



ONCORHYNCHUS

Newsletter of the Alaska Chapter, American Fisheries Society
Vol. XXXI Summer 2011 No. 3

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2011 Alaska Chapter Meeting
November 14–18, 2011
Alyeska Resort in Girdwood
See you there!



UA Divers Reid Brewer (left) and Max Hoberg (right) use a venturi sampler to collect sediment and infauna in the Aleutian Islands. Photo by Shawn Harper.

So You Want to be a Scientific Diver?

Stephen Jewett

Among the many tools available to aquatic scientists today are techniques used for scientific diving. Whether using snorkel, surface-supplied air, scuba, rebreathers, nitrox, or mixed gases, scientific diving is one of the most productive techniques used in oceanographic and fisheries research today and has greatly enhanced the capability to collect data and make observations in the aquatic realm. Where sampling with remote equipment is not feasible or practical, scientific diving has dramatically increased, especially in Alaska. Academic, government, and non-profit organizations all apply scientific diving techniques in Alaska. Examples of diving employed by these entities include: measurement and manipulation studies; marine archeology; marine mammal capture; and assessment of pelagic and benthic organisms, such as Pacific herring spawn, geoducks, horse clams, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, crabs, and rockfishes. Research diving is also used for assessment and monitoring of industrial impacts, such as the Port Valdez oil terminal, the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, offshore gold mining, demersal trawling, logging debris, and construction of docks and causeways. Defined as diving performed solely as a necessary part of a scientific research or educational activity, scientific diving allows observations and collection of underwater data and samples in shallow water (< 40 m; 130 ft) and, therefore, complements and supports the remote observations and collection of data and materials made from research vessels and submersibles.

Scientific diving in Alaska provides unique opportunities for the research of aquatic organisms and their habitats, but also comes with unique challenges, not the least of which are typically cooler water temperatures and strong tides and currents. Diver safety in the underwater environment remains a top

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The President's Corner

Audra Brase

Summer ... open water, field projects, and that time of year when we find ourselves burning the candle at both ends as we try to cram in as many activities as the days are long. I always feel that this time of year makes up for those cold winter days when all I want to do after getting home from work is curl up on the couch with a blanket and a good book.



*Audra Brase,
AFS Alaska Chapter President.*

For this Presidents Corner I thought I would share with you some of the activities of the ExCom over the last few months. In May, the ExCom voted to support the National AFS policy statement published in the March issue of *Fisheries* regarding the need for an immediate-release anesthetic/sedative for use in the fisheries disciplines. The Chapter sent a letter to the author (Jesse Trushenski) expressing our appreciation that he and his co-author (Jim Bowker) had undertaken this effort at the society level of AFS. There are many fisheries biologists in Alaska that need to use anesthetics on fish (often food fish), and having a clear policy at the society level will benefit us all.

One of my goals as President was to get our website upgraded to be a bit more visually appealing and user friendly. I have been working with an in-state website development team to accomplish that task, which should be completed in a couple months. I have also been participating in monthly Western Division Leadership teleconferences and heard about progress on the Parent Society Meeting at Seattle in September. This will likely be the largest AFS meeting ever and with its close proximity to

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Scientific Diver, continued

priority for dive research in Alaska. Increased use of diving techniques in fisheries and oceanographic research has led to stricter safety requirements by funding agencies and toward a general movement among federal agencies and research institutions throughout the nation to standardize scientific diving regulations. Dive safety guidelines generally follow standards established by the American Academy of Underwater Sciences (AAUS) (www.aaus.org), a nationally recognized



UA diver Martin Schuster collects Eularia holdfasts in the Aleutian Islands. Photo by Brenda Konar.

research diving organization. There are presently over 100 organizational members of AAUS. While most organizational members are education institutions and consulting companies, some state and federal agencies are also members, but even non-member organizations typically follow AAUS scientific diving guidelines.

Scientific diving occurs under an exemption to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Commercial Diving Standard. Because the core OSHA standards were written specifically for commercial diving, they do not address the needs of scientific diving and are prohibitively costly and logistically difficult to meet. The scientific diving exemption, as embodied in the AAUS standards,

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The President's Corner, continued

Alaska, I look forward to seeing many of you there. The organizers are still seeking Chairs for some of the Contributed Papers Sessions; please contact Program Co-Chair Dave Ward if you can help out (Dave.Ward@cbfwa.org).

Trent, our President Elect, has been busy planning our Annual Chapter Meeting in Girdwood. This is a beautiful location and he has a diverse lineup of sessions planned. Be sure to read Trent's article in this *Oncorhynchus* issue.

