

ORAFS Annual Meeting Fish Out of Water Waiver

Once in a while, even strong fish encounter obstacles, or just run out of water. And the young face plenty of challenge navigating flow changes, currents, and competition while growing into adult habits and habitats. Biologists can relate, yet the hard times are also the best times for a fishery professional to attend the annual meeting and immerse yourself in an ocean of opportunity for contacts, knowledge, jobs, and careers.

To assist those “fish out of water” facing financial hardships, the chapter is offering a new opportunity for reduced registration (\$25) to the annual meeting and/or a related workshop (\$25). The goal of these waivers is to promote membership and development of fisheries professionals who are facing temporary financial challenges, especially during transitional times such as post-graduation, between jobs, or while immersed in unfunded professional endeavors. Selection criteria will include apparent financial need, dedication to profession (including AFS membership and service), and available space at the meeting and/or workshop.

To apply, email the following materials to: SecTreasurer@orafs.org

- Resume and contact info,
- AFS membership number (if a member, helpful but not required),
- Brief summary of why you currently need financial assistance,
- Brief summary of what you will do at the meeting and/or workshop to further your career (e.g. network, present, assist if needed), and
- If employed, a message from your employer indicating why they will not pay your registration fee.

Deadline for applications: January 19

Selections will be made by **January 20**. Those selected must register via www.orafs.org as usual, indicating a “pay at the door” option. Besides the waiver, we can assist in locating other registrants for carpool and lodging opportunities.