

This is AFS



Who is AFS?

- * AFS is...
 - * The oldest & largest professional society for fisheries scientists in the world
 - * Composed of 9000+ members from around the world
- * Membership includes individuals of various occupations who are interested and working in fisheries including:
 - * Biologists
 - * Fisheries managers
 - * Aquaculturists
 - * Engineers
 - * Geneticists
 - * Ecologists
 - * Economists
 - * Social Scientists



AFS Mission

The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to advance sound science, promote professional development, and disseminate science-based fisheries information for the global protection, conservation, and sustainability of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems.



How Did We Get Here?

The History of AFS

- * Established in 1870 in New York City
- * Originally the “American Fish Culturists’ Association”
- * 126 Presidents (including 7 women)
- * 5 Executive Directors (1st in 1965)
- * 137 Annual Meetings (no meetings were held during World War II from 1942-1945)



What Do We Do?

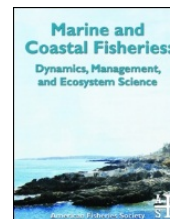
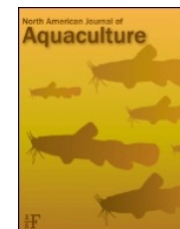
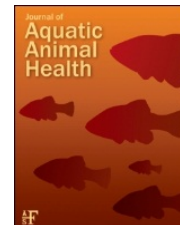
- * Promote scientific research and sustainable management of fisheries resources.
- * Publish some of the world's leading fisheries research journals and books.
- * Organize scientific meetings where new results are reported and discussed.
- * Encourage comprehensive education for fisheries professionals.



Publish Science Information

AFS Journals

- * *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*
- * *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*
- * *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health*
- * *North American Journal of Aquaculture*
- * *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science*



Publish Science Information

Magazine

* *Fisheries*

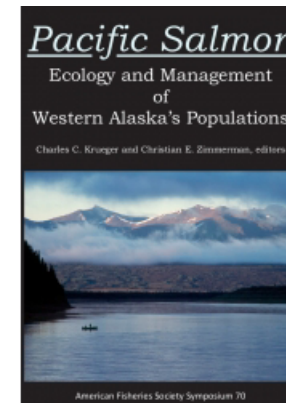
- * Available to all members
- * Each issue contains:
 - * Two feature articles and essays
 - * Columns by the AFS president and executive director
 - * Department updates covering conference announcements, unit activities, letters, & publications
 - * Job announcements



Publish Science Information

Books

- * The latest aspects of research, management, policy, and techniques are addressed by AFS books.
- * AFS books cover a wide range of subjects including:
 - * Fish biology
 - * Ecology
 - * Introduced species
 - * Economics
 - * Other related aspects of aquatic science
- * Over 175 titles are available including
 - * Textbooks, Symposia proceedings, Monographs & other books.



Hold Scientific Meetings

- * AFS organizes a major annual meeting plus several more specialized symposia.
- * 141st annual meeting was held in Seattle, WA, September 2011
 - * Approximately 4,000 fisheries professionals attended from around the world. (Largest Meeting Ever)
 - * 2,600 oral presentation and 500 posters
 - * 19 Continuing Education Workshops
- * 4 division and 48 chapter meetings throughout North America



Develop Policy Statements

- * AFS occasionally takes positions on major fisheries-related issues due to its mission of conservation.
 - * Some issues include:
 - * Climate Change
 - * Use of Lead in Sport Fishing Tackle
 - * Marine Stocks at Risk
 - * Contaminants in Water Resources
 - * Exotic Species Introductions
 - * Statements are carefully reviewed and vetted by members prior to adoption



Promote Education

- * Encourage Comprehensive Fisheries and Aquatic Science Education
- * Professional Certification
 - * Promotes strong curriculum
 - * Encourages professional minimum standards
- * Promote Student Involvement
 - * AFS has 58 university-based student subunits



How Are We Organized?

