



AZ/NM AFS Chapter Award Nominations

The Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society has six awards for recognizing aquatic professionals. The Awards Committee needs your help in submitting qualified candidates to receive awards at the 2019 Annual Meeting. This is your opportunity to become involved and see that your professional peers receive the deserved recognition from the Arizona/New Mexico American Fisheries Society.

Conservationist of the Year Award: This award recognizes an individual or group not employed in the fisheries or aquatic resources profession for significant involvement and contributions towards the conservation of fisheries or aquatic resources.

Conservation Professional of the Year Award: This award recognizes an individual employed in a capacity related to fisheries and/or aquatic resources conservation that makes significant impacts on the resource. Nominees can come from Administration, Culture, Education, Management, Research, or Technical Support.

Kelly Meyer Sportfish Professional of the Year Award: In memory of Mr. Kelly Meyer (AZGFD), this award recognizes an individual employed in a capacity related to sportfish management of fisheries and/or aquatic resources that makes a significant impact on the resource. Nominees can come from Administration, Culture, Education, Management, Research, or Technical Support.

Fish Head of the Year Award: This award recognizes an individual for his/her dedication to the aquatic resources and their career achievements.

Stinky Boot Award: Recognizes the most outrageous behavior of any fisheries student or professional in the year prior to the Chapter's Annual Meeting.

Due Date: January 20th, 2019

Award criteria can be found on the Arizona/New Mexico AFS website (or below):

<http://arizona-newmexico.fisheries.org/awards/>

For more information or to submit an award nomination please contact:

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AZ/NM AFS Chapter Award Criteria

Criteria for Conservationist of the Year Award

The Conservationist of the Year Award is for significant involvement and accomplishments by an individual or group not employed in the fisheries or aquatic resources profession. Nominations should include a brief biography and discussion of the significant involvement and contributions towards conservation of fisheries and/or aquatic resources. The only criteria for this award is that the award is based on fisheries and/or aquatic resource-related work accomplished in Arizona or New Mexico and can span more than one year.

Criteria for Professional of the Year Award (Conservation and Sportfish Professional)

The Professional of the Year Award is awarded to an individual employed in a capacity related to fisheries and aquatic resources. Nominations for individuals should include a brief biography along with information pertaining to service, impact on the resource and other professionals, and significant accomplishments.

1. Only members in good standing can make nominations.
2. The recipient must be a member in good standing.
3. The award is based on fisheries-related work accomplished in Arizona or New Mexico and can span more than one year.
4. The nominee may not be on the Nominations/Awards Committee.
5. Eligible accomplishments by the nominee can be from any of the following categories:

Administration

- a. Development of innovative management programs, research activities, or facilities that significantly affect fisheries management and conservation on a regional or statewide level
- b. Leadership in implementation of regulations or management programs that address regional or statewide fisheries issues
- c. Development of new sources of funding for fisheries programs
- d. Leadership in the development of public outreach or recognition/award programs
- e. Significant and effective promotion of fisheries management and conservation activities on a regional or statewide level

Culture

- a. Development of techniques that produce fish more safely, more efficiently, or more economically
- b. Development of methods that produce species not formerly cultured
- c. Development of techniques that produce more fish
- d. Participation in the development of equipment that benefited fish culture
- e. Promotion of fish culture
- f. Participation in the production of a record number of fish (may be station or species specific)

Education

- a. Development of an innovative approach to fisheries education as illustrated through development of a new or revised course or curriculum

- b. Publication of a journal article, extension publication, book, or book chapter that contributed significantly to fisheries education
- c. Contribution of notable service in public education programs
- d. Development of educational media (software, videotape, slide tape, etc.) that contributed significantly to fisheries education
- e. Outstanding contribution to the profession through service as an officer or other leader of an educational organization (e.g., Education Section of the AFS)

