



# THE ANGLER

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

[www.cowyafs.org](http://www.cowyafs.org)

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## **The Vent** **Kevin Gelwicks**

I hope this issue of the Angler finds you amidst yet another exciting field season. I don't know about you, but to me it seems like the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter's Annual Meeting is a distant memory.

If you were not able to make it to the Chapter's annual meeting this year, you missed a good one. The meeting was held in Laramie on February 27 through March 1, 2018 and was attended by 210 individuals. There were 49 professional presentations and 7 posters submitted and the meeting was kicked off with a plenary session focused on the use of citizen scientists and volunteers for fisheries management and research. Thanks go to our guest speakers for the plenary including Dr. Brett Johnson, Robb Keith, Fletcher Jacobs and Dr. Brian Barber. There were also two excellent free continuing education courses offered including a course on using R for data analysis, wrangling, modeling and visualization as well as a course on Wyoming's fish parasites. Thanks to instructors Shannon Albeke at UW and Brandon Taro and his coworkers at the WGFD Fish Health Lab for teaching these excellent courses.

Also, many thanks to all the individuals who volunteered their time to serve on committees over the past year. Over 32 Chapter members and officers spent countless hours putting together this year's annual meeting. All of their help and support made my job easy and I cannot thank you all enough. I would also like to thank my fellow officers including Rick Henderson, Eric Fetherman and Jason Burckhardt for all of the help and support over the past year as well as all of the officers before them who provided the resources for future officers to succeed.



Through generous donations from a variety of sponsors, as well as revenue from our annual meeting raffle and auctions, the Chapter's bank account has been steadily increasing. Much of this money has gone into benefits for the membership, such as free continuing education courses, scholarships for members to attend Society and Western Division meetings, investments in the student subunits and the Western Division Student Colloquium, as well as small grants for a variety of projects. At this year's Annual Business Meeting, the membership voted to put even more of this money to use to help fund a scholarship endowment at Colorado Mesa University similar to endowments already in place at Colorado State University and the University of Wyoming. Up to \$12,500 of the Chapter's savings will match donations to form an endowment fund of at least \$25,000 that will perpetually fund an annual student scholarship for our youngest student subunit.

It has been an honor and a privilege to represent the Chapter as President over the past year. As part of my duties, I had the opportunity to interact with leaders from all of the chapters in the Western Division. Through these interactions, I learned a great deal about the challenges and opportunities the other chapters face. In addition, I was able to reflect on the fact that we have a lot to be thankful for, including strong membership, strong financial standing and one of the only functioning mentoring programs in the Division. In addition, we are one of the few chapters that include members from two states, increasing our ability to network and learn from each other. Thank you to everyone in the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter for helping to make this the best Chapter in the American Fisheries Society.



Colorado-Wyoming Chapter President Kevin Gelwicks (left) with plenary session speakers (from left to right) Robb Keith (Wyoming Game and Fish), Dr. Brian Barber (University of Wyoming) and Dr. Brett Johnson (Colorado State University). Not pictured is speaker Fletcher Jacobs (Colorado Parks and Wildlife).



## Business Meeting Minutes

Turn to pages 12-14 for 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

## 2019 CO/WY Meeting

Mark those calendars! The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held February 26-28 in Fort Collins at the Hilton.



**The Leaky Boot** was awarded to **Paul Jones** of Colorado Parks and Wildlife for taking his work truck places no one thought possible. Pictured is Russell Japuntich accepting the award for Paul.



## 2018 Annual Meeting Award Recipients

All photos credit Brian Avila

**The “Max” Award of Merit** went to **Douglas Silver** for his major contributions to advancing the fisheries profession and outstanding effort in aquatic resource conservation. Pictured is Dr. Brett Johnson accepting the award for Douglas.



**Award of Excellence** was awarded to **Steve Sharon** of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department for 40 years of service advancing fish culture techniques, improving hatchery operations and enhancing fisheries throughout the state, the region and nationally, including 20 years as the Fish Culture Supervisor.



## 2018 Annual Meeting Award Recipients

All photos credit Brian Avila

Best Paper Professional (Scientific): **Kevin Thompson** The cost of spawning: weight loss in Bluehead and Flannemouth Suckers



Best Student Paper: **Gabe Barrile** Habitat use and body temperature influence Boreal Toad disease risk in western Wyoming.



Best Paper Professional (Informational): **Frank Rahel** Pathways of unauthorized fish introductions and types of management responses

Best Professional Poster: **Diana Miller** A Tale of two lakes

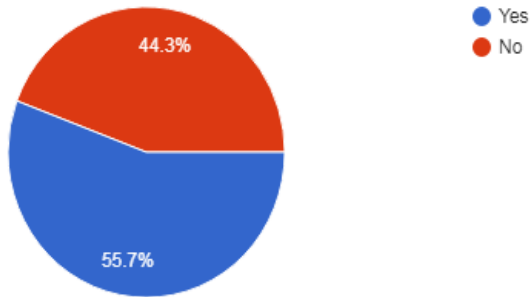
Best Student Poster: **Tucker Brauer** Efficacy of using angler-caught Burbot to estimate population rate functions

Certificate of Appreciation: **Rick Henderson**, Past President

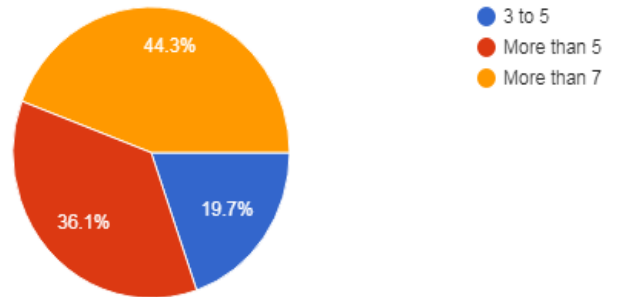




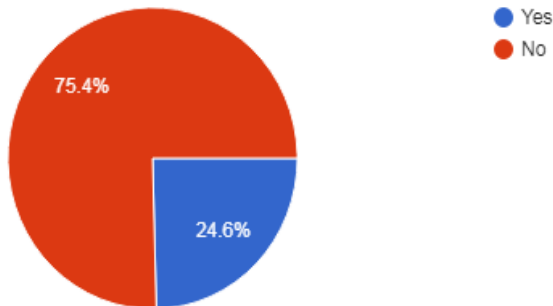
## 2018 Membership Program Survey Highlights



The membership was split over whether or not to incorporate use of a Smartphone App to reduce program cost and save paper at future Chapter Meetings



The majority of those polled indicated that they would like to see a minimum of 7 posters to justify holding a poster session at Chapter Meetings.

