



# Gill Raker Gazette

The Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter  
of the American Fisheries Society

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Editor: Jim Chandler

## Call for Paper and Poster Submissions!! Idaho Chapter 2014 Annual Meeting

**“Stream Connectivity in Fisheries Management: Fix It, Break It, or Leave It?”**

*See Page 2 For More Details*

### *You Can Make A Difference*

*Presidents Message*

My rod tip barely moved, but there it was again. I yelled to my wife, “There’s a bite”. She quickly grabbed the rod and reared back with all her might and was rewarded with a deep bend in her rod. “Fish on!” Within seconds a massive sturgeon catapults out of the water and then proceeds to sizzle out over 200 yards of line from the reel. I frantically pulled up the anchor and hit the throttle on the boat while my wife holds on for all she’s worth. Thirty minutes later and a half mile down river the sturgeon finally tires to the point where it’s time to think about landing it. I beach our boat and start pulling out the equipment we need to collect data on this fish. You see this is all part of a research project I’m involved in to evaluate the status of white sturgeon in Hells Canyon. As we finally land this huge sturgeon, it attracts the attention of a group of nearby jet boaters. They all gather around to marvel at this amazing fish and learn more about what we were up to. As we measured and tagged this fish, some of these people mentioned how they wished they had a job like mine. Now, as many of



Photo Credit to Steve Hemstrom

you can relate to, this is something I have been hearing my entire professional career as a fisheries biologist whether working for AVISTA (a hydropower company), the Idaho Department of Lands, or the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. But on this particular occasion, the people saying this were doctors and lawyers who owned jets boats that cost as much as my house and who made 10 times as much money as I did. These people were actually envious of what we do for a living.

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# Call for Paper and Poster Submissions!!

## Idaho Chapter 2014 Annual Meeting

### “Stream Connectivity in Fisheries Management: Fix It, Break It, or Leave It?”

The 2014 Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Program Committee is pleased to announce its call for all papers and posters for the 2014 meeting!

Date and Location: February 11-13. Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Blvd  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402, (208) 523-0088. (**reservations need to be made by January 10<sup>th</sup> !**)

Workshop: February 10 (more information soon).

The deadline for paper submission will be **December 27, 2013**. Please submit paper and posters to the following link:  
[ICAFS 2014 Papers and Posters](#)

Please direct any questions to the 2014 program chairs: Windy Davis [windy.davis@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:windy.davis@idfg.idaho.gov) or Tom Curet at [tom.curet@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:tom.curet@idfg.idaho.gov)

Please adhere to the guidelines listed on the submission form. Submissions not meeting the guidelines will be returned to the author.



## Call for Award Nominations

The Executive Committee is soliciting nominations for awards to be presented at the 2014 meeting in Idaho Falls. These awards are independent from awards presented by the Native Fish, Mentoring, and Aquaculture committees. This is a great opportunity to recognize those who have made important contributions to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems.

Please send nominations to Dmitri Vidergar no later than **December 20, 2013**. If you have any questions please contact Dmitri at **(208) 383-2216**.

### **Lifetime Achievement Award:**

Criteria: Awarded to individuals who are either retired or within five years of retirement and have made significant and sustained contributions to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems. This work may include but is not limited to making significant contributions in advancing fisheries and aquatic science, implementing important fish and aquatic management, or promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

Nomination Process: Submit a one to three page nomination detailing how the individual meets the criteria. The nomination must be supported by at least five Chapter members; their names and contact information should be listed on the nomination.

### **Distinguished Service Award:**

Criteria: Awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions in furthering the work of the Chapter. This award is specific to service within the Chapter.

Nomination Process: Submit a nomination not longer than one page detailing how the individual meets the criteria. Although not required, nominations supported by more than one Chapter member will receive the strongest consideration. List the names and contact information of Chapter members supporting the nomination on the nomination.

### **Outstanding Fish Professional:**

Criteria: Awarded to individuals who have made a significant contribution to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems. This award is specific to service outside of the Chapter.

Nomination Process: Submit a nomination not longer than one page detailing how the individual meets the criteria. Although not required, nominations supported by more than one Chapter member will receive the strongest consideration. List the names and contact information of Chapter members supporting the nomination on the nomination.



## \$\$\$ ICAFS Scholarships \$\$\$

The Idaho Chapter AFS is pleased to announce four annually awarded scholarships and a student support grant for students attending Idaho schools.

### **Idaho Training Opportunity and Project Grant**

This grant, up to \$750, assists Idaho students pursuing training opportunities consistent with the mission and objectives of the American Fisheries Society. Applications for the grant are accepted year round.

### **Idaho High School Student Scholarship**

This \$500 scholarship will be awarded annually to an Idaho high school senior who is planning to attend a college or university located in Idaho.

### **Idaho Undergraduate Student Scholarship**

This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to an undergraduate student who is enrolled at a college or university located in Idaho.

**Idaho Graduate Student Scholarship** This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduate student who is enrolled at a college or university located in Idaho.

