users how to build antennas or analyze their data. The course is intended for researchers and biologists who are considering using stationary or mobile passive interrogation arrays and are seeking an overview of the possibilities, costs and problems involved to aid in their decision making process. Participants will be encouraged to share experiences such that we can all learn from each other.

Did you know?



(2) Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling for freshwater species: a practitioner's perspective on its development, characteristics, and application

Instructed by:

Mike Young, Research Fisheries Biology, Forest
Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Missoula, MT

Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling is a rapidly developing tool for the assessment of species in aquatic environments. The objective of this short course is to describe what eDNA sampling involves, from marker development to field application to results interpretation, with an emphasis on the practical aspects of using it to answer questions about fish, amphibians, mussels, macroinvertebrates, mammals, and birds in freshwater habitats. I'll highlight some of the primary advantages and weaknesses, and identify some of the uncertainties that still need to be resolved. Finally, there will be a hands-on demonstration of how to take an eDNA sample, with all the equipment on display and working, with a discussion of some of the nuances of sample collection.

Radio Frequency Identification or RFID was introduced to fisheries science in the Pacific Northwest in the mid-1980's through Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag. PIT-tags were first used to evaluate survival of anadromous salmonids through the hydroelectric projects in the Columbia and Snake rivers. Innovations such as multiplexing antenna readers, smaller high performance tags, and larger more robust antennas have resulted in the widespread application of PIT-tag technology as a fisheries data collection tool.

PIT-tag detection antennas have traditionally been used in the form of fixed antenna arrays detecting PIT-tagged fish as they move through specific areas of a river covered by the antennas. As the use of PIT-tag technology becomes more geographically widespread, the need for alternative detection techniques and methods has become apparent. The Colorado River Basin presents some unique challenges in fish detection whether using more traditional sampling techniques (e.g., electro-fishing, seining, trammel netting, hoop netting) or when using PIT-tag technology. In this basin we are dealing with long lived fishes that do not predictably migrate annually to the exact same spawning grounds and have very diverse habitat use over their life span. Innovative new styles and types of fish detection antennas have been developed and tested, driven by the needs and ideas of biologists working in the field.

New Secretary-Treasurer!

It happens every so often that a candidate steps up to the Secretary-Treasurer's plate unopposed, probably because no one wants to run against them! We are pleased to announce that Jason Burckhardt is our new Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations Jason!



Jason Burckhardt

I believe the American Fisheries Society plays an important role in the development of fisheries professionals and advancement of aquatic sciences. AFS promotes science-based fisheries conservation, provides networking opportunities, and assists in the development of fisheries professionals at all levels. AFS has played an important role in my professional development and I look forward to the opportunity to serve the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter.

I grew up at the confluence of two great rivers, the Mississippi and Missouri in a small town called Portage des Sioux, MO. The Mississippi River was literally a stone's throw from my childhood home. As a youngster my free time was spent exploring the river, its backwaters and sloughs and their contents. I recall one of my favorite gifts as a child was a fine-meshed "butterfly net"; with it and a minnow bucket I'd embark on an adventure and return home to fill various aquaria with my findings. Of course, I'd often substitute a fishing rod for the net.

I attended Truman State University, Missouri intending on a Biology major, but a career choice still uncertain. It wasn't until I noticed a job posting on campus that I realized those things I did for fun as a youth could be a career. I enthusiastically applied for and acquired my first fisheries job as an undergraduate working as a Stream Research Assistant for the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). Truman State University did not have an AFS student subunit, so it was a supervisor with MDC that introduced me to the

American Fisheries Society. I presented at the 1997 MO AFS meeting and remember thinking what a great way for fisheries professionals to share and refine ideas. From that point on I was "hooked" on AFS.

After completing my bachelors in Biology, an opportunity to work with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) presented itself. I looked forward to the challenge of working out west with salmonids in streams and rivers that were much different from those with which I was familiar. I moved to Laramie in the spring of 1998 with the intention of working my eight month contract, and have called Wyoming home ever since. I was fortunate enough to work jobs with the WGFD for three statewide fisheries crews, from 1998 through 2000, and then beginning graduate school at the University of Wyoming, under the advisement of Wayne Hubert. While in grad school I began dating my wife, Laura, a fellow fish squeezer. Since graduate school I have worked as a regional fisheries biologist in Cody. Laura and I have two little ones, Madison (6 years) and Joshua (4 years) and we enjoy spending time together and introducing our little ones to our great out-of-doors!

I've been involved with AFS participating at the student subunit, chapter, division, and parent society levels. My involvement has included serving as an officer in the UW subunit, serving on or chairing Program Committees for the Chapter and Western Division meetings as well as chairing the Awards Committee and serving on the Environmental Policy Committee. I have served as the AFS Certification Appeals Board Representative for the last two terms.