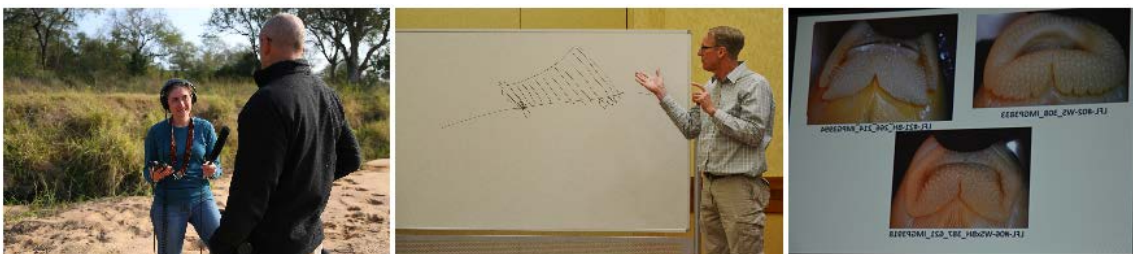


Most surveyed did not wish to see an additional day added to meetings to avoid concurrent sessions

The report of the Program Survey many of you completed is now available. Some highlights are summarized here, or you can turn to pages 15-17 for all the details.

## Continuing Education

The Continuing Education committee is soliciting ideas for future continuing education courses. If you would like to see a particular course offered, please contact [diana.miller@wyo.gov](mailto:diana.miller@wyo.gov) or [dan.kowalski@state.co.us](mailto:dan.kowalski@state.co.us).



## Thank you to our 2018 meeting Donors and Sponsors!

### Cutthroat Trout (\$2,000+)



### Sauger (\$1,000 - \$1,999)



### Orangethroat Darter (up to \$999)



### Auction, Raffle, and Beverage Sponsors

**Amy McMahon Illustrations**

**Wyoming Anglers**

**Becca Schlaff Art**

**Zach Even Art**

**Bill Bradshaw**

**Blue Mesa Lumber**

**Burris Optics**

**Big Game Bone Artistry**

**Cheyenne Frontier Days**

**Dan Brauch**

**Dead Drift Apparel**

**Gray Reef Anglers and  
Wingshooting**

**PK Lures**

**Derek DeYoung Studios**

**Fish USA**

**Floy Tag & Mfg. Inc.**

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**Frank Amato Productions**

**Shirley Cleary Fine Art**

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**Scott Fly Rods**

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**Hack's Tackle and  
Outfitters**

**Mountainsmith**

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**St. Croix Rods**

**Travis Sylvester Art**

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**Vortex Optics**

**West Laramie Fly Store**

**YakAttack**

**Yeti Coolers**

**Jake Keeler Art**

**Montana Fly Company**

**Lynch Calls**

**Altitude Chophouse and  
Brewery**

## Colorado-Wyoming AFS Fiscal Year 2018 Treasurers Report

BEGINNING CHAPTER BALANCES			CURRENT BALANCES
Checking	\$43,085		\$42,871
Savings	\$12,138		\$1,138
Raffle Account	\$496		\$0
WD Investment Fund (value fluctuates)	\$22,655		\$37,219
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$78,373</b>		<b>\$81,228</b>
INCOME	Estimated		Received to Date
Annual Meeting Income	\$25,845		\$36,779
Parent society refund	\$300		\$285
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$26,145</b>		<b>\$37,064</b>
ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES	Estimated	Itemized	Spent to Date
Base Registration Cost	\$987		
123 Signup Fee		\$987	\$1,380
Continuing Education Committee	\$1,500		
Continuing Education Workshop		\$1,500	\$432
Food	\$13,445		
DoubleTree Food & Service Charges		\$11,945	\$17,202
DoubleTree Room Rental Fee			\$0
Deposit to Hilton for 2018 meeting			\$1,320
Student Social		\$1,500	\$1,412
AV	\$1,000		
Outside vendor		\$1,000	\$0
Raffle Committee	\$1,400		
Raffle (seed money and State of Colorado license renewal)		\$1,400	\$1,300
Other	\$5,900		
Presenter Awards		\$250	\$100
Awards Committee		\$100	\$0
Mentoring Committee		\$1,000	\$0
Nametags		\$100	\$115
Membership Committee		\$50	\$0
Student Volunteer Reimbursements		\$1,400	\$1,120
Programs		\$500	\$0
Registration Committee		\$100	\$147
Gifts		\$1,200	\$986
Complimentary Rooms		\$1,200	\$1,586
Speaker costs and donations	\$500		
Speaker Costs			\$0
Committee Gifts			\$500
<b>SUB-TOTAL ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,732</b>		<b>\$27,600</b>
ANNUAL CHAPTER EXPENSES	Annual	Itemized	Spent to Date
Archive Committee	\$100		
		\$100	\$0
Endowment Committee	\$50		
Mailings etc.		\$50	\$0
Website Committee	\$125		
Web Domain Registration		\$125	\$233
Mentoring Committee			
Reimbursement for travel, meeting registration, books			\$348

