



# Gill Raker Gazette

Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

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Editor: Lauren Andrews

## President's Message – “Belonging”

As we get down to the last few weeks before our annual meeting, I can't help but think, “wow, meeting planning this year sure seems to be going smoother than last year!” But, that's partly because I was in charge of the planning last year and have handed that off to Kevin Meyer this year and partly because ICAFS accomplishes its mission through teamwork.

We certainly use the term “team” a lot more in the workplace now than we did decades ago, when “team” meant the San Francisco 49ers, at least if you grew up in northern California like I did. And, I think we are often too generous in using “team” when we really mean “people we work with.” However, in the case of ICAFS, I really do mean “team.”

A team is a group of people with different skills and assignments who work together on a common project toward a common goal. This is a perfect description of the ICAFS team, which consists of committees and their chairs, the elected EXCOM officers, and you the members who volunteer for these positions and who participate in chapter activities. After all, what good is a party if nobody comes?

Thinking specifically of the annual meeting, there is no way we could organize and hold a meeting for 300 people—let alone the 600 we expect at this year's joint Idaho Chapter-Western Division meeting—without a strong team. Everyone on the team has a specific assignment, ranging from developing the plenary session to figuring out how many pizzas to order to making sure the AV equipment works in every session every day. The meeting organizer—the President-Elect in our Chapter—knows what all the tasks are but relies on team members with specific knowledge, skills, and commitments to make it all happen.

But more important than having a team is having an *effective* team. Generally, the characteristics of effective teams include—among other things—clear structure, strong leadership, individual talent, good communication, and a sense of belonging. Structure is provided by the ICAFS bylaws, amended as needed to maintain clarity. For example, one of the proposed bylaw changes you will be voting on in a few weeks clarifies the definition of Chapter membership by aligning it with the definition of AFS membership. Another proposed change makes the Past President a voting member of EXCOM, for consistency with the Western Division and Parent Society, and to take advantage of the knowledge accumulated by the Past President during their previous three years on EXCOM. This proposed change makes one of the strengths of ICAFS—strong leadership—even stronger.



## President's Message (continued)

The last three items on the list above relate back to my previous two newsletter messages about the value of diversity and inclusion in our profession. In my column last summer, I told the story of how a diverse group of young professionals brought their own particular talents to my NGO, talents we needed on the team but might have missed had I not nurtured the careers of people who were different than me. I have had much the same experience on the ICAFS EXCOM these last three years, learning and benefiting from a diverse group of professionals—some young, some not-so-young—each bringing their own experiences, perspectives and talents to the team.

One of the most meaningful and memorable experiences I have had as an ICAFS officer came in the summer of 2021 while a group of us were in a Zoom meeting discussing ideas for the 2022 meeting plenary session. A wide variety of opinions were expressed that day, some very strongly held and some at odds with one another. We had general agreement that we wanted the plenary session to start a discussion about increasing the career success of people traditionally under-represented in the fisheries profession, but we had little agreement on how best to do it.

At one point, one of the people with strongly held opinions said they were uncomfortable with the direction the discussion was going and clearly stated their desires. I was immediately impressed with their clarity, passion, and candor, secretly thinking "I wish I could be that open in a meeting like this!" As it turned out, their comment was exactly what the moment needed, and we found a compromise and moved forward to put on a meeting program we all agreed afterward greatly exceeded everyone's expectations. Together, the team achieved far more than the sum of what each of us could do individually.

Clearly, communication was key to success, in that Zoom-room moment and throughout my time on the ICAFS EXCOM. But a necessary ingredient to effective communication is a sense of belonging. When people feel they truly belong on the team, they feel comfortable and empowered to speak their mind and bring their full and most creative selves to the team effort. It's one thing to bring a diverse group together; it's another to create an environment where everyone feels like they belong there.

I have been an active member of AFS for 27 years, all as a member of the Idaho Chapter. I have been a member of numerous other professional societies over the years, but I never felt like I really belonged to any except AFS. One of my primary goals while serving on EXCOM was to create a space where every ICAFS member—especially those who don't look like me or think like me—feels like they belong. I can't honestly say whether that goal has been met, but I have heard from several individuals over the past two years that we are getting there. If and when that goal is achieved, it is because of the outstanding team I have had the privilege of working with over the past three years.