I have always valued my opportunity to serve the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter and look forward to the opportunity to further this involvement. I would like to continue the good work this Chapter has been doing, fostering the development of fisheries students through the subunits, and the development of fisheries professionals at all levels through the dissemination of fisheries information at annual meetings and continuing education opportunities. I look forward to improving our Chapter by identifying potential barriers to membership and working to remove those barriers to increase involvement with the multitude of fisheries professionals within our states that are not involved with AFS. I look forward to working with a great group or people we have in our Chapter serving you in the coming years.

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 credit: Adam Hansen

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

CO/WY Student Social February 22nd, 2017

The student subunits will be hosting the Wednesday night social at the Hospitality Suite at Suplizio Field from 5-10pm. The field is 2 miles from the DoubleTree and a Shuttle service will be provided.

The evening is designed to encourage mingling between students and professionals. Mentors and job-seekers should plan to meet at 5pm. 2016 student mentees will give presentations on their experiences followed by professionals discussing upcoming job opportunities. Dinner and beverages provided by Famous Daves and Palisades Brewery.

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 Kristina Morben (kamorben@mavs.coloradoadmesa.edu) in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Thanks and see you there!



Committee and Subunit Updates

University of Wyoming Student Subunit [Bryan M. Maitland (@bryanmaitland)]

The University of Wyoming Student Subunit had an exciting fall semester! We held our first meeting over a BBQ where new officers were elected, and folks got to catch up and share fun summer stories. Our October meeting was comprised of short presentations by graduate students ranging from Pacific Lamprey movements on the Columbia River to regulatory guidelines for fisheries management in Wyoming and parasitism in invasive snails.



AFS UW subunit field trip to sample Tiger Muskie at North Crow Reservoir, Dec. 10, 2016. Clockwise from top-left: Professor Annika Walters electrofishing with two undergraduates; WDGf staffer John Fennell and past UW AFS president Rich Walker show undergrads how to pull gill nets, and get some boat time; group shot; Professor Annika Walters and current UW AFS president Bryan Maitland show undergrads how to pick fish from gillnets. **Photographs courtesy of Professor Frank Rahel.**

The end of the semester was most inspiring; we organized two talks on the fishes of Lake Tanganyika, put on a Tiger Muskie sampling field-trip to North Crow Reservoir with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and held a joint fundraiser with The Wildlife Society – Beast Feast 2016: Surf n’ Turf edition!

Our November and December meetings were excitingly themed around fish research in Lake Tanganyika. Dr. Katie Wagner (a UW evolutionary biologist) and her graduate student Jimena Goucher-Benavides spoke about their work on the littoral cichlid fishes and lesser known pelagic community of Lake Tanganyika (check out the media outreach project *Into the Rift* that highlights the work of Dr. Wagner and her collaborators in Kigoma, Lake Tanganyika).

The Muskie sampling trip was a great experience. With our AFS faculty advisors, Annika Walters and Frank Rahel, and John Fennell of the WGFD, we processed gill nets, backpack electrofished the shoreline, and hook and line sampled for stocked Tiger Muskie. While we did not collect any Tigers, students were able to gain valuable experience using

a variety of common fish sampling techniques and enjoyed a fall day by a beautiful lake.

Finally, Beast Feast 2016 was a tremendous success! This event is the annual community fundraiser for the Wyoming Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, and we partnered with them to raise funds for both of our organizations. In addition to bringing together ordinarily disparate groups of Laradise denizens over sweet and savory wild game and fish dishes, we collectively raised ~\$1,200 dollars! Notably, we also received kudos from both Darren Miller (Vice-president of TWS) and Bob Lanka (Central Mountains & Plains Rep, TWS; WDGf) in honor of leading the way in joint AFS/TWS activities as we look forward to our joint National Meeting in Reno, 2019. I will close by saying that while a grouse dish won best in show (which was, admittedly, delicious...), us fishy folks represented the (cooked) slimy side of the world exceedingly well!

Colorado Mesa University Student Subunit
(Kristina Morben)

The CMU subunit has been very busy this year. We have gained insight into the professional world of wildlife and fisheries from invited talks by current

AFS officers, professors, the US Bureau of Reclamation, and the US Forest Service. We have had multiple fundraising events, and have also participated in various volunteer opportunities with the local Trout Unlimited chapter, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Our biggest event this year was our “Panel of Professionals”. We hosted 22 professionals to talk with students about job opportunities in fish and wildlife and the various career paths available. About 60 students were able to participate in this job fair opportunity. Students were allowed to bring their resumes and ask questions about the various agencies that were represented: CPW, the US Forest Service, the US Bureau of Reclamation, the BLM, and more.