Emily, our student representative, has been in touch with the Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Southeast student sub-units regarding students attendance of the Girdwood Meeting. Students wanting to attend the Chapter meeting but needing some monetary travel support should contact Emily. We are very lucky that our chapter can support student travel, and the volunteer help students provide at the meeting is invaluable.

Lee Ann, our treasurer, completed the Chapter's tax paperwork and was instrumental in helping the Chapter retain a lawyer for questions that may arise regarding our non-profit status or various other legal issues that we, as fisheries biologists, don't have the expertise to answer.

Lisa, our immediate past president made a thorough overhaul of our Chapter's Procedures Manual to provide Chapter members with guidance for leading the Chapter. Lisa is also heading up the effort to recruit a new Vice-President. This person will be replacing Mark as he moves into the President Elect position this fall. If you are interested, please give any of the ExCom members a call or email; we would be glad to provide you an overview of the general responsibilities and expectations of the position.

I hope all your summer field projects go well and you absorb lots of Vitamin D while out and about enjoying our Alaskan summer. ☺

Scientific Diver, continued

was granted because the AAUS standards are more stringent than those of OSHA, and because the previously self-regulated scientific diving community had demonstrated an excellent safety record.

The Scientific Diving Program at the University of Alaska (UA) was certified by AAUS in 1991, significantly enhancing UA's standing in the oceanographic and fisheries research community and improving safety in scientific dive operations throughout Alaska. The UA program is based at the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (SFOS) on the Fairbanks and Juneau campuses (www.sfos.edu/diving) and most research diving is conducted throughout the state. Organizational certification provides several benefits for UA scientists, primarily by removing bureaucratic barriers. Certification also enhances the ability of UA program to obtain funding and is a prerequisite to obtaining dive funding from many agencies. Perhaps the greatest benefit is the system of reciprocity and increased safety that AAUS certification creates: divers from AAUS-certified programs can easily cooperate on projects with other AAUS institutions, confident that all divers involved have met standardized training and experience requirements. Organizations with which UA currently has diving reciprocity include: Alaska Department of Fish and Game; Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Alaska Pacific University; Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (formerly MMS); National Oceanic and

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Example of substrate diversity. Photo by Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Scientific Diver, continued

Atmospheric Association; Prince William Sound Science Center; University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Forest Service; and U.S. Geological Survey. While some of these organizations are not members of AAUS, their organizational diving protocol is similar to that of AAUS.

Since 2001, the annual number of active divers and scientific dives associated with UA has averaged 59 and 1,569, respectively. These dives are logged as research, teaching, or proficiency. Scientific diving for UA occurs in both marine and fresh waters on a wide range of studies including limnology, under-ice assessment in the Arctic and Antarctic, trophic interactions, benthic diversity, and contaminant assessment (e.g., hydrocarbons, PCBs, heavy metals, and radionuclides). Recent graduate student projects with fisheries themes and a scientific diving component include: hatchery rearing and ecological requirements of king crab larvae and juveniles (Ben Daly, Ph.D. in progress); variability of resident and transient fish communities in changing kelp forest habitats (Terril Efird, M.S. in progress); nursery habitat, predation, and survival of early benthic phase red king crab (Jodi Pirtle, Ph.D. 2010); essential larval and juvenile fish habitat in the nearshore waters of Kachemak Bay (Joel Markis, M.S. 2007); habitat use by larval, juvenile and adult crab populations in the nearshore communities (Ben Daly, M.S. 2007); movement of the giant red sea cucumber (Kristin Ciciel, M.S. 2004); utilization of Alaska kelp beds by commercially important fishes (Judy Hamilton, M.S. 2003); and effects of commercial bottom trawling on the sediment characteristics and benthic community of essential fish habitat on the inner Bering Sea shelf (Eloise Brown, M.S. 2002).