Thank you all for the experience.

Rob Van Kirk

*(he/him/his)*

ICAFS President



## Details for the Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting!

May 8-11, 2023 at the Boise Centre

### Register and reserve rooms now!

Please visit our meeting website to register, following this [link](#).

**In-person registration** is \$425 for professionals who are AFS members and \$525 for non-AFS members. These are early registration rates which end at 11:59pm on April 7th, and fees increase generally by \$100 after that, so don't delay in your registration.

There are drastically reduced rates for students and retired fisheries professionals, as well as for young professionals. Young professionals are those who are no longer students but are not yet in a situation where their employer will pay registration costs. Examples include college graduates working part-time or seasonal positions. If you are uncertain if you qualify as a young professional, contact Kevin Meyer at [kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov) for further information.



**Guests** (e.g., spouses) are welcome to join us for social events! The Welcoming Social (Monday, May 8) will be held at the Idaho Historical Museum, and will include food as well as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Attendees can also tour the entire museum. The Fundraising Banquet (Wednesday, May 10) will be held at the Boise Centre and will include a plethora of live auction, silent auction, and raffle items. Food as well as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will again be provided. To register guests, go to this [link](#).

**Hotel accommodations** are available at the following locations, and more details are available [here](#), including booking links for our meeting. Room block releases end soon (see below), so book now!

**The Grove Hotel:** (855) 229-5924

245 S. Capitol Boulevard, Boise, ID 83702

**Group Name:** Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Room block holds end on April 14, 2023.

**Residence Inn Boise City Center:** (208) 472-3365

400 S. Capitol Boulevard, Boise, ID 83702

**Group Name:** 2023 May American Fisheries Society Western Division Conference

Room block holds end on April 14, 2023.

**Hampton Inn & Suites Boise-Downtown:** (208) 331-1900

495 S Capital Boulevard, Boise, ID 83702

**Group Name:** AFS Western Division Conference

Room block holds on April 15, 2023.

**Hotel 43:** (855) 516-1090

981 W. Grove Street, Boise, ID 83702

**Group Name:** Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Room block holds on April 7, 2023.



## Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

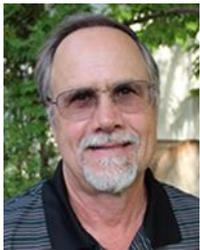
### Meeting Theme and Plenary Session

#### “Managing Aquatic Ecosystems and Shifting Baselines: Challenges and Opportunities”

Nearly one-quarter into the 21st century, fisheries professionals are challenged as never before by a changing climate. In terms of managing aquatic ecosystems, Dr. Daniel Pauly coined the term "shifting baselines" to refer to the loss of perception of ecological change from one generation to the next, but for the purposes of this meeting, we use the term to refer to unrelenting transformation of the earth's climate that will likely continue for many decades and that will clearly require seismic shifts in how we manage and conserve aquatic ecosystems. A new thought process is emerging to address fisheries and wildlife management and conservation in the face of such dramatic climate change: Resist-Accept-Direct (RAD). Resist represents the traditional practice of implementing actions to counteract changes and restore ecosystems to prior conditions. Accept is when decisions are made to allow ecological conditions to change without implementing restoration actions, perhaps to divert energy away from "lost causes" and focus efforts where positive outcomes are more achievable. Direct is attempting to forecast future conditions and implement actions that attempt to steer ecosystem changes so that some sort of ecological function persists, though the former ecosystem may not. Three plenary speakers and other invited speakers will provide a forum to explore RAD and other resource management frameworks from various avenues of research, management, and conservation.



### Plenary Speakers



Dr. Frank J. Rahel  
Department of Zoology and Physiology  
University of Wyoming



Dr. Mary Donovan  
School of Geographical Science and Urban Planning  
Arizona State University



Dr. Amy Teffer  
Northeast Climate Adaptation Science Center  
University of Massachusetts Amherst



## Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

### American Fisheries Society Code of Conduct

The American Fisheries Society has a [Code of Conduct](#) for participants in all AFS activities, including Division and Chapter meetings. The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe, productive, and welcoming environment for all meeting participants, including vendors and non-AFS guests. The AFS Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee (EPCC) is responsible for handling complaints related to potential violations of the Code of Conduct, while helping to ensure consistent treatment of members across all AFS units. The EPCC has created an [online reporting form](#) for meeting attendees to submit complaints directly to the EPCC chair. Please take time to familiarize yourself with the Code of Conduct and its purpose.