**Susan B. Martin Graduate Student Scholarship** This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduate student who is enrolled at a college or university located in Idaho.

These scholarships were developed by the Executive, Mentoring and Public Education Committees, are funded by the Idaho Chapter, and are administered by the Public Education Committee. Information and application materials are available on the Chapter website <http://www.idahoafs.org/scholarships.php>.

**Applications must be postmarked (or emailed) by January 15, 2014.**

Winners will be announced during the business luncheon at the annual meeting. For more information, please visit the Chapter website or contact Lauri Monnot, Public Education Committee Chair, at [lauri.monnot@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:lauri.monnot@deq.idaho.gov) or (208) 373-0461.

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As I think back on my career path, I feel so lucky to end up in the profession I did. You see, I had no intentions of becoming a fish biologist. After I finished my undergraduate degree, my plans were to follow in my dad's footsteps and become a doctor, a profession known for its prestige and wealth. However, before applying for medical school, I wanted to have some time away from school and just by chance was offered a job as a fisheries bio-aide working for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Despite living in a little trailer in the boon docks and making only \$4.50/hour, I found this job so fascinating and intriguing that I never turned back. I have been in the fisheries profession 25 years now, and I have never regretted that choice a day in my life even though I make a fraction of

what a doctor does. The Confucius quote "Choose a job that you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life" is so true for me.

The reason I tell this story is not everybody gets the lucky break I did that leads them down a career path that brings satisfaction and happiness in their life. I know there are many quality individuals out there who would love to be a fish biologist but are unaware of this profession, don't know what to do to become one, or just need assistance with funding to help make their dream a reality. And this brings me to my message. One of the goals of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is to promote the development of fisheries professionals. There are many ways to promote our profession and can include things such as educating school kids (all ages), mentoring students, providing scholarships making it easier for students to follow their career path, or even by just taking the neighborhood kids fishing. I'm happy to say that I believe the Chapter is making great efforts to do just that, but we could always use more help.

For those of you who are looking for ways to get more involved with the Chapter, let me tell you some of the things we are doing to promote the fisheries profession and where we could use your help. I'll start by mentioning how Lauri Monnot and the Public Education Committee are making efforts to spread the word to schools across

Idaho about "Trout in the Classroom". Not only are they letting schools know about this program, but they are developing guidelines that will allow all schools to compete equally for funds the Chapter is setting aside for this program. As Trout in the Classroom touches more and more schools, I'm sure the Public Education Committee would love any added support you can provide.

Then there is Jason Vogel and the Mentoring Committee who are about ready to release a portal on our website where professionals and students can fill out a questionnaire that will pair compatible mentors and mentorees. Some mentorees may only need guidance on a few things such as preparing for an interview or how to best set

up a particular study design, while others may want more long term guidance. Obviously, if this is going to work, people need to sign up and get involved. We'll

***One of the goals of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is to promote the development of fisheries professionals***

**Presidents Message (Continued from Page 1)**

let you know when the portal is up and running. I wish I had a mentor to help me out when I was a student and young professional as it certainly could have saved me from some embarrassment.

I also want to mention the efforts by Tom Curet, our President Elect, who has just put the final touches on a reworked book that will be available to all soon. It is titled "The Unwritten Laws of Fisheries" and gives guidance on how to succeed in our profession. This is a book you all must have and will benefit those new to our profession as well our moss-backs. Look for this book at the annual AFS meeting.

Finally, based on suggestions for others in the Chapter, EXCOM and the committee chairs are looking at ways to provide more scholarship opportunities to students. Hopefully, this will make it just a little easier for those deserving students to become a fish biologist. I could go on and on with other good things the Chapter is doing to promote our fisheries profession, but I have carried on long enough. So, I will leave you with this last note. YOU can make a difference in other's lives. Often, it is just the simple things that can make a lasting impression.

**Joe DuPont**  
**ICAFS President**



## Committee News

### Anadromous Fish Committee

#### Mission Statement:

*The mission of the Anadromous Fish Committee is to advance knowledge and appreciation of the state's anadromous fish resources and the aquatic habitats upon which they depend; and promote the use of sound science towards conservation and recovery of the fishery resource for its use and enjoyment by all.*

The Anadromous Fish Committee has developed a program to promote Idaho Anadromous Fish to High School students throughout the State of Idaho. Consistent with the mission of the Idaho Chapter and the Anadromous Fish Committee, the Committee has focused on our chapters unique position and ability to foster meaningful education opportunities to young adults about anadromous fish and encourage an interest in our field. They have created a complete lesson entitled:

#### **Following Fishes: a technology based lesson and internet activity for secondary education biology students in Idaho.**

The lesson focuses on technologies used to track and manage Idaho salmon. The objectives of the lesson will be to :

1. provide fact based lesson to all Idaho high schools for use by biology teachers on salmon ecology, populations, migration and survival.
2. Introduce secondary students to basic fish biology and the technology used to manage fisheries resources.

