

The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers

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Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

- The Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) – the organization that represents all of North America's fish and wildlife agencies – promotes sound management and conservation and speaks with a unified voice on important fish and wildlife issues.
- <http://www.fishwildlife.org>

Technologies and Data Utilization Committee

- Formed in 1994 as Point-of-Sale Committee
- Morphed into Automated Sportsmen Data Systems Task Force
- Became Automated Wildlife Data Systems Task Force in 2001
- Became Technologies and Data Utilization Committee in 2005

Point-of-Sale Committee

- Formed in 1994
- Primary purpose was to help states design, develop and implement POS license sales systems
- Very limited in scope

Automated Sportsmen Data Systems Task Force

- Name change was to reflect a change in the task force's priorities
- Now included telephone and online license sales systems
- It became apparent that automated licensing data had more to offer than just sales

Automated Wildlife Data Systems (AWDS) Task Force

- Newest name change meant to reflect the importance of electronic data collection
- No longer limited to license sales; also included harvest and other biological data

Technologies and Data Utilization Committee

- Oversees AWDS Program at AFWA
- Name change encompassed both the evolution to full committee status as well as a commitment to provide support for non-license related data projects
- The AWDS Program Coordinator is the point of contact for all information management related projects that concern AFWA

Projects such as...

- Continued support for automating state licensing systems
- Coordinating the eDuck stamp pilot program
- Natural Resources Monitoring Partnership
- Online harvest reporting initiative

The AFWA-OFWIM Connection

- A formal line of communication between the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and the Organization of Fish and Wildlife Information Managers was proposed at the March 2006 meeting of the Technologies and Data Utilization Committee

The AFWA-OFWIM Connection

- Proposal for the AWDS Coordinator to attend the annual OFWIM conferences and then report to the Technologies and Data Utilization Committee at its spring meeting
- AWDS Coordinator would stay in touch with the current OFWIM President throughout the year
- The two organizations could help coordinate multi-state information management efforts

The AWDS Program needs the support of the State Agencies

- Since 2005, the AWDS program has been funded entirely by a subscription program
- For the program to continue, we need participating subscribers
- If your organization does not subscribe, please consider supporting the program