

2016 WALLY MCCLURE SCHOLARSHIP



Wally McClure was an incredible advocate and leader for conservation and wise management of aquatic resources in Montana. In an effort to continue his legacy and promote educational opportunities for fisheries students in Montana, the MT Chapter AFS established an annual scholarship in his name for undergraduate and graduate fisheries students.

In 2016, two *Wally McClure Student Fisheries Scholarships* shall be awarded to students pursuing either undergraduate or graduate degrees in aquatic natural resources from a University/College in Montana. Graduate projects should be focused on native fisheries conservation, management, and/or habitat restoration. This document establishes the annual undergraduate and graduate student awards in fisheries and sets forth the conditions under which they shall be dispersed.

Purpose: To recognize and promote academic and professional excellence in the field of fisheries science and especially native fish conservation and management, and habitat restoration.

Funding: Funds shall be provided by the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (MCAFS) and administered by members of the Chapters' Executive Committee.

Amount of award:

- Graduate Scholarship: The award shall equal **\$1,250** and will be presented via check directly to the student.

- Undergraduate Scholarship: The award shall equal **\$500** and will be presented via check directly to the student.

Date of award: The awards shall be made at the annual meeting of the MCAFS, at the Red Lion Colonial Hotel, Helena, MT on February 16-19. Please submit applications no later than **January 31, 2016**.

Eligibility: A student recipient must meet the following criteria:

1. Full-time enrollment as an undergraduate or graduate student in Fish and Wildlife Management with an emphasis in aquatic natural resources at a University/College in Montana.
2. Graduate research projects or research interests (undergraduate candidates) shall focus on the conservation or management of native fish and/or aquatic habitat restoration.

Selection: The student recipients shall be selected by members of the MCAFS Excom and an Ad-Hoc Committee Chair. Criteria for selection shall include:

1. Demonstrated interest and commitment to native fisheries, especially native fish conservation, management, and aquatic habitat restoration. Interest and commitment will be evaluated primarily by the applicability of the applicant's research project (graduate candidates), career goals in fisheries science, employment experience, and participation in AFS.
2. Academic merit, including GPA and course selection.
3. Financial need, particularly with regards to how the award stipend will be used to further the conservation needs of Montana native fish.
4. Reference from major professor(s) and/or project advisors.

2016 WALLY MCCLURE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Use this form to apply for the *Wally McClure Fisheries Scholarship* to be awarded at the 2016 annual meeting of the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Additional information regarding the *Wally McClure Fisheries Scholarship* can be found at the [Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society website](#).

Please complete the application and either email an electronic copy or send a hard copy to:

Darin Watschke
Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF
5 Forest Service Road
Ennis, MT 59729
(dwatschke@fs.fed.us)

Completed applications must be received no later than **January 31, 2016**. Limit answers to the word limit provided. Additional information will not be considered.

For Undergraduates: Undergraduate candidates shall answer question 2 in regard to graduate research **interests** and **research experience**.

Part 1. To be completed by the applicant.

Name of applicant:

Address:

Phone number:

Email:

Current University/College attending:

Current Status: B.S./B.A. anticipated:
 M.S., year started:
 Ph.D., year started:

Grade Point Average: _____ B.S. _____ M.S. _____ Ph.D.

1. AFS Involvement

a) Are you an AFS member: ____Yes____No

b) To which AFS Units (e.g. Chapters, Sections) do you belong and at what level (e.g., president, committee chair, member)?

- c) Describe your professionalism and leadership qualities that you believe help make you stand out as a candidate for the Wally McClure Fisheries Scholarship (100 word limit). For example, describe your involvement in professional society activities (presentations, publications, memberships, committees, reviews, symposia, awards, outreach activities etc.).
2. Describe your research project or research interests and experience and how it/they relate to native fish conservation and management and/or aquatic habitat restoration (200 word limit).
3. Briefly describe your professional goals in the aquatic natural resource field (100 word limit).
4. Briefly describe your financial need, particularly how the award stipend would be used to further the conservation needs of Montana native fish. (100 word limit).

*Wally McClure was an extremely successful and highly regarded Fishery Biologist, who was also very resourceful. On a personal note, during his college career Wally often rode his bike to work all winter, lived in a small apartment with 2 other class mates, and at times subsisted on little more than PB&J and elk meat. Any personal examples that may parallel Wally's resourcefulness and need for financial support during college are encouraged.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Part II. To be completed by the applicant's major professor(s) and/or project advisor(s).

Applicant name:

Name of advisor:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

1. Please describe the applicants' career potential in the aquatic natural resource field and involvement in professional societies such as AFS (200 word limit).

2. Describe how the applicant's research project (graduate candidates) or research interests (undergraduate candidates) will benefit native fisheries resources in Montana (200 word limit).