High schools involved in the program will receive a package including a detailed formal 3-day lesson plan that includes classroom and lab exercises, a power point presentation, a worksheet, a worksheet teacher's guide, a list of fish with PIT tag numbers and other data, a digital map of current salmon territories in Idaho, a paper wall map of Idaho. Students will follow steelhead or Chinook smolts as they migrate downstream and return using PTAGIS and DART databases.

The lesson has undergone review by fisheries professionals and secondary educators, both science teachers and special needs teachers. The eventual hope is that every High School in the state will have access to this lesson. Initially, a smaller list of schools will be identified through the Idaho Fish and Game regions to receive the materials. This smaller set will provide feedback on the program and hopefully help promote the value of the program. The Idaho Chapter EXCOM has agreed to provide \$1,500 for this initial distribution of materials. Based on the feedback and success of this initial distribution, additional funding will be considered to promote a state wide distribution. It is the hope of the Committee that these materials will be ready to be used this spring by these initial High Schools.

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### Funding Committee

**By Greg Schoby and Ryan Hillyard**

With the 2014 annual meeting approaching, we are ramping up our fundraising efforts. As always, we need your help to find donations for our fundraising event. So get out and solicit your local shops and show your support for the Chapter by acquiring a donation.

Also, for all of the artist types within our chapter, show us what you've got! Fisheries professionals are drawn to artwork like moths to a flame, so get creative and donate your artwork to the fundraising committee. Your original works are sure to bring fame (to you) and fortune (to the chapter) at the fundraising auction.

For those of you that would like to show off your angling/guiding abilities or highlight an exceptional fishery, consider donating a fishing trip. This is another great way to help support the chapter and our fundraising efforts.

If you have comments or suggestions, contact us via e-mail ([icafs.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:icafs.fundraising@gmail.com)).

#### Mission Statement:

*The mission of the fundraising committee is to generate funds for the Idaho Chapter.*



## Western Division 2014 Annual Meeting Mazatlan, Mexico



The Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is proud to announce that they will be providing travel grants (partial to full) to those wishing to attend the 2014 Western Division Annual Meeting in Mazatlan, Mexico. Grants will be awarded to students and professionals alike based on their responses to the questions below. These questions are listed in order of importance when determining who will receive funds. Applicant must be a member in good standing with the Idaho Chapter and Parent Society.

1. How active are you with the Idaho Chapter?
2. Will you present an oral presentation or poster at the Mazatlan meeting?
3. Are you assisting with planning for the Mazatlan meeting?
4. How much money are you requesting?

As you determine how much funds to request, consider that round trip flights from Boise to Mazatlan run around \$700-\$800. Hotel costs will be around \$150 a day (this includes food and drinks) and registration costs for the meeting will be around \$300.

For those interested in this opportunity, please fill out the application below and e-mail them to Joe DuPont [joe.dupont@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:joe.dupont@idfg.idaho.gov)

**Applications must be submitted by November 29, 2013** to be considered. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Successful applicants will be notified by **Dec 17, 2013**.

Payment of the grant will occur after a receipt showing expenses paid is submitted to the Chapter treasurer.



# 64th Annual Northwest Fish Culture Conference

December 3–5, 2013

Riverside Hotel, Boise, Idaho

Hosted By the Idaho Department of Fish and Game



## Understanding Our Past, Shaping Our Future

Fish culture has a long and diverse history in the Pacific Northwest and will continue to play a major role in fisheries management, species preservation, food production, and economics, as well as social and political change in the future. The **64th Annual Northwest Fish Culture Conference** is the place to learn about progressive fish culture techniques and programs as well as a better understanding of our historical role in the region over the last 100+ years. Meeting participants will have the opportunity to attend presentations about advancements and observations in:

- 1) Applied Aquaculture
- 2) Aquaculture in Research & Management
- 3) Fish Health and Nutrition
- 4) New Technologies/New Programs
- 5) Diversity in Aquaculture – Species, Design, and Methodology

Along with great presentations, attendees will be able to visit with vendors and exhibitors during breaks and socials, to ensure great information and products are taken back to each operation. Through these multiple inputs of knowledge and equipment, participants will increase their relative understanding of aquaculture principles and procedures, which may contribute to attainment of desirable fish culture outcomes upon return to their home stations.

### Registration/Costs:

(Registration and payment must be postmarked by October 15, 2013.)

Early registration before October 15: **\$110.00**

Registration after October 15: **\$135.00**

**For more information or to Register, please visit:**

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/fish/?getPage=297>



*American Fisheries Society*



**Idaho Chapter**

Just a reminder to check out the Idaho Chapter Website as a source for information about the upcoming 2014 Annual Meeting, Committees, Past Meetings and Newsletters.

[www.idahoafs.org](http://www.idahoafs.org)

And thanks to Bart Gamet for continuing to help the Chapter maintain this site!



## Executive Committee



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***The EXCOM wants your ideas ...***

***Please do not hesitate to contact any EXCOM Member about questions or ideas***

***This is your Chapter !***

