

ABSTRACTS

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES – AQUATIC

ABSTRACTS OF THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MONTANA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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INTRODUCTION

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.

Our chapter is growing!

We had over 275 professionals attend our session this year!

- First, over 50 people attended the continuing education workshop Aquatic Nuisance Species: Identification, Status and Management. The workshop was an impressive mix of specialists in pathogens, plants and fish. The information was a blend of lecture and hands on—with very positive feedback from the attendees. The demand for the class was greater than what we could accommodate, a sure sign that this issue is of great interest to our professionals in Montana.
- Next, we had the pleasure of a thought provoking presentation by Dr. Bruce Rieman to kick off our meeting. Titled: Practical Solutions in Fish Conservation: A Reflection and Revision, Dr. Rieman challenged us all to rethink some of the assumptions we make as biologists, and to continue to look at the information and allow our hypotheses to change as the information bases develop.
- Keep an open mind—continue to learn and adapt!
- The meeting then continued with 10 sessions packed with amazing presentations on the practical approaches to addressing the needs of inland fisheries. I am continually awed by the caliber of professionals working in the state of Montana. We are incredibly fortunate to have these folks working on issues in the state!

The Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society offers the abstracts of its 2005 Annual Meeting to the readers of the Intermountain Journal of Sciences in the spirit of

Title footnote indicates organization, location and date presentation was made:

^{AFS} Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Missoula, MT, February 8-11, 2005
^{TWS} Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting, Helena, MT, March 1-3, 2005

exchanging ideas and information regarding the aquatic sciences. Many of these 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 in conjunction with the Western Division AFS meeting on May 15-18, 2006 in Bozeman, Montana.