In addition, UA graduate students have used dive techniques in studies with broader, non-fisheries, ecological themes. Recent examples include: recolonization, prey selection and resource competition by sea otters in southeast Alaska (Zachary Hoyt, Ph.D. in progress); direct and indirect effects of sea otter bivalve foraging behavior on a soft-sediment community (Steven Savard, M.S. in progress); effects of habitat fragmentation on the holdfast fauna and phlorotannin concentrations of the kelp *Eualaria fistulosa* (Martin Schuster, M.S.

in progress); susceptibility of microscopic life stages to sedimentation and light attenuation in canopy-forming kelp species in Alaska (Melissa Deiman, M.S. 2011); relating habitat type and prey availability to patterns in sea otter resource selection in Kachemak Bay, Alaska (Nathan Stewart, Ph.D. 2011); competition and recruitment in southeast Alaskan subtidal kelp communities (Daniel Okamoto, M.S. 2009); isotope analysis of a high Arctic kelp community and its surrounding area (Casey Debenham, M.S. 2005); the effects of freezing on the intertidal zone in Kachemak Bay, Alaska (Heather Patterson, M.S. 2004); chemosensory ability of seastars in the Pacific Northwest (Reid Brewer, M.S. 2003); impacts of salinity and turbidity on the spatial distribution of kelp beds in Kachemak Bay (Héloïse Chenelot, M.S. 2003); and shallow water nearshore fish assemblages around Steller sea lion haulouts near Kodiak, Alaska (Cathy Hegwar, M.S. 2003).

To be eligible to become a Scientific Diver at UA, divers must: possess a basic scuba certification; obtain medical approval to dive; be trained in First Aid, CPR, and Oxygen Administration for Diving Injuries; read and understand the UA diving safety manual; pass a written exam; pass pool and swim exams; and pass an open-water checkout exam. Scientific diving courses are taught by Dr. Brenda Konar each spring at the Kasitsna Bay Laboratory near Seldovia.

The UA Scientific Diving Program is overseen by the 11-member Diving Control Board (DCB), a panel mainly of UA faculty and staff, the majority of whom are divers. The DCB makes policy and equipment recommendations, approves training programs, and serves as an appeal board to consider diver-related issues. The Diving Safety Officer (DSO), who is responsible for general program operations, diver training and education, approval of dive plans, and maintenance of dive records, chairs the DCB.

Stephen Jewett, Ph.D., is a Research Professor of Marine Science at UA where he has been employed at the Institute of Marine Science since 1974. His work mainly focuses on monitoring and assessment of marine environmental issues that can be assessed by diving. He has been the DSO of the statewide UA Dive Program since 1988 and has been a member of AFS since 1981.

First Call for Papers, 2011 Alaska Chapter Annual Conference

Trent Sutton

The 2011 Alaska Chapter Meeting of the American Fisheries Society will take place November 14–18, 2011 at the Alyeska Resort in Girdwood. Continuing education workshops will be held on the first two days of the meeting (see article in this newsletter) and a welcome social will be held Tuesday evening, November 15. The plenary session will occur on the morning of Wednesday, November 16, and will address this year's meeting theme, "Fisheries in Today's Alaska: Integrating Fish, Habitat, and People." The plenary session will be followed by concurrent presentation sessions late Wednesday morning and afternoon and a poster social in the evening. Thursday, November 17, will be dedicated to concurrent presentation sessions, culminating with the banquet, entertainment (tentatively scheduled to be Hobo Jim), and auction. The meeting will conclude with concurrent presentation sessions on the morning of Friday, November 18, and the awards presentations at noon.

The meeting theme will be evident throughout the array of topics covered in the 12 paper sessions and the poster session. All sessions are currently open for presentation submission; please contact the session chair(s) below for additional information. The final deadline for abstract submission will be September 16 (**note that there will be no abstract deadline extension this year**). For each submitted abstract, be sure to include the presentation title, the list of authors and their affiliations and contact information, and an abstract limited to 250 words. Also, be sure to note whether you wish to provide an oral presentation or a poster, and, if an oral presentation, please indicate the name of the presenter. Both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to present at the meeting, as both the Best Student Poster and Best Student Presentation winners will be receiving a monetary award in addition to a plaque.

The Whole Picture: Tying Habitat to Ecosystem Processes and Fisheries Health

Session Chair: Amanda Rosenberger
(aerosenberger@alaska.edu)

This session will examine the role of marine, freshwater, or estuarine habitat conditions in sustaining the ecosystem processes and underlying biological and genetic diversity that underpin healthy and productive fisheries. Studies can also emphasize the identification of vital or essential habitat for continued persistence of fish populations. Presentations investigating impacts on habitat function and ecosystem services from climate change, human development, or natural disturbance are also welcome.

