

Gill Raker Gazette

The Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

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2015 Annual Meeting is Going Large!

This year's meeting theme of Idaho's Large Rivers: History, Management and Restoration is drawing much interest. Over 300 people took advantage of early registration. Late registration is still possible through February 21 at <http://www.idahoafs.org/2015AnnualMeeting/registration.php>. Register now and avoid the extra cost of at-the-door registration. Come join us March 4 -6 in Boise and help the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society go large.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Annual Meeting	1
Workshops	1-2
Committees	3-4
Spawning Run/walk	3
Volunteer Needs	4
Face Book	4
Opportunities	5
Chapter Officers	6

But wait there is more.....two workshops are being held March 3:

Inflow-Outflow, Responsible and Efficient Fish Culture. The workshop will focus on water quality and the regulations that we all must comply with and the upcoming changes in those regulations and regulators. We will also hear about some of the uncontrollable climactic challenges we face when using surface water to rear salmonids. The importance of water quality and quantity and the a/effects of the aforementioned on the health of the animals we produce is critical to responsible and efficient fish culture. Registration cost is \$40. Visit <http://www.idahoafs.org/2015AnnualMeeting/registrationForm.php> to sign up.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: See page 4 for details.



2015 Workshop Opportunities cont.



Forecasting adult Chinook Salmon and Steelhead returns to the Snake River basin: working toward a better understanding of current methodology and moving toward a unified approach.

The cooperators who manage the Snake River basin generate annual adult return forecasts for hatchery and wild Chinook Salmon and Steelhead returns that are used by various fishery management groups. The forecasts are used by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to set harvest seasons in downriver fisheries in the Columbia River and contribute to in-season Chinook Salmon and Steelhead harvest management within the basin. With the diversity of programs and management entities within the basin,

forecasts have historically been generated by individual agencies (Nez Perce Tribe, IDFG, USFWS, and ODFW) and methodologies are quite disparate. In an effort to better understand the forecasting process, a workshop is being held to bring individuals together to discuss current methods and determine best-practices for forecasting in the future.

This half-day workshop will take an informal approach and focus on looking at individual models that are currently being employed for forecasting hatchery and wild Chinook Salmon and Steelhead returns to the Snake River basin. There will be representatives from IDFG, USFWS, NPT, and ODFW who are currently generating the forecasts that are sent to TAC for planning purposes. There also may be a TAC representative present to discuss how these forecasts are used to manage Columbia River fisheries. Whether you currently have an active role in forecasting returns to the basin or are simply interested in learning more about the process, your participation in this workshop is encouraged.

Due to the late announcement of this workshop, registration will be conducted via e-mail and payment via check or credit card (\$20 for room space and refreshments) will be due the morning of the workshop, March 3rd. Please send an e-mail to Chris Sullivan Chris.sullivan@idfg.idaho.gov to confirm your participation if you are interested in this opportunity.



Committees in Action

Fund Raising Committee—By Ryan Hillyard and Chad Chorney

With the 2015 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. We also want to remind the fly-tyers in the chapter or those who want to buy them to bring flies for the fish-o-flies. There will be a drawing for everyone who brings a dozen or more. 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).



Committees are a great way to actively serve the Idaho Chapter. Committee meetings will be held March 4th (noon to 1:30). Lunch will be provided. Think about which committee interests you and come join the fun.

Public Education Committee: We are a group of fish aficionados who are passionate about making sure the rest of the world cares as much as we do about 'swimmers with scales' and their habitat. Please join us to plan and share inspiring ideas. 2015 committee breakout meeting discussion items:

- Criteria/process for Outstanding Outreach/Educator award
- Electronic scholarship application debut feedback
- Brainstorm outreach and education projects to implement in 2015

Mentoring Committee is looking for a new Committee Chair or Co-Chairs. This is a wonderful opportunity for members of the Idaho Chapter AFS to step up and help this very important Committee achieve its goals. The mission of the Mentoring committee is to promote the development of successful fisheries professionals through mentoring.

- Goal 1: Encourage chapter members to be mentors
- Goal 2: Help chapter members become good mentors
- Goal 3: Assist those considering or pursuing a career in the fisheries professions to find a mentor
- Goal 4: recognize outstanding mentors

Spawning Run/Walk - Come to the meeting prepared to go the distance (1.6 and 3.2 mile options). It is not just another 5K. Costumes make it better and you may even win a prize. The run/walk will be March 4 at 4.30. On-line registration will guarantee you a t-shirt. Bring \$10 to registration table.