### Schedule At A Glance

As of March 29, 2023, times are tentative but will likely not change more than 20-30 minutes. Specific rooms for workshops and contributed presentations are still TBD, but all will be held at the Boise Centre.

Monday, May 8		
0730-1700	Registration	Boise Centre, Lobby
0800-1700	Workshops (one all day, six half day)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
0800-1700	Vendor set-up	Boise Centre, Room 130
1400-1700	Speaker presentation uploading	Boise Centre, Room 120C
1300-1700	Poster set-up	Boise Centre, Room 100C
1600-1700	ICAFS EXCOM Pre-Meeting	TBD
1700-1730	Volunteer and moderator meeting	Boise Centre, Room TBD
1730-1830	Alphabet Social	Idaho Historical Museum
1830-2130	Welcome Social	Idaho Historical Museum
Tuesday, May 9		
0700-1700	Registration	Boise Centre, Lobby
0700-1600	Speaker presentation uploading	Boise Centre, Room 120C
0800-1700	Vendor booths	Boise Centre, Room 130
0800-1700	Poster and fundraising displays	Boise Centre, Room 100C
0800-1000	Meeting opening and plenary session	Boise Centre, Room 100A
1000-1020	Refreshments with vendors/posters/fundraisers	Boise Centre, Rms. 100C & 130
1020-1205	Invited speaker session	Boise Centre, Room 100A
1205-1320	ICAFS committee meetings + box lunch	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1205-1320	First-generation college students lunch	TBD
1205-1320	Early career professionals lunch	Warehouse Food Hall
1320-1540	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1540-1700	Refreshments with vendors/posters/fundraisers	Boise Centre, Rms. 100C & 130
1600-1700	Spawning run/walk	TBD
1700-1800	Student/Mentor Panel Discussion	TBD
1800-2130	Student/Professional Mixer	Boise Centre, Room 100A



## Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

### Schedule At A Glance (continued)

Wednesday, May 10		
0730-1700	Registration	Boise Centre, Lobby
0700-1600	Speaker presentation uploading	Boise Centre, Room 120C
0800-1700	Vendor booths	Boise Centre, Room 130
0800-1700	Poster and fundraising displays	Boise Centre, Room 100C
0800-1000	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
0820-0950	Film and Photo Festival – morning showing	Boise Centre, Room 100B
1000-1130	Poster session with morning refreshments	Boise Centre, Rms. 100C & 130
1000-1130	Vendors Trade Show with morning refreshments	Boise Centre, Room 130
1130-1330	ICAFS Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon	Boise Centre, Room 100A
1340-1520	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1340-1510	Film and Photo Festival – afternoon showing	Boise Centre, Room 100B
1520-1540	Refreshments with vendors/posters/fundraisers	Boise Centre, Rms. 100C & 130
1540-1700	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
Afternoon	Early career professional resume/interview workshop	Boise Centre, Room 140
1800-2230	Banquet & Fundraiser	Boise Centre, Room 100A
Thursday, May 11		
0800-1200	Vendor booths	Boise Centre, Room 130
0800-1500	Poster take-down	Boise Centre, Room 100C
0800-1000	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1000-1020	Refreshments with vendors	Boise Centre, Room 130
1020-1200	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1200-1320	WDAFS Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon	Boise Centre, Room 100A
1330-1450	Contributed presentations (concurrent)	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1200-1500	Vendor take-down	Boise Centre, Room 130
1500	Meeting close and best paper awards	Boise Centre, Rooms TBD
1515-1645	ICAFS EXCOM Post-Meeting	Boise Centre, Room 140

### Idaho Recognized as Outstanding Large Chapter of 2023

We are excited to announce that your chapter has been selected as the Outstanding Large Chapter for 2023 by the Western Division. The award will be presented at the WDAFS Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon on Thursday, May 11th. Please join us in celebrating this well-earned recognition.