* Leadership

- * AFS Officers
- * Executive Director
- * Governing Board

* Committees

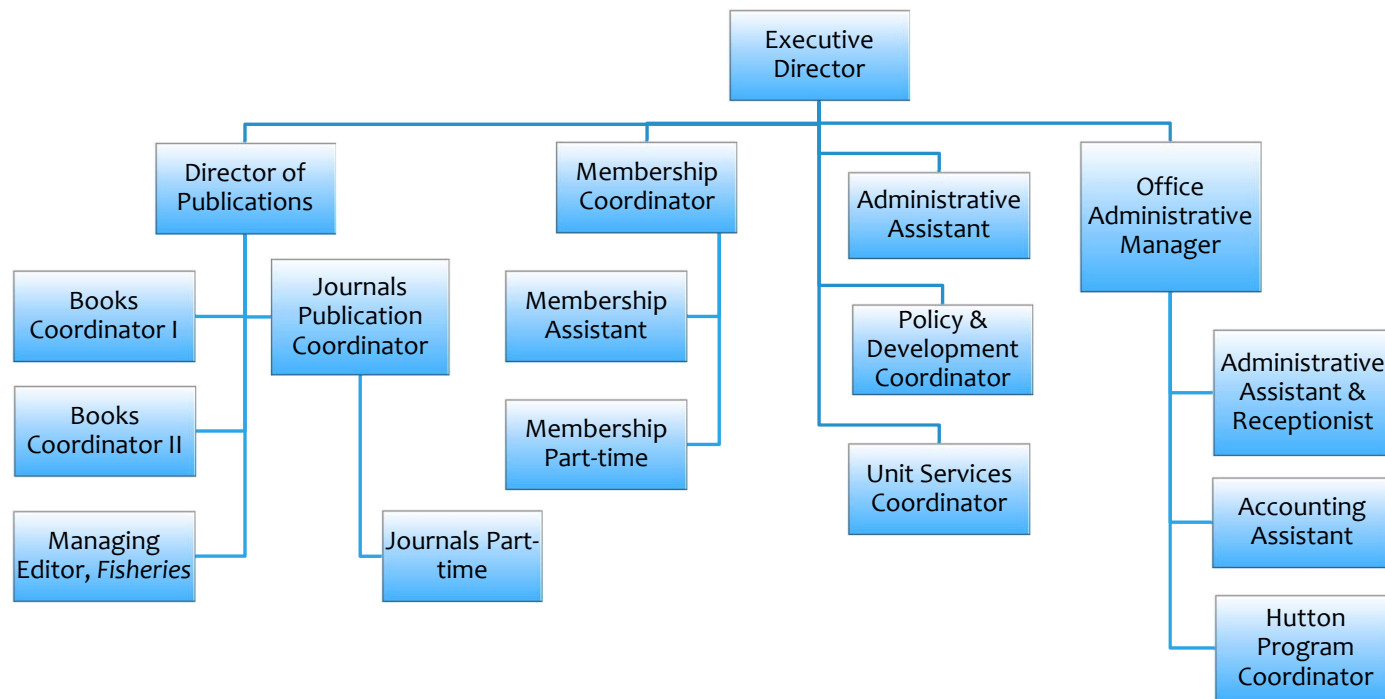
- * Standing
- * Special
- * Boards
- * Liaisons
- * Task Forces
(Fulfill the charges of the President for the Society)

* AFS Staff

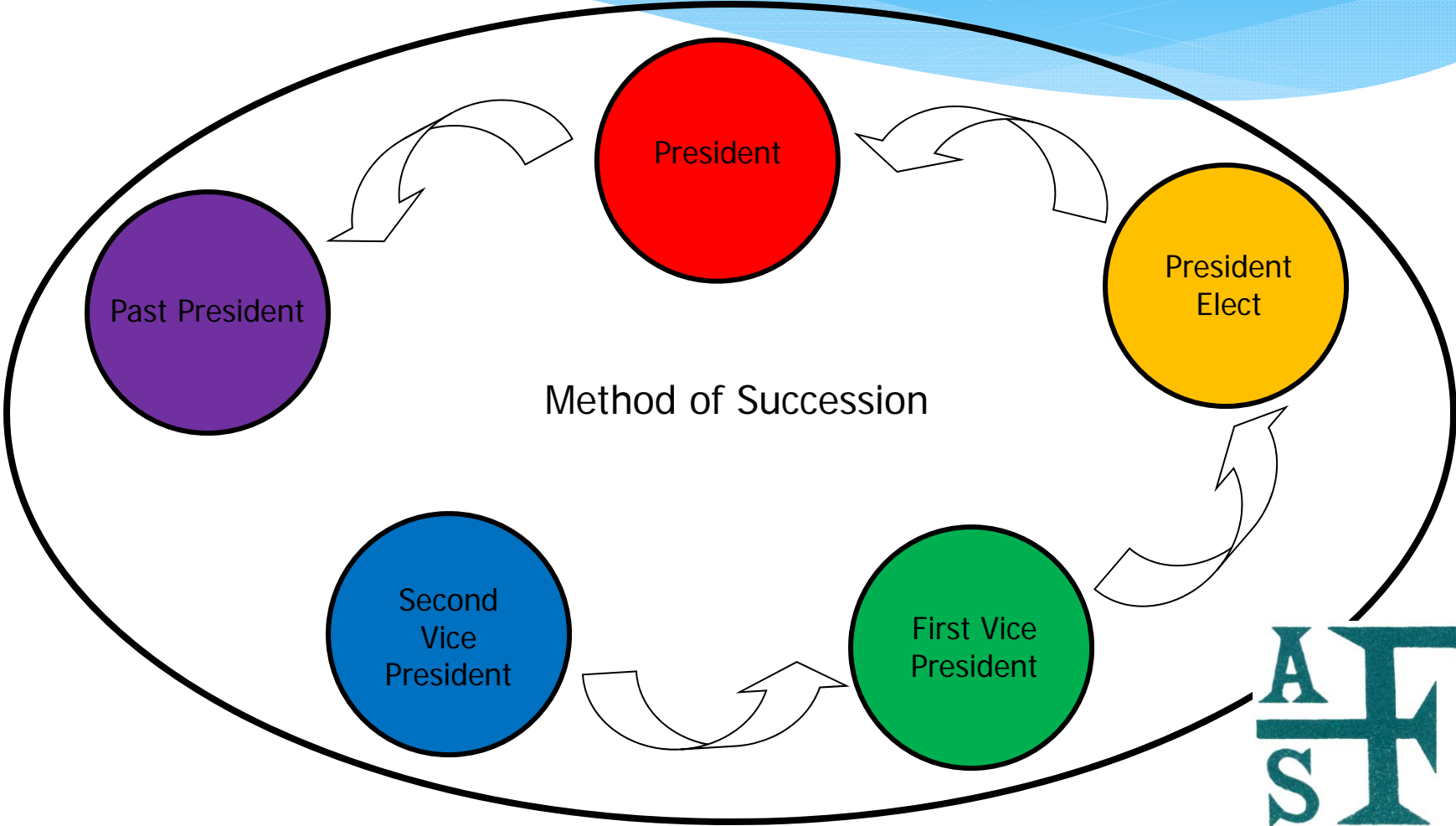
- * Publications Director
- * Membership Coordinator
- * Officer
Administrative Manager
(Fulfill Society duties for the Executive Director)



