ABSTRACTS

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - AQUATIC

Abstracts of the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Montana Chapter, Co-Convening with the Western Division of the American Fisherie's Society

Natives and Newcomers

May 13-20, 2006

Montana State University, Bozema

Introduction

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The Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is an organization of professional fisheries scientists and students from agencies, universities, and the private sector across Montana. Our objectives are: conservation, development and wise utilization of Montana's fisheries; promotion of educational, scientific and technological development; advancement of fisheries science and practice; and exchange and dissemination of knowledge about fish, fisheries and related subjects.

This year, our Chapter hosted our meeting with the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society. We had over 450 professionals attend our joint meeting!

- Over 100 people attended the three continuing education workshops on Dydimo algae (Didymosphenia geminate), hydroacoustics, and study design. The Dydimo workshop attracted professionals from as far away as New Zealand and was attended by 60 people.
- We started off the main meeting with a plenary panel on "Water in the West" moderated by Kathleen Williams of the Instream Flow Council. The panelists presented their perspectives on challenges facing fisheries resources due to the expanding human impacts on water-limited evirons in the West.
- The meeting then continued with three days of multiple concurrent sessions, a first for our Chapter. Our sessions and symposia were packed with presentations on Sturgeon, Bull Trout, Fisheries Conservation, Prairie Streams, and Bioassessment. It was inspiring to see presentations from across the West on issues so pertinent to Montana fisheries and to be able to renew old contacts and make new ones. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the caliber of professionals working in the state of Montana.

The Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society offers the abstracts of its 2006 Annual Meeting to the readers of the Intermountain Journal of Sciences in the spirit of

exchanging ideas and information regarding the aquatic sciences. This is a selection of the more than 250 abstracts submitted and includes only those abstracts from Montana Chapter members. The entire set of abstracts can be read on the WDAFS website. Many of the included abstracts reference ongoing research and management projects, and may include data that are not comprehensive or fully analyzed. Thus, these abstracts should not be cited in other works without permission of the author(s), whose contact information is provided. We hope that you enjoy our proceedings, and urge readers to attend and participate in our next meeting to be held on February 12-16, 2007 in Missoula, Montana.