

IDAHO CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MATT POWELL

I would like to again extend my personal thanks to all those who helped with this past season's annual meeting in Moscow. The meeting went well and incoming revenue for our AFS Chapter was exceptional. I'd also like to ask each of you who attended to take a moment and thank those folks on the fundraising committee and the other EXCOMers for their help and organization.

Last month the EXCOM met in Bonner Ferry to discuss the forthcoming annual meeting in Boise and to begin the process of getting things organized for that event. We also went over the report of activities from many of our chapter committees. The purpose was so I could provide the WDAFS mid-term meeting with a rundown of our chapter activities for the year. I was struck by the fact that so many of our members and committees are involved with so many different processes, the Hutton Fisheries Program, The Salmon and Steelhead Brochure, Salmon Days, Trout in the Classroom and many others. Everyone should take heart in the fact that our AFS chapter is one of the most active and thriving amongst probably the most active division in AFS, the Western Division.

With our chapter and activities here in Idaho on the rise, the EXCOM discussed the idea of separating the Secretary/Treasurer office into two positions, the function of which being to provide some "institutional memory" to the Treasurer position (by having an incumbent serve their first year as a Secretary and second as a Treasurer). As with most things, there are pros and cons to each option. You'll be receiving a mail-in ballot shortly to cast your vote for or against this proposed change to our bylaws. Please feel free to contact me or any of the other EXCOM members to air any questions, comments, or concerns regarding this issue that you may have. Our intent is to keep our Chapter running smoothly and to continue growing. With it being election time in our country I have but one more thing to add, please vote. Any change in the IDAFS bylaws requires a majority of the members at large to vote one way or another. Voter apathy in this case is simply the same as a "no."

Cheers,
Matt

Idaho Chapter AFS Mailing List Clean-up

Over the last couple of years, we have heard several complaints from members not receiving chapter e-mail. It is time to address this problem. If your e-mail address has changed or you have not received e-mail from the chapter within the last 2 months, please send Ryan Hardy your updated e-mail address at rhardy@idfg.state.id.us

Please forward this newsletter to others who you know have changed e-mail addresses recently. Thanks.

HOT NEWS: LEATHERSIDE CHUB WORKSHOP WRAP-UP

There were 25 fisheries biologists that participated in the 2004 Leatherside Chub Workshop was held in Garden City, UT on 21 October. Personnel from IDFG, WyGF, UDWR, USFS, BLM, and BYU attended. This workshop was "spawned" by last year's Annual Native Non-game Workshop that featured the species and was hosted by our chapter's Native Fish Committee. Due to the intensive interest in the species and the success of the 2003 workshop, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources decided to host this followup workshop.

The first half of the day included presentations by researchers and agency biologists that have studied the species. Dr. Jerry Johnson (BYU) presented a paper to be published soon that separates the currently known species *Gila copei* into 2 species; *Lepidomeda copei* (northern species) and *L. aliciae* (southern species). It was suggested by the workshop participants the new species name should be simply "leatherside" since they are not true chubs. The second half of the day consisted of agency discussions regarding a possible conservation agreement and strategy for the species. More information about leathersides will be in future newsletters.

2005 Idaho Chapter Annual Meeting

February 24-26

Boise Double Tree Hotel-Riverside

Managing Fisheries in the 21st Century: Meeting New Challenges with New Ideas

Russ Kiefer

Plenary Session

The plenary session will be devoted to discussions on how to communicate fisheries information to society so that decisions affecting fisheries are made with a realistic understanding of the potential biological outcomes. Other anticipated sessions may include fisheries management, ESA use of hatchery fish, water quantity and quality, genetics, anadromous fish, native aquatics, fish culture, and riparian management. Other ideas for session themes would be greatly appreciated. Regardless, there is room for you to participate and contribute. All people interested in presenting should notify Russ Kiefer (334-3791) or rkiefer@idfg.state.id.us. Abstracts should be limited to 300 words and should include who will be the presenter and who were coauthors if applicable. Please provide title, author(s), address, and whether you are interested in presenting a paper or poster. Please indicate audio-visual equipment needs.