Volunteers Needed

The annual meeting needs your help as moderators and judges. Contact Jim Chandler no later than Friday Feb 13th if you are willing to be signed up as a volunteer. This volunteer need is in addition to the students and young professionals. jchandler@idahopower.com; (208) 388-2974.

Native Fish Committee promotes the conservation of Idaho's native fish through education and outreach activities, public recognition of outstanding work towards native fish conservation; and to serve as an outlet for the discussion and dissemination of information pertinent to Idaho's native fish. The Native Fish Committee will seek to achieve the mission through these goals:

- Goal 1: Educate biologists, chapter members, and other interested parties on the biology, habitat requirements, status, and threats/impacts to Idaho's native fish.
- Goal 2: Publicly acknowledge individuals or groups who have made noteworthy contributions to the conservation of Idaho's native fish.
- Goal 3: Provide technical assistance to the chapter on issues involving native fish.

Anadromous Committee works 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 committee will seek to accomplish the mission through the following goals:

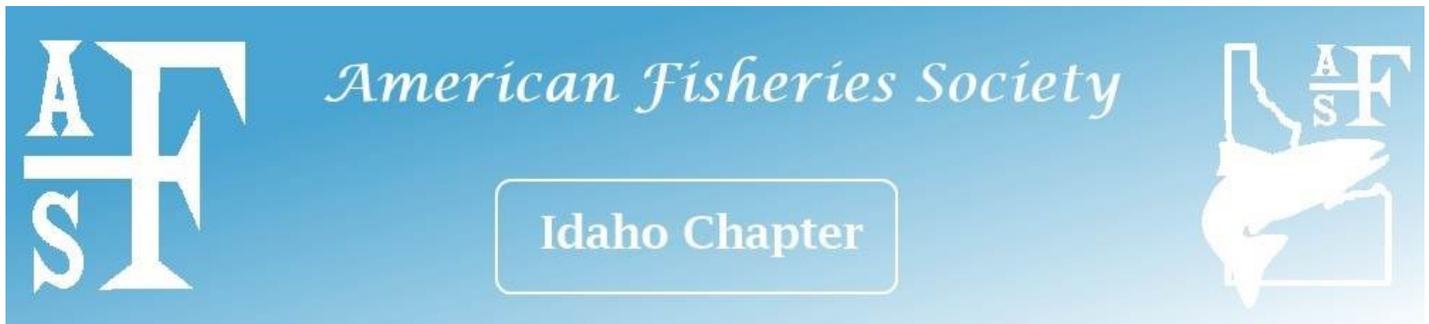
- Goal 1: Reprint 5,000 brochures on Idaho's salmon and steelhead for distribution to the public.
- Goal 2: Develop informational placemats and other educational materials.
- Goal 3: Consider other ideas for a technical session for the ICAFS membership.

Fish Culture Committee promotes the continuing development and enhancement of aquaculture and recognizes its significance as an integral tool used in fisheries conservation and management. We have organized continuing education courses associated with the Idaho Chapter Annual Meetings and promote active participation by fish culturists in the American Fisheries Society.



The Idaho Chapter now has a face book page. Follow -us at IdahoAFS. Send Lance Hebdon, lance.hebdon@idfg.idaho.gov, suggested postings.





SHOUT OUT



Idaho Chapter AFS Mentoring Committee is looking to reinvigorate the notion of Mentoring with implementation of a new **BOLD** idea.

How it works:

- Interested **Mentors** need to fill out a survey indicating their desire to be a mentor.
- Interested in **Finding a Mentor**: Individuals (students and professionals) looking for some type of mentoring will also fill out a survey.
- Mentoring Committee will match up individuals. The list will be managed by the Mentoring Committee and will not be made public.

Be A Mentor Today

<http://www.idahoafs.org/mentoring.php>

Find A Mentor Today

<http://www.idahoafs.org/mentoring.php>



OPPORTUNITY FOR FUNDING — Idaho Chapter American Fisheries Society has money to help advance fisheries and aquatic science and promote the development of fisheries professionals. Proposals should be submitted to committee chairs.



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 !