### Judges and moderators needed!

Want to help the meeting organizers put on a top-notch meeting? You can participate by volunteering to be a session moderator or a presentation judge. Contact Jake Hughes at [jhughes@idahopower.com](mailto:jhughes@idahopower.com) if you would like to volunteer to be a moderator for an oral presentation session. Contact Jim Chandler [jchandler@idahopower.com](mailto:jchandler@idahopower.com) if you want to help with judging oral presentations or posters.



## Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

### Workshops on Monday, May 8

There are seven workshops available that are either all day or are either morning or afternoon sessions. They include workshops on small stream restoration, human dimensions, monitoring stream temperatures, a primer on Program R, drones and remote sensing, identifying harassment in the field, and there is even a fish printing workshop. Please see the meeting website [here](#) for more details and sign up soon—there is a capacity limit for every workshop and they are filling up fast.

#### Featured Workshops:

#### **Identifying and Preventing Harassment in the Field: A Training by FieldFutures**

**Instructor:** Mandy Frazier, Field Futures

**Date and Time:** May 8th; 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Fee:** \$0

**Maximum Number of Participants:** 30

This FieldFutures harassment and assault prevention workshop will help participants learn to prevent, intervene in, and report incidents of sexual harassment and assault in scientific or field settings. They will also learn prevention via positive organizational climate-setting activities matters for the movement toward safe, inclusive fieldwork. Grounded in the latest evidence-based research on harassment prevention and organizational psychology, each session is designed to help participants build knowledge, competency, and self-efficacy so they can set and enforce positive norms in fieldwork settings.

#### **Fish Printing Workshop**

**Instructor:** Bruce Koike

**Date and Time:** May 8th; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Lunch:** Not provided

**Fee:** \$95 (\$75 for students)

**Maximum Number of Participants:** 12

**Description:** Learn the Japanese art of Gyotaku also known as Fish Printing. At the core of this art form is that the actual fish is used in the process. Participants make numerous prints and have access to one-on-one interactions with the instructor. Rice paper, paint, brushes and fish are provided. Come with an adventurous spirit of learning. To see more created artwork go to <http://koikebruce.wix.com/koike-fish-prints>.

### Mother's Room

For mothers, a room will be provided for nursing, milk storage, or other mother needs. A refrigerator will be provided, but bottles and a breast pump will not. Ask at the registration desk where this room is located.

### Child Care

On-site child care could not be arranged, but please see the bottom of this [landing page](#) for contact information regarding child care providers nearest the Boise Centre that allow drop-in care.



## Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

### Fundraising

Last year, the members of the Idaho Chapter AFS and corporate sponsors helped generate almost \$25,000.00 in fundraising and this year is shaping up to be even better! Money raised from fundraising not only supports the annual meeting, but also provides grants for student attendance, multiple scholarship opportunities, Trout in the Classroom, and other activities that would not be possible without such generous support. This year, we have rounded up some really great silent-auction and raffle items including an Alpaca pack-raft, multiple fly rods, the coveted 3-night campground reservation at Redfish Lake in Stanley, and many other prizes. We will also have an auctioneer this year to auction off at least five different Idaho fishing trips and numerous pieces of art at the fundraising banquet. Additionally, twenty-eight different organizations have committed to sponsoring the annual meeting. Fundraising will be conducted through the GiveSmart platform again this year so you can participate and bid on items throughout the entire meeting as well as at the main fundraising event on the last night of the meeting (more details on the GiveSmart platform will follow as we get closer to the meeting). We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting and are hoping to make this one of the biggest years ever for fundraising!—The Fundraising Committee

### Conference Merchandise

T-shirts and sweatshirts with the sweet conference logo are available for purchase in a variety of colors, styles, and sizes at this [link](#). They will be shipped directly to your home so you won't lose them at the meeting. Let's see how many people can have them delivered in time to actually wear them during the social events!



# Joint WDAFS/ICAFS Annual Meeting Details (continued)

## Spawning Run

Whether you are a Migrating Salmon or a Walking Batfish, we have options for all your spawning needs. Sponsored by Biomark, this year's event will have a 5k run or 3k walk option along the Boise River Greenbelt Trail at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 9th. It's a great chance to get outside during the meeting to stretch your legs. Be sure to register ahead of time by April 8th to secure your Spawning Run T-shirt. Fishy costumes are encouraged, but please wear more than just fishnet stockings! For more information or to register, click [here](#).