Call for Papers and Format

Abstracts will be accepted through January 21, 2005. Please submit abstracts electronically or on CD or diskette in MS Word for Office 2000.

Presentations will be restricted to specific format guidelines. For those who chose to stay with 35mm slides will be accommodated as usual. If you wish to give your presentation in digital format, please use the following guidelines. You will be restricted to MS PowerPoint in Office 2000, stored on 100MB ZIP drive discs or a CD. Do not plan to bring your own computer or projector. We will have computer, projector and back-ups to serve all PowerPoint presentations. These guidelines have worked well to minimize presentation delays and confusion caused by different storage media, computers and operating systems. **There will be no exceptions.** If you have any questions, contact Russ Kiefer (334-3791) rkiefer@idfg.state.id.us.

Registration

The 2005 Registration fee for Agency/Professional registrants has been set at \$75 for those registering before **February 4** (in addition to annual National AFS dues; \$76); Student registration is free with payment of annual Student National AFS dues (\$38). Early registration by February 4 qualifies you for entry in a drawing for a **framed cutthroat print** to be awarded at the business lunch. For those of you choosing to procrastinate with your registration, your efforts will be rewarded with an additional \$15

fee - no exceptions. Please don't wait - register early!

Accommodations

The 2005 annual meeting will be held at the Double Tree Hotel Boise Riverside, from February 24 through February 26 (Thursday - Saturday). The Double Tree Boise Riverside Hotel is located at 2900 Chinden Blvd., Boise. A block of 75 rooms has been reserved. Please support the Idaho Chapter by making your accommodations at the Double Tree Riverside. The block of rooms will be held at the following rates until **February 1, 2005**.

Single (govt. rate): \$61.00

Double (govt. rate): \$76.00

Triple or Quad (govt. rate): \$99.00

All rooms subject to 12% local tax and fees. Reservations can be made by calling 208-343-1871 and requesting a room reserved for the Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society.

Associated Workshops

We have space reserved for up to two workshops on February 22 and 23 (Tuesday and Wednesday). Vaughn Paragamian is putting together a Publicity Writing Workshop on preparing news releases on fish issues. We still have space for another workshop. So if you have a good idea for a workshop, and would like to help make our annual meeting even better, please contact Bill Schrader (Phone: 525-7290 and Email: bschrader@idfg.state.id.us) or Dmitri Vidergar Email: dmitri.vidergar@noaa.gov by August 13.

Fish-O-Flies (*Oncorhynchus idahoii*)

Last year the *O. idahoii*, had over 130 hand-tied flies. Once again flies of all shapes and sizes are encouraged. This year we want to do even better. Each newsletter this year will remind you to tie flies for ICAFS. The plan is to have enough flies for a great "fish-O-Flies" and even more to put into specialty fly boxes such as: SF Boise, spring creeks, Cutthroat, Steelhead, warmwater, stillwater, and an all Idaho selection. Please plan on tying up a dozen or so of your best pattern. As an added incentive, **FOR EVERY HALF-DOZEN FLIES YOU BRING, YOU GET 3 GENERAL RAFFLE TICKETS!**

ICAFS Annual Meeting Registration

February 24th – February 26th, 2005 Boise

– **Mail by February 4 to ICAFS c/o Liz Mamer, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, 1414 East Locust Lane, Nampa, ID, 83686; or**

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone:(work) _____ (Home): _____

2005 Annual Meeting/Conference Registration Fees:

Pre-Registration **(received by Feb 4)**
(Be entered into a drawing for a cutthroat print) \$75.00 _____

Late Registration **(after Feb 4 or at the door)** \$90.00 _____

Student Registration with Current 2005 AFS Membership \$0.00 _____

2005 National Dues & Publications Fees:

Regular National Dues \$76.00 _____

Student National Dues \$38.00 _____

Section Dues: varies - please specify _____

Publications: varies - please specify _____

2005 Total Fees and Dues:

Total for 2005 AFS Member _____

Check # _____

Please make checks out to Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society (ICAFS).