## Colorado-Wyoming AFS Fiscal Year 2018 Treasurers Report Continued

Other	\$2,625		
Donations (Western Division)		\$500	\$500
Donations (National Meeting)		\$250	\$0
President Travel to WD Mid-year Meeting		\$1,000	\$507
Tax Preparation		\$725	\$0
Liability Insurance		\$150	\$150
US Bank service charges			\$29
<b>SUB-TOTAL ANNUAL CHAPTER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,900</b>		<b>\$1,767</b>
<b>BYLAW APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>	<b>Spent to Date</b>
CMU Student Sub-unit	\$500		
Annual Contribution		\$500	\$500
CSU Student Sub-unit	\$500		
Annual Contribution		\$500	\$500
UW Student Sub-unit	\$500		
Annual Contribution		\$500	\$500
Executive Committee	\$2,300		
EXCOM Meeting Lunch		\$250	\$269
Lunches & Dinners for Summer ExCom Meeting in Steamboat Springs		\$275	\$104
VP Travel to WD Meeting In Missoula, MT		\$1,500	\$1,255
Dinner and Hotel for Winter ExCom Meeting in Grand Junction		\$275	\$231
<b>BYLAW APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,800</b>		<b>\$3,359</b>
<b>CHAPTER-APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>	<b>Spent to Date</b>
CO/WY AFS Member Travel Grants	\$3,000		
Travel expenses for prof. member travel to WD or National Meeting		\$1,500	\$969
Travel expenses for student member travel to WD or National Meeting		\$1,500	\$513
Remaining travel expenses from 2016 travel grant to National Meeting			\$750
<b>SUB-TOTAL CHAPTER-APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>		<b>\$2,232</b>
<b>EXCOM-APPROVED EXPENSES IN 2016 (NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000)</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>	<b>Spent to Date</b>
<b>SUB-TOTAL EXCOM APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$0</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$34,432</b>		<b>\$34,958</b>
<b>PROJECTED CHAPTER ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$69,590</b>		<b>\$81,228</b>
<b>ESTIMATED ANNUAL MEETING PROFITS</b>	<b>\$1,113</b>		<b>\$9,179</b>
<b>FY 17 NET</b>	<b>-\$8,783</b>		<b>\$2,106</b>



## Colorado-Wyoming AFS Fiscal Year 2019 Budget: Proposed

<b>CHAPTER BALANCES (as of June 1, 2018)</b>	<b>\$86,191</b>
Checking	\$40,402
Savings	\$1,138
WD Investment Fund (value fluctuates)	\$44,651

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Estimated</b>
Annual Meeting Income	\$22,075
Raffle/Auction Income	\$3,138
Donations	\$7,745
Parent society refund	\$259
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$33,217</b>

<b>ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>
Base Registration Cost	\$1,255	
123 Signup Fee		\$1,255
Continuing Education Committee	\$1,500	
Continuing Education Workshop		\$1,500
Food and Meeting Space Charges	\$17,982	
Hilton Fort Collins Catering Charges		\$14,000
Hilton Fort Collins Conference Center Charges		\$982
CSU Stadium Welcome Social		\$1,500
Student Social		\$1,500
AV	\$600	
Hotel fees for screens and podiums		\$600
Raffle Committee	\$1,500	
Raffle (seed money)		\$1,500
Other	\$4,285	
Presenter Awards		\$250
Awards Committee		\$100
Mentoring Committee		\$50
Nametags		\$150
Programs		\$500
Registration Committee		\$100
Registrant souvenirs and committee member lagniappe		\$1,500
Complimentary Rooms		\$1,635
Speaker costs and donations	\$1,000	
<b>SUB-TOTAL ANNUAL MEETING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$28,122</b>	
<b>ANNUAL CHAPTER EXPENSES</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Itemized</b>
Archive Committee	\$100	
		\$100
Endowment Committee	\$50	
Mailings etc.		\$50

Website Committee	\$250	
Web Domain Registration		\$250
Mentoring Committee	\$2,000	
Reimbursement for travel, meeting registration, books		\$2,000
WD AFS Student Colloquium	\$500	
Annual Contribution		\$500
Other	\$1,675	
Donations (Western Division)		\$500
President Travel to WD Mid-year Meeting		\$1,000
Tax Preparation		\$25
Liability Insurance		\$150
<b>SUB-TOTAL ANNUAL CHAPTER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$4,575</b>	
<b>BYLAW APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>
CMU Student Sub-unit	\$500	
Annual Contribution		\$500
CSU Student Sub-unit	\$500	
Annual Contribution		\$500
UW Student Sub-unit	\$500	
Annual Contribution		\$500
Executive Committee	\$2,025	
EXCOM Meeting Meals		\$525
VP Travel to WD Meeting In Reno, NV		\$1,500
<b>BYLAW APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,525</b>	
<b>CHAPTER-APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Itemized</b>
CO/WY AFS Member Travel Grants	\$4,500	
Travel expenses for CO-WY professional member travel to WD or Society Meeting		\$1,500
Travel expenses for CO-WY student member travel to WD or Society Meeting		\$1,500
Travel expenses for CO-WY member(s) travel to WD or Society Meeting		\$1,500
Website Migration to Society Platform	\$500	
CO/WY AFS Matching Funds for CMU Endowment (over 5 years)	\$12,500	
<b>SUB-TOTAL CHAPTER-APPROVED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$17,500</b>	
<b>EXCOM-APPROVED EXPENSES IN 2019 (NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000)</b>		
<b>SUB-TOTAL EXCOM APPROVED EXPENSES</b>		
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$53,722</b>	
<b>PROJECTED CHAPTER ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>\$65,686</b>	
<b>ESTIMATED ANNUAL MEETING PROFITS</b>	<b>\$4,836</b>	
<b>FY 19 NET</b>	<b>-\$20,505</b>	