## 2023 ICAFS Executive Committee Candidates

### Vice President

**Darcy McCarrick**—Darcy is a Fisheries Research Biologist for Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Nampa. She is currently responsible for the integrated Chinook Salmon broodstock evaluation in the Salmon River drainage. Darcy received a B.S. in ecology with an emphasis in fisheries in 2017 from BYU-Idaho and a M.S. in natural resources in 2021 from University of Idaho. She has been actively involved with the Idaho Chapter since 2016. During her undergraduate program, Darcy worked with students and faculty to establish the BYU-Idaho Student Subunit and served as the Subunit's first president. As a graduate student, Darcy served as the Palouse Unit president. In both presidencies, Darcy worked to provide students with numerous opportunities to gain fisheries experience and network with professionals by hosting speakers and organizing and facilitating volunteer activities. She is extremely grateful for the opportunities and support the Idaho Chapter has provided to her as a student and professional. Darcy plans to continue the Chapter's legacy of professional development and science communication to benefit all members and the resources of Idaho. Darcy is excited and honored to be considered for Vice President.



## 2023 ICAFS Executive Committee Candidates (continued)

### Vice President

**Joe Kozfkay**—Joe is a State Fisheries Manager with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game with primary oversight of the state's management program. Joe has more than 20 years of experience with the agency including stints as a hatchery trout and burbot researcher as well as a regional biologist and manager. Now, his primary duties include administrative oversight and support for the following statewide programs: sport fisheries management, native species conservation, habitat restoration, as well as fishing and boating access. Prior to joining the agency, Joe earned his M.S. in Fisheries Science from the University of Idaho. His graduate research focused on year class strength and feeding ecology of Paddlefish in Fort Peck Reservoir, MT. Early in his career Joe had the good fortune of working for multiple agencies and universities throughout the country including Michigan State University, University of Missouri, as well as the US Forest Service, Missouri Department of Conservation, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Joe has benefitted greatly from his involvement with ICAFS and looks forward to volunteering in a larger capacity.



## 2023 ICAFS Executive Committee Candidates (continued)

### Secretary/Treasurer

**Eric Stark**—Eric is a Natural Resources Program Coordinator with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) at their Headquarters Office in Boise. While pursuing a B.S. in fisheries management from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, he worked summers as a fisheries technician for the Wisconsin DNR and the Forest Service. After finishing his B.S. in 1995, Eric held several temporary fishery technician positions with the NMFS as a commercial fishery observer in the Bering Sea; the US Fish & Wildlife Service in Cold Bay, Alaska; and with the Illinois Natural History Survey. Then in 1998, Eric moved to Idaho to start his M.S. degree. In 1999-2000 he served as co-president

of the Palouse Student subunit of the Idaho Chapter AFS and in 2001, Eric completed his M.S. in Fishery Resources at the University of Idaho. Eric has worked as a fish biologist for IDFG since 2000. He started on the Dworshak Project from 2000-2007, researching methods to lessen the impacts of dam operations on resident fish populations and monitoring and evaluating the response of the reservoir to nutrient enhancement. In 2008, he entered the anadromous realm finishing up the Captive Chinook project. In 2015, he transitioned to the lead biologist for wild steelhead monitoring and evaluations. And most recently he took a promotion to Program Coordinator to oversee the IDFG's Fishing and Boating Access Program. Eric has been a member of AFS since 1992 and the Idaho Chapter since 1998 and is looking forward to becoming more actively involved in the Chapter. He is excited about the opportunity to serve on the ICAFS Executive Committee as Secretary/Treasurer not only for the invaluable experience, but also to contribute his leadership skills, organization, and enthusiasm.