Genetics, Genomics, and the Sustainability of Alaska's Fish Resources

Session Chair: Jim Seeb (jseeb@uw.edu)

The Alaska State Constitution directs state government to maintain the sustainability of fish resources. The relationship between sustainability and diversity (the portfolio effect) was showcased in a 2011 Nature paper by researchers of Alaskan issues stating, "One of the most pervasive themes in ecology is that biological diversity (read genetic diversity) stabilizes ecosystem processes and the services they provide." Genetic and genomic approaches are frequently used to

answer important biological questions in natural history research. Population genetic studies now provide accurate and precise information on the nature and geographic distribution of genetic diversity. As molecular and statistical techniques advance, genetic studies transition into studies of landscape genomics, ecological genomics, and direct applications to management of fish resources. In this session, we seek contributions from individuals who are currently using genetics and genomics approaches to provide insight into the diversity and sustainability of Alaska's fish resources.

Fisheries Education and Outreach: Reaching out to Youth in Alaska and Reeling in Fish Biologists of the Future

Session Chair: Valli Peterson (Valli.Peterson@asrcenergy.com)

Fisheries education and outreach continues to make a difference in the lives of young people throughout our state. Several federal, state, academic, and tribal educational programs have recently emerged to engage our youth in the field of fisheries. These programs have extended from kindergarten-aged children through college-aged adults in rural and urban locations. Fish have traveled into the classroom, sparking curiosity and the desire to learn more, and students have

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First Call for Papers, continued

been moved from the classroom to gain hands on experience with fish. Camps have provided youth with exposure to data collection and various fisheries sampling techniques. College-aged students have had the opportunity to receive mentoring and work closely with seasoned fisheries biologists, learning about everyday life as a scientist. In this session, we will discuss the approach of these programs and the methods that have shown success. We will learn how these programs adapted to increase overall success and where they will go in the future.

Cross Connection: Adapting and Integrating Principles of Management and Conservation

Session Chair: David Waltemyer (*David.Waltemyer@asrcenergy.com*)

The usefulness of traditional/local knowledge is gaining momentum in the development of resource management and conservation strategies. This has created a new paradigm of fisheries management in Arctic and Subarctic regions. As the value of input from traditional/local knowledge areas continues to flourish, there remains a need for refining our research and management systems to accommodate this information. Successful outcomes have been observed on research projects between scientists and fisherman collaborating on management and conservation issues. Research on rights-based fisheries regimes in small-scale fisheries is one of the most important opportunities for such collaboration. Based on this framework, research could cost less, have greater credibility, and potentially greater impact when fishers participated in both the choice of research to be carried out and in the collection of the information needed. This session will explore the usefulness of Cross Connections as a way to adapt and integrate traditional/local knowledge into fisheries management and conservation.

Sustainable Fisheries: Utilization, Economics, and Governance

Session Chair: Philip Loring (*ploring@alaska.edu*)

Alaska fisheries are widely touted as some of the most sustainable in the world; events of recent years such as salmon failures on the Yukon River and concerns regarding fish size and climate change impacts on marine food webs signal for concerns regarding the sustainability of

this reputation. Understanding and reconciling competing agendas and incentives for socially and commercially important fish populations is requisite to their continued conservation and sustainable use. This session invites papers that address these and other human dimensions of fisheries sustainability; a range of topics for papers will be considered, including (but not limited to): the role of markets and economic incentives in fishing; social and cultural aspects of sustainable fisheries; fisheries and food security; governance, quotas, and environmental justice; and climate change policy/adaptation. Historical analysis, case studies, position pieces, and presentations of interdisciplinary research are all welcome.

Freshwater Ecology: Describing the “Cogs and Wheels” of Freshwater Fish Ecosystems

Session Chair: Chris Zimmerman (*czimmerman@usgs.gov*)

Aldo Leopold wrote, “To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering.” Understanding how those cogs and wheels interact to drive the mechanism is equally important. Examining how fish fit within the larger aquatic ecosystem is an important first step to intelligent tinkering (i.e., land and resource management). From development of escapement goals to management of stream and lake habitats, freshwater fish ecology offers critical guidance for management, assessment of management actions, and predicting future scenarios. This session will explore how studies of fish ecology can offer insight concerning the underlying ecosystems. Papers that explore behavioral ecology, community ecology, landscape ecology, and limnology within freshwater ecosystems are invited.

Marine Fisheries Ecology

Session Co-Chairs: Franz Mueter (*fmueter@alaska.edu*) and Elizabeth Siddon (*ecsiddon@alaska.edu*)

The conservation and sustainable management of Alaska’s marine fisheries resources requires an understanding of the biology, ecology, and dynamics of marine fish species. Marine fisheries ecology helps elucidate the role of environmental variability and ecological interactions in determining fish population and community dynamics. This session examines how environmental variability, including

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First Call for Papers, continued

climate change, affects the distribution and productivity (recruitment, growth, and mortality) of marine fishes. We invite contributions on all aspects of the ecology of marine fishes at both the population and community levels, and on the use of improved ecological understanding in the assessment and management of marine fishes.