This spring semester we are already busy planning the Student Social for the upcoming annual meeting in Grand Junction. Other events on the calendar include (1) a wild game feast and raffle known as “Beast Feast” to help raise money for the subunit, (2) a fishing clinic hosted by Lori Martin (CPW) for the subunit in April, and (3) the subunit will be assisting with the Outdoor Wilderness Lab (OWL) program on the Grand Mesa in May. Overall, we look forward to working with more agencies and we are currently looking into additional outdoor event opportunities (e.g., hiking, rafting, and fishing trips) for the subunit.

Colorado State University Student Subunit (Guilio Del Piccolo)

The Colorado State University subunit is having another exciting year. As always, we are holding bi-weekly meetings featuring talks from fisheries professionals. Professionals who spoke at our meetings this past fall semester included: April Kraft of CPW, Matt Kondratieff of CPW, Chris Carroll from the USFS, Chris Smith from the USFWS, Cody Tyler of CPW, and Caitlin Peterson from the University of Wyoming. This spring, we are starting an exciting project on College Lake here in Fort Collins. Brendon Sucher, our current Vice President, is leading this effort. We plan to remove half of the northern pike in the lake, which have notoriously low condition factor, in hopes of improving the growth and condition of the fish that remain. If so, this should help please anglers at our annual fishing derby fundraiser held each spring on the lake. We are also planning to help CPW run ice fishing clinics this winter. If anyone would like to present at our

meetings or would like us to get involved in a project with them feel free to reach out at AFSCSU@gmail.com.

Membership Committee Update

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...

...please visit our membership booth at the Joint CO/WY and UT Chapter Meeting located next to registration to see for yourself 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!

For those long-standing members or folks contemplating membership, please 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!*

We look forward to seeing you all in Grand Junction and look for some sweet freebies at our booth!

Tom Fresques (tfresqu@blm.gov)
Boyd Wright (boyd.wright@state.co.us)

WDAFS Scholarship Committee Update

WESTERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY EUGENE MAUGHAN GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION APRIL 1st

The Western Division is pleased to announce that applications for its graduate-level student scholarships are now being solicited. This scholarship program provides up

to \$5,000 annually in scholarships to masters or doctoral students in the general area of fisheries science with one to three awards to individual students. Beginning in 2002, the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation established the William Trachtenberg Memorial Scholarship Fund, which augments the Western Division scholarship program. This fund provides up to \$600 annually to a graduate-level student conducting studies on fisheries sustainability. Applications for the Western Division scholarship program will automatically be considered for the Sustainable Fisheries Foundation scholarship program as well. An award committee of five fisheries scientists from the Western Division will make the decision regarding the award of scholarships from both programs. Selection criteria include demonstration of:

1. Excellent scholarship as evidenced by grades in rigorous course work during the last 60 hours as an undergraduate and during graduate studies.
2. Potential for future contributions to the fisheries profession through management, research, or teaching.
3. Significant progress toward attaining a graduate degree in fisheries science with a defined thesis or dissertation project.

The 2017 scholarships will be awarded at the annual meeting of WDAFS in Missoula, Montana, May 22-25, 2017.

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

1. Applicants must be a member of the American Fisheries Society or have submitted 2017 membership materials by the time of application. *AFS Member number should be placed on application.*
2. Applicants must have completed one semester or two quarters in a graduate degree program at a university within the geographic boundaries of the Western Division.
3. Applicants must have a major field of study that is related to fisheries or aquatic science.
4. Applicants must submit an application package (electronically preferred) that contains of each of the following:

A. A letter to the award committee that includes (*three separate items*):

1. A brief description of the student's degree program and the anticipated date of completion.

2. A statement of the applicant's career goals and reasons for applying for the scholarship (up to 200 words).
3. A statement of the academic and professional activities and contributions to AFS and the fisheries science profession (up to 200 words).

B. Copies of a resume (including professional activities, pertinent publications, and scientific presentations) and graduate transcripts. **Please list GRE scores in your resume; a copy of the original form is not necessary.**

C. A one-page abstract outlining the goals, objectives, design, methods and expected outcome from the thesis or dissertation project.

D. Letters of reference from two faculty members (one must be the graduate students advisor) familiar with the student's background and abilities. Letters may be sent separately by the individual providing the reference.

The application package should be sent electronically (or postmarked) no later than April 1, 2017 to:

Bob Gresswell, Western Division Scholarship Award Committee
USGS-NOROCK
2327 University Way, Suite 2
Bozeman, MT 59715
406-994-7085
bgresswell@usgs.gov



See page 15 for more Western Division travel grant opportunities for students and professionals!!