## 2018 – 2019 Colorado-Wyoming AFS Chapter Officers and Committee Members

<b>Chapter Officers</b>		
President	Eric Fetherman	<a href="mailto:eric.fetherman@state.co.us">eric.fetherman@state.co.us</a>
Vice President	Jason Burckhardt	<a href="mailto:jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov">jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov</a>
Secretary/Treasurer	Jim White	<a href="mailto:j.white@state.co.us">j.white@state.co.us</a>
Past-President	Kevin Gelwicks	<a href="mailto:kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov">kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov</a>
UW Subunit President	Evan Booher	<a href="mailto:ebooher@uwyo.edu">ebooher@uwyo.edu</a>
CSU Subunit President	Sandra Hargraves	<a href="mailto:hargraves.sandra@gmail.com">hargraves.sandra@gmail.com</a>
CMU Subunit President	Anne Temple	<a href="mailto:aetemple@mavs.coloradomesa.edu">aetemple@mavs.coloradomesa.edu</a>
<b>Standing Committees</b>		
Arrangements	Mandi Brandt (chair)	<a href="mailto:mandi.brandt@state.co.us">mandi.brandt@state.co.us</a>
	Eric Fetherman	<a href="mailto:eric.fetherman@state.co.us">eric.fetherman@state.co.us</a>
	Yoichiro Kanno	<a href="mailto:yoichiro.kanno@colostate.edu">yoichiro.kanno@colostate.edu</a>
Chapter Archivist	Lori Martin (chair)	<a href="mailto:lori.martin@state.co.us">lori.martin@state.co.us</a>
Continuing Education	Diana Miller (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:diana.miller@wyo.gov">diana.miller@wyo.gov</a>
	Dan Kowalski (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:dan.kowalski@state.co.us">dan.kowalski@state.co.us</a>
Environmental Policy	Jason Burckhardt (chair)	<a href="mailto:jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov">jason.burckhardt@wyo.gov</a>
	Kevin Gelwicks	<a href="mailto:kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov">kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov</a>
	Laura Burckhardt	<a href="mailto:laura.burckhardt@wyo.gov">laura.burckhardt@wyo.gov</a>
	Ashley Ficke	<a href="mailto:ashleyduncanficke@gmail.com">ashleyduncanficke@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Boyd Wright (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:boyd.wright@state.co.us">boyd.wright@state.co.us</a>
	Tom Fresques (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:tom_fresques@blm.gov">tom_fresques@blm.gov</a>
Newsletter	Adam Hansen	<a href="mailto:adam.hansen@state.co.us">adam.hansen@state.co.us</a>
	Bill Pate	<a href="mailto:bill.pate@colostate.edu">bill.pate@colostate.edu</a>
Nominating Program	Kevin Gelwicks	<a href="mailto:kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov">kevin.gelwicks@wyo.gov</a>
	Christina Barrineau (chair)	<a href="mailto:christina.barrineau@wyo.gov">christina.barrineau@wyo.gov</a>
	Annika Walters	<a href="mailto:annika.walters@uwyo.edu">annika.walters@uwyo.edu</a>
	John Woodling	<a href="mailto:woodling@colorado.edu">woodling@colorado.edu</a>
	John Walrath	<a href="mailto:john.walrath@wyo.gov">john.walrath@wyo.gov</a>
<b>Special Committees</b>		
Aquaculture	Lars Alsager	<a href="mailto:lars.alsager@wyo.gov">lars.alsager@wyo.gov</a>
	Toby Mourning	<a href="mailto:toby.mourning@state.co.us">toby.mourning@state.co.us</a>
Audio-Visual	Andrew Treble	<a href="mailto:andrew.treble@state.co.us">andrew.treble@state.co.us</a>
Awards	Travis Neebling	<a href="mailto:travis.neebing@wyo.gov">travis.neebing@wyo.gov</a>
Endowment Funding	Eric Gardunio	<a href="mailto:eric.gardunio@state.co.us">eric.gardunio@state.co.us</a>
Fundraising	Paul Gerrity	<a href="mailto:paul.gerrity@wyo.gov">paul.gerrity@wyo.gov</a>
	Matt Kondratieff	<a href="mailto:matt.kondratieff@state.co.us">matt.kondratieff@state.co.us</a>
Gifts	Erin Sobel (chair)	<a href="mailto:erin.sobel@wyo.gov">erin.sobel@wyo.gov</a>
Mentoring	Steve Gale (chair)	<a href="mailto:steve.gale@wyo.gov">steve.gale@wyo.gov</a>
Paper/Poster Judging	Tyler Swarr	<a href="mailto:tyler.swarr@state.co.us">tyler.swarr@state.co.us</a>
Raffle	Eric Gardunio (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:eric.gardunio@state.co.us">eric.gardunio@state.co.us</a>
	Stephen Siddons (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:stephen.siddons@wyo.gov">stephen.siddons@wyo.gov</a>
	Zack Underwood (co-chair)	<a href="mailto:zginko@gmail.com">zginko@gmail.com</a>
Registration	Jim White	<a href="mailto:j.white@state.co.us">j.white@state.co.us</a>
Student Liaison	Eriek Hansen	<a href="mailto:erihansen@coloradomesa.edu">erihansen@coloradomesa.edu</a>
Website	Joe Skorupski	<a href="mailto:joe.skorupski@wyo.gov">joe.skorupski@wyo.gov</a>



## 2018 Colorado-Wyoming AFS Chapter Business Meeting Minutes

**Notes: Jason Burckhardt**

**Kevin Gelwicks, President Colorado/Wyoming Chapter-**Kevin called the meeting to order at 11:40. There were 56 dues-paying members present which represented a quorum. Dirk Miller was appointed the Parliamentarian. The agenda was reviewed with no substantive edits or deletes.

**Guest Address: Tracy Wendt, Western Division American Fisheries Society-**Kevin introduced Tracy Wendt, Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Division. Tracy is currently working with the Alaska Chapter for the Western Division meeting. Travel grants have been awarded to several student and professionals to attend the Western Division meeting. Division awards nominees are currently being sought. There are some new Committees in Western Division including the Financial Stability Committee, the Early Career Professional Committee, and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The Western Division is currently looking for a new Tributary Newsletter editor.

**State of the Chapter Address, Kevin Gelwicks-** Kevin provided the State of the Chapter address. The Chapter is in excellent shape. Interactions with other chapters within Western Division have provided him with the perspective of the strengths of the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter. We have much support for our activities. We have a strong financial standing, including more money in the Western Division investment fund than other chapters. We have a strong Mentoring Program. We are the best chapter and need to promote ourselves as such. We have strong committees and have a structure set up that spreads the burden of putting on the annual meeting. Kevin thanked the membership for the resounding success of the 2018 Annual Meeting.