FEDERAL AGENCY PARTICIPATION IN THE IDAHO CHAPTER
James Capurso, Chapter Vice President

In addition to the customary pleasurable services that Idaho Chapter Executive Committee Members provide to members (such as cranking out this newsletter), I see several other opportunities. One is to increase federal professionals' participation in the chapter. Last year's annual meeting attendance is an example of this need. Of the 211 Idaho Chapter AFS annual meeting attendees, 32 were from federal agencies (all agencies combined). In contrast, Idaho Department of Fish and Game alone had 81 employees participating. **This is rallying call to encourage federal participation in chapter activities.** This is important because diversity is valuable and an increase in the diversity of chapter participants will increase chapter excellence and resources. In addition to periodic encouragement such as this, I will be visiting with federal agency state and regional administrators this winter to ask them to prepare letters of encouragement for their employees to participate in professional societies. I welcome other suggestions you may have to increase federal participation in the chapter (except increasing doughnut distributions at annual meetings).

EXCOM PROPOSES CHANGES FOR SECRETARY/TREASURER

Liz Mamer, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

In review of the current positions of the ICASF executive committee, it was noted that the position of Secretary Treasurer was the only one that did not maintain a sense of historical knowledge, currently lasting only 1 year. Given the complexity of the position and to help ease the transition from officer to officer in the future, a motion was made to put before the members of ICASF the following redefinition of the position:

Secretary/Treasurer - a 2 year commitment, still a voting member of ExCom; defined as follows:

- First year served as Secretary:
 - Responsible for retaining chapter correspondence
 - Update Officers Manual and take ExCom minutes
 - Assist current treasurer with meeting registration and details as needed
 - Maintain Chapter decision process, criteria and guidelines

- Second year served as Treasurer:
 - Responsible for maintaining financial records in Quicken and keeping track of meeting attendance trend data
 - Responsible for accounts receivable/payable and preparing financial reports
 - Responsible for Handling all financial aspects of annual meetings and workshops, including registration

Idaho Chapter AFS members will make a decision regarding this change by mail-in ballot. Watch for your ballot in late October/early November. If you do not receive a ballot by snail mail and you are a chapter member, please provide Ryan Hardy (rhardy@idfg.state.id.us) your address.

"Notalotalota" UpDate

The Codfather (Vaughn Paragamian)

A short time ago I read an account of burbot in a document of recent origin. It explained that burbot were common throughout their range. That is far from the truth. Burbot are a species of special concern in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Pennsylvania. They have been extirpated in the British Isles, in most of France, Belgium, in the Czech Republic and Slovenia (I didn't make Slovenia up). Here in Idaho it was petitioned for listing under ESA but it was determined not to qualify on the ESA guidelines. This despite the fact where we once had thousands of burbot in the Kootenai River we now have fewer than 400 perhaps far less. The petitioners filed a Letter of Intent to Sue the US Fish and Wildlife Service. But the petitioners have taken no action. The good news is we now, through the hard work of the Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative, have the unique opportunity to put into place a Burbot Conservation Strategy (BCS) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which if accepted by the managing agencies, can take the place of ESA action and will have similar binding obligations to the managers. This is an important opportunity because it will give the state of Idaho and the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho a stronger opportunity to implement recovery measures and is much more palatable to the public in Boundary County. A meeting is scheduled for October to review the final documents. Hopefully by winter the MOU and BCS will be in place.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

A chapter is only as vibrant and active as its committees.
Get involved in your committees and chapter!