**Bryce Oldemeyer**—Bryce is a Fish Habitat Specialist with Mount Hood Environmental (MHE) based remotely out of Challis, ID. Bryce was born and raised in Idaho and has spent the last fifteen years conducting fisheries and water resources related research in the Gem State. Bryce earned his B.S. in Environmental Science with an emphasis in Fish and Wildlife Management (2010), Academic Certificate of Statistics (2015), and M.S. in Natural Resources (2015) from the University of Idaho. During his undergraduate and graduate programs, Bryce worked for, or collaborated with, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game conducting salmonid research in the Snake River Basin. In 2016, Bryce began working with the Henry's Fork Foundation in Ashton, ID, where he helped develop water quantity and quality monitoring programs, facilitated habitat restoration projects, and collaborated with state, federal,

NGO, and private stakeholders to find water management strategies that improved (or minimized impacts to) regional fisheries and ecosystems. Bryce currently works for MHE on a variety of projects in Idaho and Oregon ranging from fish habitat assessments to automated data visualization and compliance reporting. Bryce has been involved with ICAFS for over a decade and is excited about the prospective opportunity to give back to the Chapter by serving as the ICAFS Secretary/Treasurer.



## 2023 ICAFS Executive Committee Candidates (continued)

### Nominations Chair



**Rob Ryan**—Rob is a Regional Fisheries Biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. His duties include investigating North Idaho fish populations and using knowledge gained to make fishing better for Idahoans. Rob grew up with a fishing rod in hand. He followed his interest in all things fish by earning a B.S. degree in fisheries resource management from the University of Idaho and a M.S. degree in zoology from the University of Oklahoma. When not on the water, Rob enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters, following his pointing dogs, working in the woodshop, or growing food in the yard. Rob has hung his hat in various locations throughout Idaho, but currently resides in the Coeur d'Alene area. Rob has been involved with AFS and the Idaho Chapter since the late 90's (with a brief hiatus to the Southern Division). As an AFS member, Rob has presented at the state, division, and national levels. He has previously served the Idaho Chapter as a fundraising committee member, and as Secretary/Treasurer for two years. He is excited for another opportunity to serve the Chapter and participate on the ICAFS Executive Committee as the Nominations Chair.

**Ryan Whitworth**—Ryan is a newly hired fish biologist for the Salmon-Challis National Forest (SCNF) based out of Leadore, Idaho. In the short time he has worked on the SCNF, his focus has been to support ongoing ESA-listed species monitoring in the Lemhi River, Panther Creek, the Middle Fork Salmon River, and the North Fork Salmon River drainages. Prior to working with the Forest Service, Ryan has worked seasonal jobs with the Bureau of Land Management, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game since 2015. As an undergraduate and graduate student at Idaho State University, Ryan was an active participant in the student subunit at the university. He held various leadership positions (secretary, vice president, and president) within the student subunit and loved the opportunity to rub shoulders with others that had similar interests. He has been a member of the AFS since 2012 and is grateful for the professional opportunities that the Idaho Chapter of the AFS has afforded him. Ryan would be honored to be given the opportunity to serve as the nominations chair.



## Announcements and Updates

### Voting for EXCOM Members and Bylaw Changes

It's that time to start thinking of your next ICAFS EXCOM members. This year's voting will be done with electronic balloting. Voting opens on Wednesday, April 26th and will remain open through Tuesday, May 9th at 12:00 A.M. As a reminder, ICAFS members are eligible to vote so long as they are members of National AFS. If you have not paid your National AFS dues, you can't vote in the ICAFS elections. **You will only receive a ballot if your National AFS dues are current for the year.** This ballot will also include voting for ICAFS Bylaw changes. The proposed bylaw changes were emailed out on March 7th for your review.

The deadline for National AFS member dues paid is April 1st. If dues are paid after this date and you would like to vote, please email Christine Stewart at [Christine.stewart@usda.gov](mailto:Christine.stewart@usda.gov) to receive a ballot. The ballot link will be emailed to the email address associated with your National AFS membership, so make sure that is up to date in your member profile. Please be sure to check your spam or junk boxes to ensure you receive the voting information. Election results will be announced live at the ICAFS Annual Business meeting on May 10th, 2023.

### Volunteers Sought to Distribute Native Fish Posters to Schools

The Native Fish Committee has printed hundreds of "Native Fishes of Idaho" posters and is seeking volunteers to distribute the posters to schools in Idaho. The posters are 2' x 3' and feature 47 species/forms, each with an illustration by Joseph Tomelleri and including text with information on each taxonomic family. The text is intended to be understandable by Idaho grade-schoolers, but the posters should be suitable for high school and college classrooms, too.