**Secretary-Treasurer Report, Jason Burckhardt-** Jason provided a breakdown of the chapter financials and stated the difficulties of doing so in the middle of the Chapter Meeting which is the largest source of income and financial burden within the annual budget. Spending has been in line with the existing budget. We overspent a few budget categories but the attendance at the Annual Meeting surpassed expectations and income should reflect expenditures.

**Preliminary Address Regarding 2020 Meeting, Jason Burckhardt-** Jason is pursuing a joint meeting with the Montana Chapter of AFS for the 2020 Annual Meeting. The likely location would be in a community in northern Wyoming, perhaps Cody or Sheridan. If a joint meeting cannot be coordinated the annual meeting is likely to be similar to past years in Cheyenne or Laramie.

**Update on 2019 Meeting, Eric Fetherman-** The 2019 Annual Meeting will be held in Fort Collins at the Hilton on February 26-28. The welcoming social will be held at the Alumni Center on campus which should be a great venue. He is currently soliciting ideas for plenary and other symposia, and has a few requests for committee members for the upcoming meeting. We need some individuals from Colorado that would like to participate in the Arrangements and Program committees.

**Budget Presentation FY17, Eric Fetherman-** Eric provided a look at the proposed budget for FY19. Income is estimated using a four year rolling average to incorporate two CO-based meetings and two WY-based meetings. Estimated meeting costs at the Hilton Fort Collins and CSU stadium were included. Vice President travel to Reno reduced from \$2,000 used for the Alaska meeting back to \$1,500 which is what is typically included for less expensive locations.

**Presidents Highlights of Committee Chair Reports, Kevin Gelwicks-** Kevin provided a brief overview of the chapter reports he received for the 2018 Annual Meeting

- **The Chapter's Archive Committee, Lori Martin and Greg Anderson** continues to file and organize the records of the Chapter as outlined in the Chapter's Procedures Manual. The 2017 Annual Meeting proceedings have been provided to the libraries at Colorado Mesa University, Colorado State University, and the University of Wyoming. The 2018 Annual Meeting proceedings will also be provided to the libraries following this meeting. The Committee requests that the 2017-2018 ExCom continue to provide the Committee with relevant materials throughout the year that should be maintained within the Chapter's archives. Please keep this in mind particularly in relation to the Chapter's 2018 Annual Meeting.
- **The Awards Committee, chaired by Travis Neebling**, received nominations for the Award of Excellence, Max Award of Merit, and the Leaky Boot Award. No nominations were submitted for the Outstanding Mentor Award. This year's awards will be presented at the banquet. Thanks to Dan Brauch, Diana Miller, Estevan Vigil, and Chance Kirkeeng for serving on this committee.
- **Continuing Education Committee, Diana Miller and Dan Kowalski** report that two continuing education courses were provided this year. The first course was titled "Pesky Parasites; a brief look at some prominent Wyoming fish parasites" and was taught by Brandon Taro, Fish Health Program Manager for Wyoming Game and Fish. The second course was a two-phase course "Introduction to R and Data Wrangling" and "Data Modeling and Visualization in R." This course was taught by Dr. Shannon Albeke from University of Wyoming. Both sessions were well attended, with 67 registrants in the Fish Health course and 28 attendees in the Program R course (attendance was limited by computer lab size). The courses both occurred on Tuesday March 27th, the fish health course in the meeting rooms at the conference center and the Program R class in an on-campus computer lab. The continuing education committee would appreciate any feedback you have regarding this year's courses as well as ideas for future courses.
- **The Endowment Committee, chaired by Eric Gardunio** reported that the UW and CSU Endowments are both well funded and should continue funding scholarships based on accrued interest into the future. The UW Endowment funds the Ron Remmick AFS Memorial Scholarship, and currently has \$35,135 in the endowment and should fund a scholarship of at least \$1,400 next year. The CO/WY AFS Endowment at CSU is valued at \$29,812, and is projected to fund a \$1,200 scholarship in 2018. Dr. Eriek Hansen and Eric Gardunio have been looking into funding opportunities for creating a new endowment at CMU and will present a proposal to fund the scholarship at the Business Lunch. The 2017 UW Ron Remmick AFS Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Lindsay Ciepiela and the 2017 CSU CO/WY AFS Endowment was awarded to Katherine deVlaming.

- **The Fundraising Committee, consisting of Paul Gerrity and Matt Kondratieff**, was able to raise a total of \$6,225 for the 2018 meeting. Thanks to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, GEI Consultants, Oregon RFID, Barr Engineering, SWCA Environmental Consultants, U.S. Forest Service Region 2, Skretting USA, Rogue Biological Consultants, Miller Net Company, Wayne Hubert, and Jordan Anderson for donating this year!
- **The Mentoring Committee, chaired by Steve Gale** paired up three mentees with three mentors for the 2017 mentoring program. Mentee's have reported gaining invaluable experience with their Mentors. An email will go out in March to recruit Mentors for the 2018 program and interested students need to submit their application by April 1 for 2018. Applications can be found on our Chapter website. Since the program's inception in 2014 we have paired up 20 Mentee's with Mentors. Some of these relationships have lasted beyond just the one year they were enrolled in the program. It is the Mentoring Committee's belief that as long as Chapter members volunteer their time to be Mentors, and there is continued interest from students, that this is a valuable Chapter program.
- **Newsletter Committee Co-Chairs Anna Senecal and Adam Hansen** were able to successfully produce three editions of The Angler last year. The membership has been extremely receptive to requests for timely submissions. This generally makes Committee Chairs' lives easy and provides for a better product. So thank you all for your continued support and content contributions! Please know that suggestions for improvement are always welcomed.
- **Program Committee Co-Chairs Laura Burckhardt and Christina Barrineau** put together the program for the 2018 Annual Meeting consisting of a total of 49 presentations and 7 posters. Thank you to everyone who took the time to contribute to the program for the meeting. As a heads-up to the membership, the Program Committee is planning to conduct an online survey soon to get feedback that will guide future program layout. In addition, they would like to develop a meeting app that would provide everyone with all the meeting program information on their mobile phones. They would love any tech-savvy folks to help research and develop this.