Anadromous Fish

Committee Chair: Jason Vogel

Over the past several years the committee has been working on a salmon and steelhead brochure to distribute throughout the state, especially in the core of salmon and steelhead recreation areas. This brochure is designed to give the angler and general public a brief history of salmon and steelhead, an update on the past few years of near record adult returns, and finally the economic impact these runs have contributed to the Idaho economy. After many drafts and comments from the committee, the brochure was completed (10,000 copies printed) and distributed to Idaho Fish and Game offices, Forest Service offices, and local tackle and sporting good shops in the Boise, Salmon, McCall, Riggins, and Lewiston Areas.

The committee is now looking to design placemats for restaurants of core salmon and steelhead recreation areas. These placemats would serve as a vector to get out good information to children and adults about anadromous fish how their impact to the region.

Fish Culture

Committee Chair: Jeff A. Heindel
jheindel@idfg.state.id.us

Greetings from your Fish Culture Committee Chair! The countdown to the 2005 ICAFS Annual Meeting in Boise begins now . . . please mark your calendars for February 24-26 and PLAN TO ATTEND! As I mentioned in the last ICAFS newsletter, one of my immediate goals for the Fish Culture Committee (FCC) was to boost attendance at ICAFS functions from our aquaculture community. Idaho is extremely rich in diversity with regards to our fish culture programs and we employ some of the "best and brightest" in the business . . . Tribal programs, Federal programs, State programs, University programs . . . add an incredibly large Private sector to our ranks and we've got quite a bit to be proud of! As an ICAFS member, please join with me in doing your part to boost fish culture involvement in ICAFS . . . this doesn't mean that I'm pushing AFS membership for fish culture folks (though it wouldn't hurt) . . . I'd like to start by simply getting more of our

folks involved in Annual/National meetings, seminars and activities!

That said, I'd like to solicit a little input on a potential Professional Development "short-course" for the fish culture community (though ALL are invited) at the upcoming 2005 Annual Meeting. Earlier this year, at the FCC breakout section of the 2004 annual meeting, many participants suggested the need for short-courses that were "fine-tuned" for members of the fish culture community. One of the ideas discussed dealt with various fish health topics as they relate to the fish culture community. If there was enough interest, the possibility exists that a free "short-course" (1/2 day - presented by IDFG Fish Health staff) could be provided on various fish health topics (necropsy procedures, INADS, pathogen life-history, future fish health concerns, etc.). The exact time and date could be flexible, with the possibility of an afternoon/evening class (we'd have to steer clear of previously-planned ICAFS courses and activities).

Ideas are still developing, but I wanted to "get the word out" and solicit thoughts/interest on this subject. If you would be interested in this type of seminar, please e-mail your thoughts/questions to me (jheindel@idfg.state.id.us) and I'd be happy to try and make this a reality! Looking forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2005 Annual Meeting in Boise . . . let's do our part to get involved in ICAFS activities!

Fundraising

Committee Chairs: Art Butts and Dimitri Vidergar

Please share the responsibility of making sure ICAFS can continue to financially support deserving events and organizations. In the past we have been able to contribute to Salmon and Steelhead Days, Trout in the Classroom, and the Idaho Fishing Hall of Fame Museum in addition to holding annual meetings, supporting scholarships, and assisting students attend Western and National AFS meetings. We are asking that any members who are familiar with their local vendors to please help solicit items for the fundraising event this year. Face-to-face introductions will often go much further than the standard form letter. In addition, there may be vendors in your area that we are unaware of that may be willing to donate items. Please contact Art (abutts@idfg.state.id.us) or Dimitri (dviderga@idfg.state.id.us) for an updated list of vendors as well as a copy of the form letter that we mail out to solicit donations. This letter contains our mission statement, non-profit tax ID, and some current activities that we are involved with. Any manner with which you can help is greatly appreciated and will help the 2005 fundraising be a success.

Currently we hope to have the bulk of solicitation letters out at the end of October.