The posters are printed on heavy paper and should last for a decade or more with proper handling and care, but this sturdiness means that they are heavy and don't roll well in quantity. The committee is working with Idaho Department of Education staff to distribute many of these posters to the larger public schools, but we are seeking Chapter members to help with the safe transportation and distribution of the posters, especially to the more remote corners of the state.

We will bring the posters to the annual meeting in Boise in May to hand out to volunteers, who would then distribute a few of the posters to schools or school district offices convenient to their homes or work sites. Specific volunteers would be assigned specific locations, based on their stated abilities, so please don't be concerned that you would be expected to distribute hundreds of posters to dozens of schools or similar.

If you are interested in helping out, please send an e-mail to Dan Kenney ([cuttquest10@gmail.com](mailto:cuttquest10@gmail.com)) stating this and suggesting which cities, counties, or school districts would be most convenient for you, and the maximum number of sites you could visit. Your reply by April 14 would be most timely.

Over the next month or so, we'll figure out which sites will be best suited for Chapter member distribution and get back to each of the volunteers with a suggested distribution list. We'll then bring wrapped or rolled sets of posters for you to pick up at some point during the meeting in May.

### Portneuf Subunit Update

The Portneuf subunit held a successful ice fishing derby in early February on Chesterfield Reservoir. While the weather didn't cooperate for the originally planned date, the postponement date turned out to be a perfect day. We had approximately 135 entrants compete for a top prize of \$600, and we also had a food truck show up for the day! The winning Rainbow Trout was 23 inches, followed closely by two 22 inch fish, and a 21.9 inch fish rounded out the top four. We couldn't have made it happen without Idaho Fish and Game's help, as well as our sponsors; The Grapevine, Ace Hardware and Element Outfitters, and Red River Co! Thanks to this successful fundraiser, we are planning on providing travel awards to members again this year.



## Student Spotlight

### Evan Bilbrey, Portneuf Subunit

Evan is a graduate student at Idaho State University working towards his M.S. in Biology. As an undergraduate, Evan studied environmental microbiology at Montana State University where he had the opportunity to work on research investigating the microbial communities and nutrient cycling in deep subsurface fluids or geothermal springs. Following time spent working in Alaska's commercial fishing industry and at the Flathead Lake Biological Station, Evan was convinced to apply his research background to the river systems he grew up with. Currently, his research project is focused on understanding how the quality and loads of dissolved organic matter are influenced by stream drying in southern Idaho's intermittent stream networks. Following graduation, Evan wants to pursue a career involved in the management of water resources and their associated ecosystems.



# Executive Committee



President  
Rob Van Kirk  
Phone: 208-881-3407  
[rob@henrysfork.org](mailto:rob@henrysfork.org)

President-Elect  
Kevin Meyer  
Phone: 208-854-8916  
[kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov)

Vice President  
Lauren Andrews  
Phone: 208-484-7984  
[laurendrews1@gmail.com](mailto:laurendrews1@gmail.com)

Past President  
Tim Copeland  
Phone: 208-287-2782  
[tim.copeland@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:tim.copeland@idfg.idaho.gov)



Treasurer  
Rebekah Horn  
Phone: 208-837-9096  
[rhorn@critfc.org](mailto:rhorn@critfc.org)

Secretary  
Jesse McCane  
Phone: 208-939-6713  
[jesse.mccane@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:jesse.mccane@idfg.idaho.gov)

Nominations Chair  
Christine Stewart  
Phone: 208-879-4103  
[christine.stewart@usda.gov](mailto:christine.stewart@usda.gov)

Portneuf Student Unit President  
Tyler Breech  
[tylerbreech@isu.edu](mailto:tylerbreech@isu.edu)



Palouse Student Unit President  
Sage Unsworth  
[unsworth@uidaho.edu](mailto:unsworth@uidaho.edu)

BYU Idaho Student Unit President  
Lonnie Parry  
[svyettlana@gmail.com](mailto:svyettlana@gmail.com)

**The EXCOM wants your ideas!**  
**Please do not hesitate to contact any EXCOM member about questions or ideas.**

**This is your Chapter!**