#### **Student Subunit Reports**

- **Colorado Mesa University, Jacob Eggers-** The CMU subunit is now in its sixth year. The main goal of the subunit is to provide networking opportunities for students. Over the last year they have been trying to improve funds for their subunit. The CMU subunit is a part of the Wildlife Club. Activities this year have included pairing with Grand Valley Anglers to do several events including a cleanup of Carson Lake, a flyfishing clinic, and willow planting on a local river. A casting tutorial has been held each month on campus and has been used as a recruiting tool. The meetings are the second Tuesday of every month and have included presentations by Colorado-Wyoming Chapter members. They are looking for new ways to continue to build membership.
- **Colorado State University, Timothy D'Amico-** The CSU subunit now has 30 dues-paying members, 14 were participating in the meeting and are AFS members, and 15 associate members. They currently have bimonthly meetings (2x per month) with local agency, private, and NGO speakers that have presented at their meetings. They currently have \$2,328 in their checking account. They have been fundraising for and facilitating the Fausch-Nakano scholarship. They recently donated to WDAFS Revised Cutthroat Taxonomy book. They are currently trying to do a joint fundraiser with CSU fly-fishing club. They have two fishing derbies at College Lake (fall = kids only, spring = open) which are their main fundraisers. They have been working on an undergraduate research project at College Lake studying Pike population and condition factor which is presented here as a poster at CO/WY AFS meeting.
- **University of Wyoming, Jake Ruthven-** The University of Wyoming Student Subunit has had an exciting year. Currently, there are about 50 student members in the Subunit with between 15-20 attending each monthly meeting. Their current bank balance is approximately \$1,500 and they have been working on member recruitment and fundraising for upcoming activities. Following a barbeque at the September 2017 meeting, the subunit hosted several field-based events including a fossil hunting trip to Fossil Buttes, and an electrofishing workshop on the Laramie River. The subunit also got to join biologists with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department as they sampled Wheatland Reservoir #3, and held a joint fundraiser with The Wildlife Society – Beast Feast 2017: Surf n' Turf edition. The Beast Feast was a tremendous success! This event is the annual community fundraiser for the Wyoming Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, and the subunit partnered with them to raise funds for both organizations. The great part about this event was that, in addition to bringing together ordinarily disparate groups of Laramie residents over good food and conversation, we raised ~\$1,200 dollars! Finally, the subunit was very happy to have several undergraduates attend the meeting this year. Students are looking forward to the spring speakers and activities!

**Unfinished business-** Kevin Gelwicks announced the travel grant recipients for the upcoming Western Division or Society meetings. Timothy D'Amico was the recipient of the Student Travel Grant and Ashley Hillard and Laura Burckhardt were the recipients of the Professional Travel Grants. Each of the recipients plans to use the travel grants to attend the upcoming Western Division meeting in Anchorage, AK.

**Announcement of Incoming Secretary-Treasurer, Kevin Gelwicks-** Kevin announced the new Secretary – Treasurer, Jim White, Aquatic Biologist with Colorado Division of Wildlife in Durango.

#### **New Business**

- Kevin Gelwicks described how the Chapter is in desperate need of a website update because security is a concern. He described how the Society is offering a platform upon which chapters and divisions have been maintaining their websites. The Western Division and Montana Chapters have made this migration and it provides additional security and maintenance from the Society. **Travis Neebling moved to provide up to \$500 for migrating the website hosted by the Society. Paul Dey seconded the motion. The motion passed.**
- Jason Burckhardt discussed the Chapter's funding of the Student Colloquium the past several years through the ExCom-approved expenses. The value of the Student Colloquium was discussed. **Diana Miller moved to add \$500 to the Chapter's permanent budget to support the Student Colloquium. Travis Neebling seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

- **Eric Gardunio, Endowment Committee Chair** discussed the opportunity to establish an endowment at Colorado Mesa University. The minimum amount necessary to fund an endowment is \$25,000, and by funding an endowment, we create a mechanism that will fund annual scholarships for perpetuity. This would create an endowment at Colorado Mesa University that is equivalent to the current endowments at University of Wyoming and Colorado State University. Eric Gardunio moved to **establish a five-year fundraising period to fund a new endowment at CMU where the CO/WY Chapter of AFS matches private donations at a 1 to 1 rate up to a maximum chapter donation of \$12,500. This will incentivize potential donors by essentially doubling their donations.**

**Details of the proposal include:**

1. CO/WY AFS Endowment Committee will work with the CMU scholarship office to set up an account which donations and CO/WY AFS matching funds can be deposited in over the course of the fundraising period. An MOU will be drafted outlining the purpose of the funds in the account and how they will be administered.
2. Criteria for students to apply for the scholarship can be defined to include Sub-unit membership, fisheries studies, GPA requirements, etc., and CO/WY AFS Chapter representatives can be allowed oversight to approve awarded candidates.
3. The Endowment would be an irrevocable gift to CMU, and in the event that the CMU sub-unit dissolves, the endowment would remain. The MOU would set guidelines for this contingency such as criteria that the annual scholarship would go to a biology student who has expressed explicit interest in fisheries.
4. If the endowment is not fully funded to the minimum \$25,000 at the end of the five-year funding period, a summary of the progress will be provided to Chapter members, and a vote to extend the fundraising period will be held at the business meeting. The MOU will define distribution of the funds in the event that the chapter votes to discontinue fundraising. This would likely entail funding individual scholarships at CMU until the fund is drained.
5. A 'yes' vote on this motion from the chapter would allow the Endowment Committee to work with CMU staff to create a draft MOU, as outlined above, for the endowment. Once this draft is completed, the CO/WY AFS EX COM will vote to amend or accept the MOU. Fundraising efforts will begin once the MOU is finalized.

**The motion was seconded by Jacob Eggers, and passed unanimously.**

- The future of Angler Newsletter was discussed as the standard format is considered by some to be outdated. There are references in the bylaws to articles published in the Angler. We could post information on the Chapter website or provide information in other formats. Further investigation was necessary before action could be taken.