Mentoring

Committee Chair: Bart Gamett

The major work for the mentoring committee this year is 1) finalizing our mission, goals, and objectives, 2) developing a mentoring website, and 3) promoting the Hutton Program. The committee's mission, goals, and objectives are nearly complete. We expect the mentoring website to be complete sometime in January. The Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program is a national mentoring program for high school students designed to stimulate interest in careers in fisheries science among groups underrepresented in the fisheries professions, including minorities and women. Several students from Idaho have participated in the program over the last several years. The mentoring committee is promoting the program through the chapter newsletters, the chapter meetings, high schools, and the soon to be developed website. For more information on the Hutton Program please visit: <http://www.fisheries.org/html/hutton.shtml>. If anybody has any ideas for the committee or would like to serve as a reviewer of draft versions of the website please contact Bart Gamett at (208) 588-2224 or bgamett@fs.fed.us.

Native Fish

Committee Chair: Dan Garren

Our annual nongame native fish workshop (featuring Pacific lamprey) was a huge success. The summary is attached.

Currently, we are working on identifying the next recipient of the R.L. Wallace Native Fish Conservationist of the Year award. We have had numerous nominees submitted by the membership, and are tallying votes and making a final decision on the winner. We have raised some funds to cover the cost of the award, but need to come up with a little more money to cover the final portions. This year's winner will be announced at the annual meeting in February.

Other ongoing activities include planning a potential workshop for the coming year, and pursuing funding to cover associated costs for the Fishes of Idaho book due out soon.

Public Education

Committee Chair: Bill Schrader
bschrader@idfg.state.id.us

No report from the public education committee was available.

Riparian

Committee Chair: Dan Kenney
dkenney@fs.fed.us

Workshops on management of riparian areas are often offered to farmers, ranchers, and the general public on a local basis, typically by local soil conservation districts, the NRCS, and the BLM. These workshops usually focus on riparian vegetation and streambank stability. It was suggested by Tim Burton (BLM Idaho State Office and Riparian Committee member) that a fisheries component of such workshops was desired, but often lacking. This was because fisheries professionals are typically not included by the organizers of such workshops. The Riparian Committee plans to organize fisheries biologists around the state to participate as instructors/participants at local riparian workshops. So as not to overburden participating biologists, each volunteer ideally should cover only one or two counties and would participate in no more than one or two workshops per year. Tim has also prepared a PowerPoint presentation on fisheries and riparian management that would be provided to participating biologists. I will be contacting each ICAFS member through the newsletter e-mail list soon to inquire about interest and availability, but you can get dibs on the county or counties of your choice by e-mailing or calling me right away.

Water Quality/Stream Hydrology

Committee Chairs: Sheryl Hill and Kajsa Stromberg

At this time last year, Water Quality/Stream Hydrology was a committee in search of a chairperson. Kajsa Stromberg and I noticed the vacancy which was created when Bill Clark stepped down as committee chair almost two years ago in the *Gillraker Gazette*. We each contacted Vaughn to volunteer our services but unfortunately, neither of us was able to attend the IAFS meeting in Moscow last February. Nevertheless, at least six people attended the committee meeting in Moscow, indicating that there's more than just a spark of enthusiasm among chapter members for this committee.

During the past eight months, Kajsa and I have been interacting with chapter members to determine which issues the committee should attempt to address and

what services the committee should attempt to provide. Since 1996, attention has focused on nonpoint-source pollutants such as sediment and development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for 303(d)-listed water quality-impaired waterbodies. In addition to following up on how effectively the TMDL development process has been in addressing pollutant sources, a number of other topics have been identified as being particularly relevant at this time:

1. Sediment discharges from reservoirs, which occur on an annual cycle and have only been exacerbated by recent drought conditions
2. When to replace that culvert and how to do it better next time
3. Instream flow regulations (and opportunities?)
4. Changes in regulations regarding licensing of pesticides and the potential affects on non-target, aquatic organisms
5. Selenium contamination associated with phosphate mining in southeast Idaho and the potential effects on native trout populations
6. The relationship between hydrologic alteration and populations of native and non-native fishes
7. How ground and surface water interact to influence both water quality and water quantity

Do any of these issues matter to you or are there other issues that concern you more? Please let us know. Kajsa and I are excited about the prospects for this committee and how we can best serve the IAFS membership. Please contact us and let us know what you're thinking. And by the way, Kajsa's name is pronounced K-eye-sah.