AFS Staff – Organizational Chart



AFS Officers



AFS Committees

- * AFS Committees currently include 28 standing committees and 4 special committees.
- * Standing committees include:
 - * Awards Committees
 - * Continuing Education
 - * Resource Policy
- * Special committees include:
 - * Affiliate Membership
 - * Hutton Junior Fisheries Program
 - * Executive Director Succession Planning



Liaisons

- * AFS members serve as liaisons to various fisheries related boards and organizations including:
 - * American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
 - * Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
 - * National Fish Habitat Action Plan Board
 - * Society for Conservation Biology
 - * World Aquaculture Society
 - * World Council of Fisheries Societies



Divisions

- * Serve member needs in large geographic area coordinating with federal, provincial and state-level agencies and organizations. The 4 divisions are:
 - * North Central
 - * Northeastern
 - * Southern
 - * Western



Chapters

- * Serve members' needs in local and federal, provincial and state areas and represent those needs to the Division leadership
- * 48 chapters in North America
 - * Including two bi-national chapters (Atlantic International, Washington-British Columbia)
 - * and the Mexico Chapter



Student Subunits & Sections

- * Subunits

- * Organized within Chapters, they serve as a way for students to be involved within their institution and network with local professionals.

- * Sections

- * Serve member needs without geographic limits and represents member needs to AFS leadership relative to a specific discipline or topic area including:
 - * Equal Opportunity
 - * Fish Culture
 - * Socioeconomics



Where Are We Going?

AFS Leadership

- * Leadership Team:
 - * President and Officers
 - * Executive Director and Staff
 - * Governing Board and Management Committee
 - * Chapter Presidents
 - * Committee Chairs



Where Are We Going?

Key Documents

- * Guiding Documents
 - * Constitution, Rules, and Procedures
- * Planning Documents
 - * AFS Strategic Plan
 - * President's Plan of Work
 - * Executive Director's Program of Work
 - * Unit Plans and Committee Charges



Where Are We Going?

AFS Vision 2020

- * Global Fisheries Leadership
 - * Promote fisheries conservation throughout North America and the world at all levels of government and society and among all levels of AFS by supporting sound science and networking opportunities.
 - * Increase science-based fisheries conservation by interactions with AFS members and government policy makers.
 - * Promote fisheries conservation through development and dissemination of public outreach materials.



Where Are We Going?

AFS Vision 2020

- * Education/Continuing Education
 - * Encourage educational institutions at all levels to maintain excellent academic programs in fisheries sciences and related disciplines to assure recruitment of fisheries professionals that meet the needs of employers.
 - * Ensure that the fisheries professional certification program reflects the integration of many sciences relevant to fisheries while ensuring its recognition as a mark of scientific excellence and expertise.
 - * Provide a wide array of continuing education opportunities using innovative methods to reach the widest possible audience of fisheries professionals.



Where Are We Going?

AFS Vision 2020

- * Value of membership
 - * Determine and respond to the needs and opinions of AFS members.
 - * Enhance participation of students and professionals at all levels of the society to assure recruitment, retention, and leadership development into the future.
 - * Promote diversity within AFS and the fisheries profession.
 - * Develop innovative and cost effective methods to make fisheries science and management information readily available to AFS members and all levels of government entities worldwide.
 - * Practice good governance and organizational management.



How Do You Get Involved?

- * AFS is a member-driven organization
- * Join at www.fisheries.org
- * Attend a Division, Chapter or Student Subunit meeting
- * Already a member? Get more involved and volunteer for a committee or run for office

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