**Announcements**

- Kevin Gelwicks mentioned that no requests for small grants were received in the prior year.
- Eric Fetherman reiterated the need for members from Colorado to serve on the Arrangements and Program committees.
- Kevin Gelwicks discussed the potential for the Chapter to host a Society Meeting in 2023. He discussed this with several individuals, including Wayne Hubert, a past president of the Society. Wayne insisted that there were three things needed to carry out a Society meeting 1) Agency support from both Colorado and Wyoming, 2) at least 50 people with are willing and able volunteers that will be able to commit a significant portion of their time to prepare for the meeting, and 3) a good venue near a major airport. Kevin was going to investigate further whether we could expect commitment from both state agencies; there is some uncertainty as to whether there are enough volunteers that may be able to work on this project. A suitable venue in the Denver area was discussed.

**Dirk Miller moved we adjourn Paul Dey seconded the motion. We adjourned the meeting at 1:01 PM.**

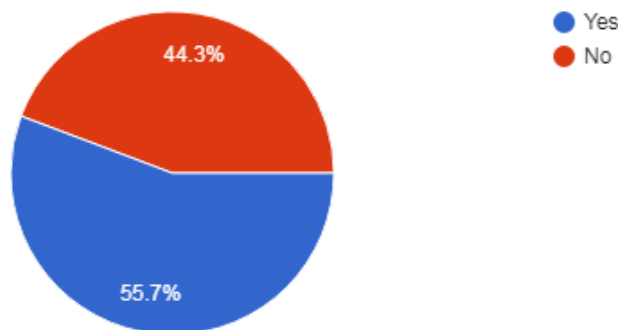


## 2018 Program Committee Survey Report

The CO/WY AFS Program Committee conducted an email survey of the membership from March 8 – March 27, 2018. The survey consisted of a series of questions to gauge the membership's interest and opinions in a smartphone program app, program scheduling, and poster session. Members also had the opportunity to make comments and recommendations regarding the program and poster session. The email was sent to 276 individual email addresses and 61 members responded.

### **Smartphone App**

To help address printing costs associated with the program, the committee assessed the membership's support for moving to a smartphone app rather than printing the program. The membership was slightly in favor (55.7%) of moving to a smartphone app compared to those who want to stay with a paper program (44.3%). One member expressed willingness to assist in the development of an app.



#### **Comments:**

*"Many, many options are available, don't try to invent our own."*

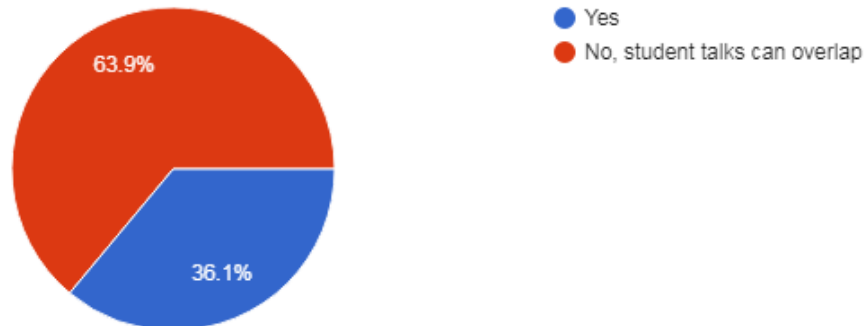
*"If it would be a significant cost reduction, I think the smartphone app is a good idea."*

*"I am happy with paper, but see this as useful"*

### **Oral Presentations**

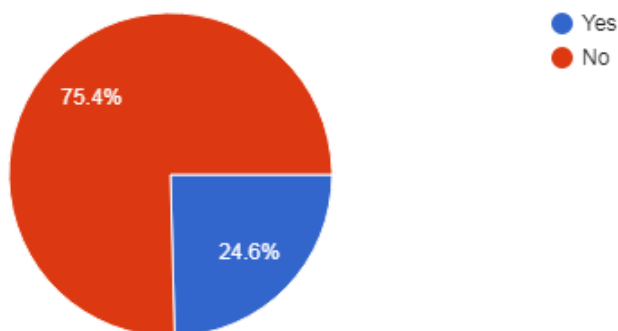
Over the past few years, the chapter has seen an increase in the number of abstracts submitted. The survey committee wanted to know if the membership supports accepting all abstracts and their grouping in the program. Survey respondents provided overwhelming support (93.4%) to continue accepting all abstracts submitted to the annual meeting and to keep the current presentation grouping process.

Recently, efforts have been made to avoid having student talks in concurrent sessions, but the program committee can not always guarantee that students won't be placed in concurrent sessions. The membership was surveyed if efforts should be made to avoid having student talks overlap. Most respondents thought student talks could overlap (63.9%), while 36.1% did not want student talks to overlap.



Typically, symposia are not used at CO/WY AFS annual meetings. Oral presentations are grouped by similar subject matter and special requests made by presenters. The Chapter President may make changes and gives the final approval of the program schedule. The membership was asked if they would support having members submit symposia and recruit talks for each symposia. A majority of respondents (86.9%) supported members submitting symposium at future meetings.

Some years it is necessary to have concurrent sessions to schedule all oral presentations submitted. The membership was asked if they would support an additional day to avoid having concurrent sessions. Most members that responded (75.4%) do not support an additional day to avoid concurrent sessions.



Comments:

*"Would be cautious with concurrent sessions to not have two presentations from the same organization happen at the same time (i.e. two competing CPW or UW talks in the same slot). Have run into a few situations where I had to choose between two talks on projects I was involved in."*

*"Although I would support organization of symposia, it should not come at the cost of acceptance of all abstracts."*

*"I would strongly discourage adding an extra day to the meeting."*

*"I would like to see some more awareness of diversity in scheduling. The first day with no concurrent session and of the 16 talks, only 2 were given by women."*

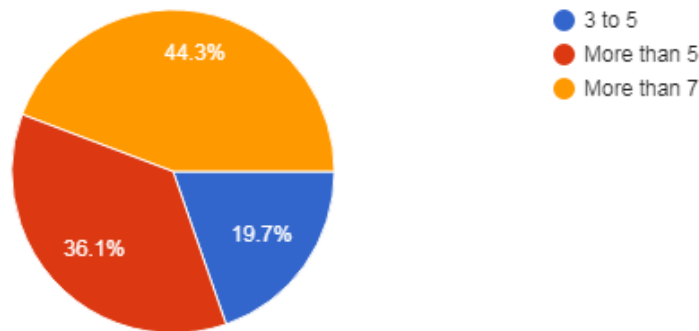
*"I think we should continue accepting all submitted abstracts, because some people have to present in order to attend the meeting."*