Fisheries Stock Assessment

Session Chair: Milo Adkison
(mdadkison@alaska.edu)

According to Ramon Bonfil, “Stock assessment is the part of Fisheries Science that studies the status of a fish stock as well as the possible outcomes of different management alternatives.” This session focuses on stock assessment methodologies and case studies. Talks on abundance estimation, determination of the status of stocks, the estimation of optimal harvests, and a broad range of related topics are welcome.

Spatial Dynamics and Analyses in Fisheries

Session Co-Chairs: Julie Nielsen (jkn Nielsen@alaska.edu) and Andy Seitz (acseitz@alaska.edu)

Information on the spatial dynamics of fish species is important for many aspects of fisheries management. For example, stock identification, stock assessment, catch apportionment, size limits, timing of fisheries openings, and design of areas closed to fishing benefit from knowledge of ontogenetic and seasonal changes in population distributions. Various methods may be used to obtain information on spatial dynamics, including spatial distributions from research surveys, mark/recapture of tagged fish in commercial harvests, detailed movements of individuals determined from electronic tags, and genetic studies. This session will focus on analysis methods and results of spatial dynamics research on fish species in Alaska.

Marine Invertebrates in Alaska

Session Chair: Joel Webb (joel.webb@alaska.gov)

From crabs and shrimp to bivalves and urchins, marine invertebrates support valuable commercial fisheries and subsistence harvests in Alaska. However, information on the factors affecting the productivity, persistence, associated socioeconomic and cultural value of these resources is often limited. This session welcomes contributions related to the biology, ecology, management, aquaculture, and

socioeconomics of marine invertebrate resources in Alaska.

Working With Subsistence Communities: The Partners for Fisheries Monitoring Program

Session Chair: Palma Ingles (Palma_Ingles@fws.gov)

The Partners Program is a program in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (USFWS) Office of Subsistence Management. The USFWS provides funds to community agencies, non-governmental groups, and native corporations under a competitive grant program. The grantees then hire anthropologists, biologists, or fisheries educators to work in conjunction with other fisheries projects funded by USFWS. The partners who work for the funded entities do capacity building in communities in their areas and provide opportunities for college and high school students to work with projects focused on fisheries management. The papers in this session will describe the different projects that the partners are involved in on subsistence fisheries.

Herring Research and Management

Session Co-Chairs: Ted Otis (ted.otis@alaska.gov) and Tim Sands (tim.sands@alaska.gov)

Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasii*) is a vitally important fishery resource in Alaska. Ecologically, herring provide a rich food source for a wide variety of marine predators, including fish, birds, marine mammals, and humans. Herring have been commercially harvested in Alaska for well over a hundred years, beginning with the early food and reduction fisheries in Southeast and continuing to the sac-roe fisheries of today. Despite this long history of exploitation and the associated research and management programs that accompanied it, several aspects of herring ecology and behavior remain poorly understood. Chief among them is the spatial scale at which stock structure exists. Consequently, a variety of approaches are used to assess and manage herring stocks in different regions of Alaska. This session strives to bring together herring researchers and managers from around Alaska to share their insights on herring. We’re soliciting presentations on the following topics: herring ecology, pathology, management strategies, stock identification, population status and trends, stock assessment and modeling. ?

Continuing Education – Alaska Chapter Annual Conference

Tammy Hoem Neher

We have four budget-friendly, continuing education workshops planned in conjunction with the Alaska Chapter Annual Conference this year. The workshops are scheduled for November 14 and 15 and include topics: Using otolith microchemical tools in fisheries science; Survival tips for the work place, including resume' writing and organizational skills; Using R to model ecological data; and The DIDSON sonar—what's new and changing.

Watch your email and the Alaska Chapter website for details about the annual meeting and our continuing education workshops. The discount for early registration ends on October 21.

Please contact Tammy Hoem Neher if you have questions or ideas for our 2011 meeting (tdhoem@alaska.edu; Ph: 226-4668).