Mail-In Registration Form

Registration Form for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society February 21-23, 2017 Doubletree Inn, Grand Junction, CO			
Name: _____			
Title: _____			
Affiliation: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: _____		E-Mail: _____	
AFS Member ID #: _____			
Early registration deadline for the meeting is January 20, 2017.			
Registration: Includes Breaks, Tue & Wed evening socials, Wed Lunch and Thurs Busn. Mtg. 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, February 23rd @ 6:00 PM</i>	Student	\$20	\$ _____
	All other registrants	\$30	\$ _____
	Additional tickets	\$30	\$ _____
Meal options: Check preference	Grilled Flank Steak	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
	Pan Seared Chicken	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
	Mushroom-Herb Fettuccine	<input type="checkbox"/>	# _____
Lunch (Included with registration)		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Wednesday, February 22nd @ 12:00 PM</i>			
CO/WY Business Meeting Lunch Buffet (Included with registration)		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Thursday, February 23rd @ 12:00 PM</i>			
Continuing Education Workshop Registration (Free)			
Environmental DNA (eDNA) Sampling for Freshwater Species		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tuesday, February 21 @ 1:00 PM</i>			
Advances in PIT Tag Technology		Check if attending <input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Tuesday, February 21 @ 1:00 PM</i>			
Make checks payable to: CO-WY AFS		Total Due	\$ _____
Send completed form and registration fee to:			
Eric Fetherman, CO/WY AFS Secretary-Treasurer, 317 W. Prospect Rd., Fort Collins, CO 80526.			
Please contact Eric for more information at (970) 472-4436 or Eric.Fetherman@state.co.us			

2016-2017 Chapter Officers and Committee Members

CO/WY Officers	Committee Member Position	Email
Rick Henderson	President	rhenderson01@fs.fed.us
Bobby Compton	Past-President	bobby.compton@wyo.gov
Kevin Gelwicks	Vice President	kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov
Eric Fetherman	Secretary/Treasurer	eric.fetherman@state.co.us
Bryan Maitland	UW Subunit President	bmaitlan@uwyo.edu
Guilio Del Piccolo	CSU Subunit President	afscsu@gmail.com
Kristina Morben	CMU Subunit President	kamorben@mavs.coloradomesa.edu
<hr/>		
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	Lori Martin	lori.martin@state.co.us
Continuing Education	Dan Kowalski	dan.kowalski@state.co.us
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	Laura Burchhardt	laura.burckhardt@wyo.gov
<hr/>		
Special Committees		
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Audio-Visual	Benjamin Felt	benjamin.felt@state.co.us
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Eriek Hansen	Student Liaison	erihansen@coloradomesa.edu
Website	Joe Skorupski	joe.skorupski@wyo.gov

2017 Annual Meeting Sponsors!

Barr Engineering: \$500/Colorado River Cutthroat Trout



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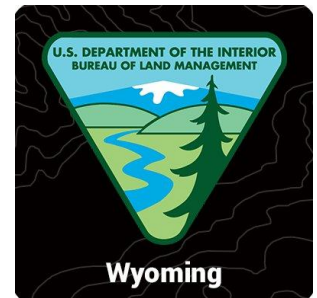


Northstate Environmental: \$1,000/Sauger



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BLM Wyoming: \$500/Colorado River Cutthroat



CO/WY USFS: \$500/Colorado River Cutthroat Trout

Utah DNR: \$15,000/Virgin River Chub



Other News, Events, and Announcements

Western Division Travel Grant Application due February 13th, 2017!

Here is the link to the updated travel grant application [2017 WDAFS Travel Grant Application](#). Please distribute the best you can. All application details can be found in the form but quickly, deadline is Feb. 13th, 2017.

Contact Jackie Watson if you have any questions: jackiewatson@utah.gov are eligible to vote on chapter business based on the AFS Constitution.

Riparian Challenge Award Nominations due February 15th, 2017!



Photo credit: Greg Policky

The Western Division of AFS Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee would like to announce the call for 2017 Riparian Challenge Awards. Please consider entering a project you have worked on or nominating a colleague's project.

Winners will be announced at the 2017 WDAFS meeting in Missoula, Montana May 21 - 26, and will receive a \$500 travel reimbursement to attend the meeting as well as a plaque of recognition. Entries must be received by February 15th, 2017. **Please contact Tracy Wendt for entry forms and additional information:** [\(406\) 214 2868](tel:4062142868), tracywendt@gmail.com.

Thank you!