*"If time is an issue, perhaps keep continuing ed programs to 1/2 day and have them in the a.m. to provide an additional 1/2 day for presentations when there are many abstracts submitted."*

*“Provide presenters with a link to Jesse Trushenski's "Power Pointers" presentation. Encourage them strongly to view it in order to improve the quality of Powerpoint presentations at the meeting.”*  
*“Try to limit concurrent sessions by not soliciting more talks say for symposia.”*

### Poster Sessions

Over the past few years, a poster session has been incorporated into a portion of the meeting to have a more formal setting for folks to present their posters. A majority of members (86.9%) who responded were in support of a poster session during the meeting. A follow-up question regarding how many posters justify a session showed that 44.3% of respondents thought seven or more posters justify a session.



smart

#### Comments:

“I like the current timing in late afternoon ~4-5pm. It is a nice time to socialize and look at posters. I think an hour is a good length. This year there was a 20 minute break before and I don't think that is really necessary. One could basically move straight into the poster session.”

“Provide appetizers and wine/beer and have as an evening pre-dinner social”

“I think posters are a good way for people to present without having to get up on stage in front of everyone. They are especially good for students who may have multiple aspects of a project to present, but don't want to give two presentations.”

“Would be nice to have a larger room for posters and break.”

“A poster session formerly attended by ALL lead authors possible is perfectly scheduled with a social event - welcoming social or stand alone. That's the best way to do it.”

“I would prefer to allocate that time to help minimize concurrent talks - posters should be self-explanatory - and have contact information if folks need more details.”

The program survey was a useful tool to gauge the membership on topics related to the program. Many members provided helpful suggestions for future planning efforts. Additionally, two members volunteered to be a part of the program committee.



## 2018 Colorado-Wyoming AFS Chapter Meeting Photos!

All photos credit Brian Avila

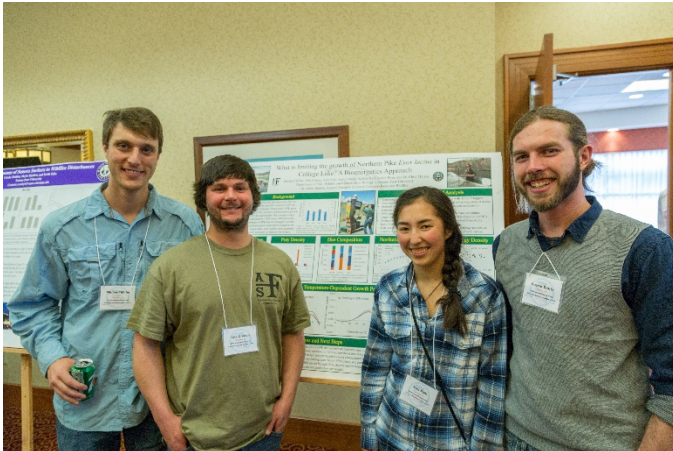


Bill Bradshaw is recognized with a retirement gift following a very successful 31+ year career with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Congratulations Bill!

Not a good sign that Jason Burckhardt, the new Treasurer, is behind bars...



Mentoring Program organizer Steve Gale and mentee Austin Smith present at the Wednesday evening Mentoring Social (left photo). Mentor Bobby Compton displays his mentoring award (right photo).



Students from the CSU subunit present results from their study on College Lake during the poster session



Thanks go out to all the many committee members that make the annual meeting possible.

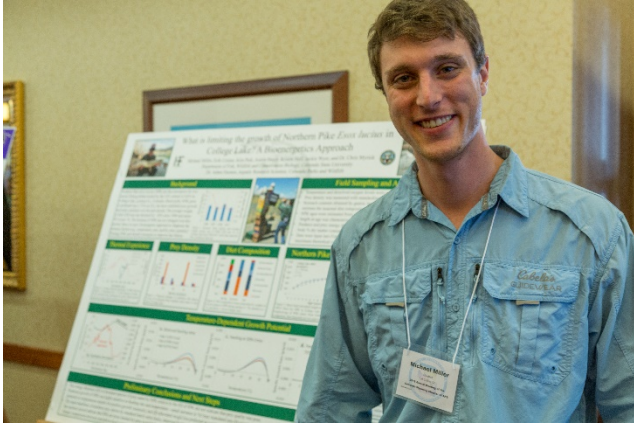
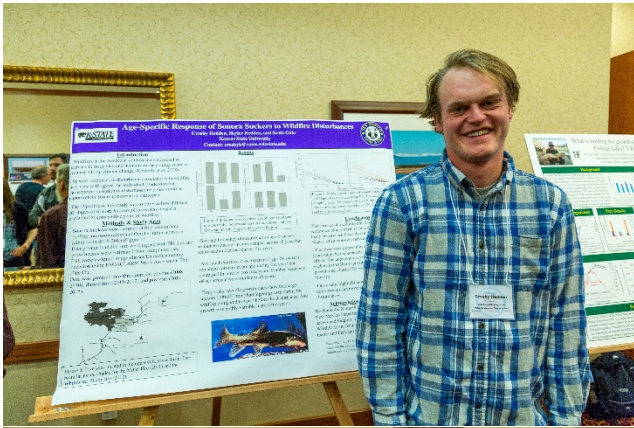


2018 was another great raffle year, thanks to  
sponsors, organizers....and the auctioneer!



## 2018 Colorado-Wyoming AFS Chapter Meeting Photos!

All photos credit Brian Avila



Crosby Hedden (Top) and Michael Miller (Bottom) answer questions during the poster session.



It was a full room for the 2018 plenary session and opening remarks.



Caption



It's nice to be reminded from time to time that "What We Do Is Cool!" Thanks Robb!



Brian Maitland fills a critical niche at the Student Social!