We look forward to seeing you in November at Girdwood! ☺

Student Subunit Happenings

Emily Lescak, Student Subunit Representative

Anchorage:

The Anchorage student group held a social at the Glacier Brewhouse in April. At the beginning of fall semester, we will be holding officer elections and starting to prepare for the November statewide meeting. We are hoping to sell pint glasses at the meeting to raise revenue for our group. Other potential fall activities include a tour of the new fish hatchery, a film night, and an end of semester social. We are recruiting more student members and looking for guest speakers from the fisheries community.

Fairbanks:

The University of Alaska Fairbanks group of the AFS Alaska Chapter student subunit hopes to increase student involvement and interest by exposing students to current research and professionals in the field. Monthly activities will involve fishing trips, fisheries field techniques training, and attending the state and parent society AFS meetings. The subunit's 2011–2012 leadership is composed of the following officers: Parker Bradley (President), Nick Smith (Vice-President),

Justin Carney (Treasurer), Kira Baranowski (Secretary), and Thomas Farrugia (Webmaster). The group will be advised by Andres Lopez (Fisheries, Assistant Professor).

Juneau:

The 15th Annual AFS student symposium in Juneau was held April 6 and included presentations on a variety of topics, including crabs, fish, and marine mammals, by 1 undergraduate and 12 graduate students. One graduate student presented via video conferencing from Fairbanks while 1 undergraduate and 11 graduate students were in Juneau. Over 50 students, professors, and professionals attended the symposium, which ended with refreshments funded by the Alaska AFS Chapter. This year, we had a tie for best presentation between Joel Webb and Sean Larson. Joel spoke about factors influencing snow crab fecundity and egg production. Sean discussed impacts of sea otter predation on sea cucumbers in Southeast Alaska. Courtney Lyons was awarded third place for her presentation on qualitative modeling of the Pribilof blue king crab social-ecological system. ☺

Nominations for the Oscar E. Sette Award

The Oscar E. Sette Award Committee of the AFS Marine Fisheries Section seeks nominations for the 2011 Sette Award. The Award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated sustained excellence in marine fishery biology through research, teaching, administration, or a combination of the three. Award criteria is at http://fishweb.ifas.ufl.edu/mfs/index_files/Sette_Award.htm. Nominations will be accepted through July 31, 2011. ☺

ONCORHYNCHUS

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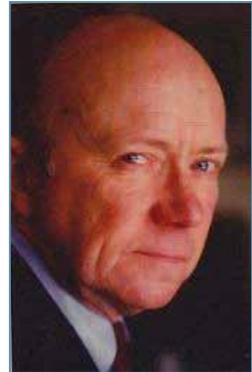
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Deadline for materials for the fall issue of *Oncorhynchus* is September 10.

Fisheries Passages

Jim Branson

Longtime Alaskan and AFS member Jim H. Branson, 85, died April 3, 2011, of natural causes in Homer, Alaska. Born March 26, 1926 in Astoria, OR, Jim later served in the Philippines with the U.S. Army during World War II. His fisheries career began with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Wrangell in 1949, and through 1988 he advanced from part-time enforcement agent to supervisory management in the National Fisheries Service, becoming the first executive director of the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council.



Jim traveled extensively to represent the council in scientific forums, and authored or co-authored numerous published and unpublished papers. He was an accomplished pilot, seaman and outdoorsman, an avid reader, music lover and great storyteller. After retirement in 1988, Jim and his wife, Betty, moved to Halibut Cove, where Jim's fisheries consultant work involved West Africa, Alaska and Canada.

Very important to Jim was his key involvement with: National Steller Sea Lion Recovery Team; Advisory Panel (vice chair) to the UAF School of Fisheries & Oceans; National Review Panel for Saltonstall-Kennedy; National Sea Grant Editorial Advisory Board; Trade Dispute Settlement Panel under U.S./Canada Free Trade Act; American Fisheries Society; Rasmuson Fisheries Research Center, University of Alaska Fairbanks; and Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association.

Jay Ginter

Jay John Charles Ginter, 63, died on March 23, 2011 due to complications from mantle cell lymphoma, a blood cancer he had battled for nearly four years. Jay was born Sept. 20, 1947, in Pawtucket, RI to John Emil Ginter and Margaret Elizabeth Mack Ginter. His family soon moved to Broadalbin, NY, where he grew up. Jay graduated from Lycoming College in Williamsport, PA in 1970 with a degree in biology, earned a master's degree in marine environmental sciences at the State University of New York at Stonybrook, and continued his graduate work at the University of Washington's Institute for Marine Studies.