Management

- a. Development of management plans or strategies or implementation of management practices (reservoir or pond management plans, pre-impoundment work, habitat work, development of urban fisheries). This would include private water work
- b. Education of the public in areas of fishing or fisheries management (conducting fishing clinics, educational programs, contact with various media, development of brochures, newsletters, bulletin boards, fliers, popular articles, etc.)
- c. Coordination with different agencies (cities, counties, or federal government) or reservoir controlling authorities to develop or implement management strategies
- d. Participation in professional scientific organizations in the fisheries field to include offices held, committees served on, or other activities accomplished for the organization

Research

- a. Research contribution should add to the understanding of a biological problem or to solving a resource problem
- b. Research contribution can be basic, applied, or a combination
- c. Research contribution should have been disseminated, in order of importance, in a peer-reviewed journal, non-peer-reviewed publication, or an oral presentation
- d. Research in professional and public organizations in the fisheries field, which comment, advise, or review research activities
- e. In order of importance, the nominee's role in a research project should be directing the project or program, establishing the project or program, analyzing data, or conceiving the project or program

Technical Support

- a. Development of new or improved design and/or construction of equipment used in field sampling, culture operations, lab analysis, etc.
- b. Participation in outstanding or unique management, research, or culture activities, which contributed significantly to the fisheries profession
- c. Participation in programs to educate other fisheries workers or the public (fishing clinics, seminars, articles, brochures, etc.)
- d. Accomplishments resulting in new or improved techniques or greater efficiency (data compilation and analysis, improved lab techniques, more productive fish culture techniques, improved fish sampling techniques, etc.).

Procedures for Determining Award Recipient

1. All nominations sent in by an announced deadline will be distributed to the Nominations/Awards Committee members.

2. The Chairperson and members will then vote to determine the recipient(s).
3. If more than one nominee is considered outstanding by the committee members, than multiple awards can be awarded.
4. If the members do not feel that there is a suitable nominee, than an award will not be given.

Criteria for Fish Head of the Year Award

1. The nominee must have been a member of the Arizona/New Mexico Chapter of The American Fisheries Society for the majority of his/her career.
2. The nominee must have a sustained record of productivity in applied fisheries science that must include research, management, conservation or education. This award is intended to honor an individual's record of achievements over their entire career, rather than accomplishments involving a single endeavor. These may include:
 - a. A monumental multi-year project, or
 - b. Original techniques or research methods, or
 - c. New, fresh ideas, viewpoints, or data which contribute remarkably to conservation, management or basic understanding of fisheries resources, or
 - d. A new successfully executed fishery research or management program of regional importance, or
 - e. Imaginative and successful programs in fish conservation, education, or management at any level of teaching or graduate student guidance, or
 - f. Important faunal or ecological discoveries or new taxonomic criteria, or
 - g. Interdisciplinary research involving leadership in team efforts in the laboratory or field, or
 - h. Multiple successful efforts in a variety of fields such as biology, technical and popular writing, laboratory and field research, inspirational leadership, public outreach or education.
3. The body of applicant's work must have resulted in significant improvements in fisheries management or conservation, on-the-ground management practices, or fisheries policies.
4. The nominee has a chapter-wide reputation for excellence in fisheries science.
5. The nominee is recognized as a mentor to other fisheries professionals within the chapter.

Specifications and Limitations

- a. Award recipient must be living at the time of selection
- b. The award will not necessarily be made annually, but will be made only in such years, as there is substantial or unanimous agreement among members of the Awards Committee than an award is justified.
- c. A CV of career achievements along with no more than three letters of support should be included with nomination.

Criteria for Stinky Boot Award

Field work for most biologists provides sanity. For a majority of our trips, everything goes as planned and without incident. However, there are times when things just don't work out correctly: an ATV is flipped, a truck gets stuck, a boat runs ashore, or maybe equipment becomes fish habitat. Frustrating when it occurs, it is later on that one can laugh about it. The "Stinky Boot" award

recognizes the most outrageous episode of any fisheries student or professional in the year subsequent to the annual meeting. Tell us your own tale or provide one for someone else (1 page or less). The winner of this prestigious award will receive a beautiful stinky boot traveling award to proudly display in his or her office.