Here's a little more about us, including our contact information:

Kajsa Stromberg
Watershed Program Coordinator, Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute
P O Box 8596; 112 West 4th St; Suite #1
Moscow ID 83843-1096
Phone (208)882-1444; Fax (208)882-8029
url: <http://www.pcei.org>

I recently joined the staff of the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute as the Watersheds Program Coordinator. I am primarily involved in community-based watershed restoration projects in the Palouse-Clearwater region. I am also nearing completion of my MS in Fishery Resources at the University of Idaho where I am working with Dr. Jeffrey Braatne. I joined AFS in 2001 and served as

the co-president of the Palouse Unit in the 2002-2003 school year. My major interests related to this committee are in native fish conservation, riparian area management, and water quality and hydrology (especially as related to the TMDL process and watershed planning). I am also very interested in education and communication among professionals and with the general public.

Sheryl Hill
Aquatic Ecosystems Biologist
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
(208) 529-9148
sherylhill@cableone.net

I have an MS in Biology from the University of Illinois with a specialty in aquatic toxicology. I spent many years at the University of Wyoming performing biological assessments and studying the fate and effects of pollutants and chemically complex wastewaters on fish and invertebrate species and the ecosystems they inhabit. I worked for the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for six years writing assessments of Upper Snake River subbasins. I've had the opportunity to work with the Henry's Fork Watershed Council for eight years, which has made me a strong believer in locally based watershed management. Since 2002, I've been working as a free-lance aquatic ecosystems biologist and only recently joined AFS (I was previously very active in the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry) because it's clearly the professional society of choice among people working in aquatics in Idaho!

Another Water Committee Item: Congratulations to Jeff Yanke and his colleagues in Moscow for winning the best student poster in the Water Quality Section at Madison. Jeff's poster was entitled, Temperature-Dependent Survival of Juvenile Snake River Fall Chinook Salmon, and was co-authored by Christine M. Moffitt, James L. Congleton, William P. Connor. Congratulations!

IDAHO CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 2004-5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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IDAHO CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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IDAHO CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY
NATIVE FISH COMMITTEE

PACIFIC LAMPREY WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Red River Wildlife Management Area
September 10, 2004

On September 10, 2004, 25 biologists gathered at the Red River Wildlife Management Area near the South Fork of the Clearwater River to share information and study Pacific lamprey. The participants included personnel from Idaho Department of Fish and Game, USDA Forest Service, Idaho Power, NOAA Fisheries, Biomark, University of Idaho, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and PCEI. Although most folks were from Idaho, some biologists came from as far away as Seattle and Portland to participate. The workshop was organized and hosted by Tim Cochnauer and Chris Claire from IDFG.

The first half of the day consisted of presentations, including:

- Passage at Hydropower Dams
- Life History, Distribution, Habitat Utilization, and Status in the Clearwater Drainage
- Dynamics of the Cedar Creek Lamprey Project
- Genetic Structure of Selected Pacific NW Lamprey Populations
- Lamprey Petition Status

The second half of the day was led by IDFG Fisheries Biologist Chris Claire in the field, where we studied lamprey habitat and sampled for lamprey ammocoetes.

It was an extraordinary workshop where everyone benefited from the information exchange and hands-on experience. This was the second of the annual non-game native fish workshops initiated by the Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society Native Fish Committee in 2003. The committee will chose the non-game native fish to be featured in the 2005 workshop during the Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting in February 2005 in Boise.

Pacific lamprey ammocoete