He was instrumental in organizing the first national conference on limited entry as a tool in fisheries management. During a 30-year career with the National Marine Fisheries Service, Jay was recognized as an expert on "limited entry" programs, but he was best known for his work developing the Individual Fishing Quota Program for Alaskan Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries. He always said "fisheries management was about managing people; the fish got along quite well by themselves."

Jay became an AFS member in 1971. He was also an active volunteer within the Juneau community and the Northern Light United Church, played percussion with the Juneau Symphony and the Juneau Marching Band, served on the board of the Alaska Youth Choir, and was a trustee for Juneau Youth Sailing. He enjoyed sailing, but mostly enjoyed just being out on the water. 🐟

Alaska Chapter Procedure Manual Update

Lisa Stuby

Last year our Past President, Hamachan Hamazaki took on the monumental task of updating the Alaska Chapter AFS Procedures Manual. This manual is intended to clarify the responsibilities of officers and committee members and to provide more details than are found in the Alaska Chapter Bylaws. For the past decade or so, minor updates have been made, such as the addition of officer names, award winners, etc. However, a thorough update, including a revisit of the duties of committees to better reflect what has been occurring in recent years, was needed.

As I assumed the duties of Past President, one of my first tasks was to continue Hamachan's efforts. Our Procedures Manual is fairly detailed and each time I read through it, I see something else that could be updated. Because the duties and responsibilities of the AK Chapter will continue to evolve and change, this manual, a living document, will require annual updating and revision, which

will be a duty of the Past President with assistance from the Resolutions and Bylaws Committee. This manual originated from the Administrative Handbook developed in February 1978 and serves as an information resource for members. It describes the general structure and operation of the Alaska Chapter and duties and responsibilities of officers and committees as prescribed in the Chapter Bylaws. Allen Bingham has placed an updated copy of the Procedures Manual on our website: <http://www.fisheriessociety.org/afs-ak/index.html>.

I encourage Chapter members to read through the manual and let me know of any additional changes or updates that may be needed. In particular, I encourage all chairs and members of committees to re-read through their respective sections. Thank you to all of those who assisted in proofreading and updating sections of this document. 🐻

Call for Nominations for Alaska Chapter Vice President and Secretary

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) is seeking a Vice President candidate for 2012. To become Chapter President, you are first elected Vice President. This will begin a 4-year commitment, where, as Vice President, you will chair the Membership Committee and assist the President-Elect in organizing the Annual Chapter Meeting. The following year you will advance to President-Elect where you will plan and chair the Program Committee for the annual Chapter meeting. During your third year, you will become President where you will chair the Executive Committee (ExCom) and preside at all meetings, represent the Chapter to the Western Division and Parent Society, and write a quarterly "President's Corner" for the *Oncorhynchus*. As Chapter President you will also get to travel to either a Western Division or Parent Society meeting. Finally, after gaining three years of wisdom (and this is a terrific learning experience), you will become Past President. The Past President is responsible for updating the AK Chapter Procedure Manual and, if needed, the Chapter Bylaws. Overall, the Past President is the source of "wisdom" to the rest

of the ExCom. As a final duty, the Past President will preside over the Past Presidents Luncheon during the annual AK Chapter meeting. It is hard to believe that is actually a 4-year process because the time goes quickly!

The most time-consuming year of this 4-year cycle is as President-Elect when you are planning the annual Chapter meeting. The incoming Vice President for 2012 will coordinate the 2013 meeting in Southeast Alaska. However, you wouldn't be alone—far from it—because the rest of the ExCom will be there to provide LOTS of support! This system allows a person to learn about chairing meetings, organizational and leadership skills, and planning a conference before actually doing it. Every year is a challenge and you get to work with a great group of people in a very positive atmosphere, network with other Divisions and Chapters, get to know the Parent Society leadership, and receive numerous pats on the back.

In addition, we will be looking for a new AK Chapter Secretary. This two-year position serves as a voting member of the Executive Committee.

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Meetings and Events

ESA 96th Annual Meeting

August 7–12, 2011: This meeting for Earth Stewardship will be held in Austin, TX. For more information, visit <http://www.esa.org/austin/>.



North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

October 14–23, 2011. The meeting in Khabarovsk, Russia will focus on structure and changes in marine ecosystems. For more information, see <http://www.pices.int/meetings/annual/PICES-2011/2011-background.aspx>.



Alaska Chapter Meeting of the American Statistical Association

August 29-31, 2011: This meeting, organized around a short course in spatial statistics, will be held in Juneau. For more information, please visit <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/Alaska/>.



