

Long-Range Plan

Wisconsin Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

2002-2012

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 through the Long-range Planning Committee 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.

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

1. Establish a Legislative Action Committee to develop a monitoring process for key State legislation and policy initiatives; provide Chapter policy or position statements on Wisconsin fisheries issues to key legislative committees or caucuses.
2. Establish a Letters-to-the-Editor Committee and process to provide Chapter opinion in key issues.
3. Appoint an Environmental Committee to develop a list of aquatic resource issues and strategies, which will be submitted to the Executive Committee for action (e.g., submittal to legislators, elected executives and letters to editors columns).
4. On issues relating to aquatic resource stewardship partner on position statements and legislative/executive branch contacts w/other professional societies and non-governmental organizations, where possible and appropriate.
5. The Resolutions Committee will actively solicit resolution ideas from the Environmental Committee, Legislative Action Committee and the membership at-large.

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. The Raffle and Revenue Committee will solicit ads from environmentally responsible clients for inclusion in the newsletter and website to supplement the Chapter budget.

4. Make most social functions financially self-supporting or profitable.

5. 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 every four months.

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 at least every three years 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. Help arrange and organize a leadership retreat once every five years to identify important concerns shared with other societies and interest groups.

7. The Web Committee will establish a computer bulletin board accessible to all Chapter members.

8. Publish, using electronic media, proceedings of technical meeting abstracts and business meeting minutes.

9. Hold a joint meeting with another professional society at least once every five years.

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

1. Establish an Outreach Committee to increase public awareness of the Society and fisheries and aquatic resource issues.

2. The Outreach Committee, in collaboration with the Web Committee, will develop and make available to members slides, powerpoint or webpage images describing what fisheries professionals do.

3. The Outreach Committee will develop a Q and A column for newspapers and magazines to answer questions regarding current fisheries science and management issues.

4. The Chapter president (and others who are interested) will represent the Chapter at Career Day's at one or more colleges per year.

5. The Outreach Committee will distribute fish facts booklet to local media.

6. Establish and regularly present a corporate-sponsored teacher's award for innovative curricula or lesson plans on fisheries or aquatic resources by 2003.

7. Establish an Emeritus Committee to administer the Teachers Award program.

Among the committee's responsibilities would be to find corporate sponsors and to review award applications.

8. The Local Arrangements Committee will invite public officials (local, state and federal representatives) and local media to attend annual meetings.

F. Foster friendship and communication among people interested in aquatic resources

1. Have Local Arrangements Committee prepare invitation lists of local civic, fisheries and related industry representatives for annual mixers and banquets.
2. The Executive Committee will ask for volunteers to serve on a Fish-in Committee that would sponsor and organize annual fishing outings to bring Chapter members together.
3. The Executive Committee will commission the drafting of a detailed Chapter history, which will be archived on the Chapter web site.
4. The Web Committee and student-subunit will establish a web-based record of official Chapter documents (including newsletter, meeting minutes, approved Long-Range plans, resolutions, photographs, official position statements and Chapter history).
5. Raffle off a donated hunting, fishing or other fun day at annual meetings.
6. Publish newsletter electronically. Continue to provide hard copies as needed.

G. 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.

H. 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.

I. Evaluate Chapter Mission Statement

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