
Long-Range Plan

Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 2014-2024

A. Develop, implement, and regularly evaluate a Long-range Plan.

1. Report annual progress on implementing plan objectives during the president's address at annual meetings and in the newsletter.
2. Revise and approve Chapter goals and objectives at least once every 10 years, to reflect changing priorities and completion of objectives.
3. Modify, as necessary, and approve a formal procedures manual for Chapter officers, committees and important activities. This can be found at:
<http://www.wi-afs.org/Portals/0/PDF/Procedures%20manual.pdf>

B. Provide a source of state and regional leadership in public policy decisions to ensure the long-term benefits for diverse aquatic ecosystems.

1. The Resolutions, Environmental, and Legislative Action Committee shall provide Chapter policy or position statements on Wisconsin fisheries issues to key legislative committees or caucuses, and actively solicit resolution ideas from the membership at-large.
2. Where possible and appropriate, partner with other professional societies and non-governmental organizations on position statements and legislative/executive branch contacts.

C. Raise and maintain an adequate budget to implement plan objectives.

1. The Executive Committee will prepare and present an action (or work) plan and budget at each annual meeting.
2. Survey membership to explore alternative for membership dues, products and services when dues increases are being considered.
3. Make most social functions financially self-supporting or profitable.
4. The Membership Committee will examine the feasibility of a lifetime membership and reduced dues for retired fisheries professionals.

D. Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, scientific knowledge and techniques.

1. Publish newsletter bi-annually (Spring and Fall).
2. Present at least 12 high quality papers on important or timely topics at the annual meetings.
3. The Continuing Education Committee will solicit ideas from members and sponsor at least one workshop per year to further Chapter objectives.
4. The Executive Committee will conduct a membership survey as needed to identify fisheries issues and member concerns.
5. The Membership Committee will maintain an up-to-date directory of members and their areas of expertise, and make it available on electronic media.
6. The Web Committee will establish a computer bulletin board accessible to all Chapter members.

7. Publish, using electronic media, proceedings of technical meeting abstracts and business meeting minutes.
8. Hold a joint meeting with another professional society at least once every five years.

E. Enhance understanding, recognition, and communication of the positive impact of fisheries professionals on aquatic resources and society.

1. The Awards Committee will solicit volunteers to judge papers and posters at the annual meeting for the following categories: Best Professional Paper, Best Student Paper, and Best Poster.
2. The Scholarship Committee will administer the Carol Nordén Scholarship, and participate in selection of the Richard Frie Scholarship recipient through UW-Stevens Point.
3. The Executive, Awards, and Scholarship Committees will consider recipients for the Bill Threinen Outstanding Service Award. This award recognizes longtime commitment and outstanding dedication to the Chapter.
4. The Executive Committee will occasionally update a detailed Chapter history, which will be archived on the Chapter web site.
5. The Web Committee will continue to update a web-based record of official Chapter documents (including newsletter, meeting minutes, approved Long-Range plans, resolutions, photographs, official position statements and Chapter history).

F. Maintain or enhance Chapter membership

1. The Membership Committee will send reminder letters to delinquent members and actively recruit new members, particularly from under-represented groups (e.g., water resource professionals, women, minorities).
2. The Membership Committee will explore corporate membership possibilities from environmentally responsible businesses.

G. Foster student involvement in all appropriate Chapter activities.

1. The Membership Committee will establish a Chapter mentor program for college students.
2. Ensure student involvement in all appropriate Chapter committees and functions.
3. Establish a Student Sub-unit Coordinator position to serve as a liaison and foster communication between the subunits.

H. Evaluate Chapter Mission Statement

1. The Executive Committee will survey Chapter membership as needed to determine desire and/or need to modify Chapter mission statement:

The mission of Chapters within the American Fisheries Society is to advance Society goals by coordinating member activities related to information exchange, outreach, and aquatic stewardship within their geographic region, including coordinating with appropriate local, provincial, and state-level government and non-government agencies and organizations. Chapters serve member needs in local and provincial/state areas and represent those needs to the Division leadership.