14th World Lakes Conference

October 31–November 4, 2011. This meeting, “Lakes, Rivers, Groundwater, and Coastal Areas: Understanding Linkages,” will be held in Austin, TX. For information, visit <http://www.wlc14.org/>.

141st Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society Symposium

September 4–8, 2011: This meeting will be held in Seattle, WA. For more information, please visit <http://www.fisheries.org/afs2011/>.



38th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter

November 14–18, 2011: This meeting will be held in Girdwood, AK. The meeting chair and program contact is Trent Sutton (tmsutton@alaska.edu).



Alaska Sea Grant's 27th Lowell Wakefield Fisheries Symposium

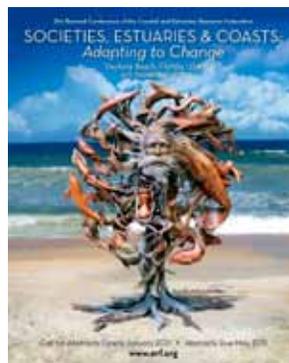
September 14-17, 2011: This meeting “Fishing People of the North: Cultures, Economies and Management Responding to Change” will occur in Anchorage, Alaska. For more information, please visit <http://seagrants.uaf.edu/conferences/2011/wakefield-people/index.php>.



People of the North: Cultures, Economies and Management Responding to Change” will occur in Anchorage, Alaska. For more information, please visit <http://seagrants.uaf.edu/conferences/2011/wakefield-people/index.php>.

Coastal & Estuarine Research Federation 2011 Conference

November 6–11, 2011: This meeting, “Societies, Estuaries & Coasts: Adapting to Change,” will be held in Daytona Beach, FL. For information, visit <http://www.sgmeet.com/cerf2011/>.



Western Division of the American Fisheries Society Student Colloquium

October 6–8, 2011: This meeting will be held in Missoula, MT. For more information, contact Tracy Wendt at tracy.wendt@umontana.edu or Mariel Maxted at mariel.maxted@umontana.edu.

25th Northeast Pacific Pink & Chum Workshop

This workshop will be held February 13–14, 2012 at Centennial Hall in Juneau, Alaska. For more information, contact Joe Orsi (Joe.Orsi@noaa.gov).



The Northeast Pacific
~ 25th ~
Pink & Chum Workshop

Call for Nominations, continued

The main duties of the Chapter Secretary are to record the minutes of the annual business meeting and submit a copy for proofreading to the ExCom after said meeting. In addition the secretary compiles minutes of the monthly to bi-monthly ExCom teleconference calls. The secretary maintains records of activities, minutes, and other aspects of the Chapter, and forwards these records to the incoming Secretary. This is

also a very rewarding position as you will learn all about the interworkings of the Alaska Chapter, Western Division, and Parent Society. In addition, as a voting member, you will play an active role in decisions made by the ExCom.

If you are interested in running for Vice President or Secretary for 2012, or have questions about these two positions, please contact Lisa Stuby (lisa.stuby@alaska.gov; Ph: 459-7202).

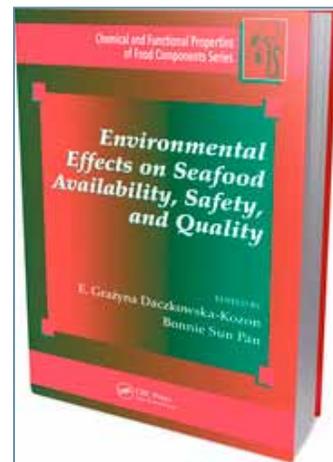
New Books

Environmental Effects on Seafood Availability, Safety, and Quality; edited by Elzbieta Grazyna Daczowska-Kozon and Bonnie Sun Pan and available at <http://www.crcpress.com/product/isbn/9781439803271>. This book discusses a variety of factors, both intrinsic and extrinsic to the marine environment, and their potential to influence the availability of finfish/shellfish, their nutritional value, quality attributes, food safety, and on-board handling of fish.

Specific discussion includes:

- (1) information on manmade and environmental factors that interfere in marine ecosystems;
- (2) impacts to physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the marine environment;
- (3) assets and safety aspects of seafood raw materials;
- (4) desirable sensory quality and health effects of marine food products; and
- (5) risks and benefits associated with consumption of seafood.

Stephen Grabacki of GRAYSTAR Pacific Seafood, Ltd. in Anchorage contributed chapters on Environmental Limitations and General Impact on Properties of the Catch and Onboard Quality Systems.



2011 Alaska Chapter Officers

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Feel free to contact the Executive Committee members