



Gill Raker Gazette

The Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

Volume 34, Issue 2

August 2015

Editor: Helen Neville

President's Message: ICAFS an Outstanding Chapter winner...again!

Outstanding Indeed!

Congratulations Idaho Chapter!!! For the 2nd year in a row, the Idaho Chapter has been awarded the Western Division Outstanding Chapter Award!! This accomplishment is a true reflection of the commitment of our members to continue to make our chapter great. It is also a reflection of our strong student subunits and the value that their accomplishments and participation bring to our chapter. I was also reminded of the outstanding leaders before me who really set the direction for this chapter to succeed in so many ways. When I started compiling a list of achievements the chapter has had over the last year or so, the list was longer than I realized and made me want to share it with all of you who made it happen.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1-3
Member Awards	3
2016 Meeting	3
Committee Updates	4-5
Current EXCOM	6

One of the continued successes of our chapter is our outstanding annual meetings. The participation and contribution of our membership at our annual meetings continues to grow. Two years ago, we had the highest attendance for a meeting held in Southeast Idaho, which is generally our lowest attended meeting. Last year, we had the highest attendance of an Idaho Chapter meeting in the 50 plus years we have been an organization (excluding Western

Division and other combined meetings). Let's have a repeat in Coeur d'Alene in 2016! The continued success of our annual meetings is a reflection of the quality of the presentations and information our members bring to these meetings. I think there is no better way to learn about and promote fish in Idaho and the Northwest than attending an Idaho Chapter meeting.

We have outstanding committees! Accomplishments of our committees bring the mission of the Idaho Chapter to the forefront - and there have been many. The support our Public Education committee brings to *Trout in the Classroom* stands out. The Idaho Chapter has dedicated funds each year to support field trips and classroom supplies to participating schools. This summer, the EXCOM supported a proposal from our Public Education committee to sponsor the expansion of the program to help set up five more classrooms to participate. Continued promotion of our "*Bookmark Project*" helps incorporate fisheries awareness into classrooms throughout Idaho by giving students an opportunity to express their creative side and personalize a bookmark with a fish message.



Outstanding Chapter Award continued...

Also, read about the ICAFS sponsorship of "*Boise to Beijing*" in this issue of our newsletter: a unique opportunity to recognize international interest in water quality and fish!

The Anadromous Committee's promotion and support of "*Stream of Dreams*" in the town of Salmon, Idaho promoted fish education in the schools and community. It displays salmon and steelhead in a mural of over 500 hand-painted, life-sized fish images along the streets of Salmon. Another educational program from the anadromous committee is "*Following the Fishes*", where students use the curriculum put together by committee members to follow the migratory movements of salmon and steelhead through PIT tag detection systems (see the ICAFS website for a view of the program). This program continues to gain interest from Idaho high school biology teachers. The ICAFS sponsorship and recognition of *38 minus: The Idaho Fish Project* through our Native Fish Committee and the R. L. Wallace Award continues to promote our mission as it tours around the state. ICAFS continues with this sponsorship this summer by helping fund the Idaho State Museum of Natural History in Pocatello to put together a display on fishes of Idaho in conjunction with the *38 minus* display.

Our Mentoring Committee continues to make it easy for all of us to seek out and develop mentoring opportunities through our website (see below). Our Aquaculture Committee continues to offer quality Continuing Education workshops at our annual meetings. Our Fish Habitat Committee expanded its focus and changed the name to the Aquatic Habitat Committee. They are in the process of planning a workshop for our 2016 meeting on Habitat Restoration. Our Membership Committee continues to maintain a large email database to better communicate to our chapter members. A newly founded committee - our Continuing Education Committee - will work with other committees and ideas from our membership to help organize and provide workshops at our annual meetings or other times of the year. And lastly, our Funding Committee makes these sponsorships possible. At our annual meeting - through their solicitation of corporate sponsorships and their incredible effort of organizing the auction and raffle - they brought in nearly \$24,000 to our Chapter, much of it through the willingness of our members to dig into their pocket-books and generously participate in our fundraising efforts.



Finally, the Idaho Chapter, through the support of our membership, has been able to continue to build for the future of our chapter in offering quality scholarships, free registration for students and young professionals at our annual meetings, sponsorship of travel grants to the National AFS meeting, and sponsorship of various workshops and summer camps as they are brought forward to our EXCOM. We are a significant sponsor in the development of "*Fishes of Idaho*" - a book in progress through the efforts of Jon Sigler and Don Zaroban - targeted for release in early 2016. Many of our chapter members have contributed to the development of this book.



We continue to expand our communication with our membership through our Gill Raker newsletter and maintain a high quality website. Our Chapter website had 20,509 unique visits during 2014 from throughout the world!! We have expanded our communication efforts with our Facebook page - go check it out at www.facebook.com/IdahoAFS and like our page!

So - **Congratulations Idaho Chapter** on a well-deserved recognition of your Outstanding Contribution to our profession: The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society Outstanding Chapter!

Jim Chandler



Congratulations to ICAFS members who were recipients of Western Division AFS 2015 Awards and Scholarships

Dan Isaak was awarded the *Award of Excellence* - This is the most prestigious award offered by Western Division. The award is intended to recognize sustained professional excellence. This award is given annually to an AFS member who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and exceptional competence in fishery resource applications through monumental work, new methodologies, or multiple successful contributions that benefit our resources and profession. Dan would like to share this award among a huge team of collaborators - a team that "gets to do cool things only because the ICASF aquatics community and those with other WDAFS chapters are willing to share much of their hard-earned datasets with us so we can make them into big databases that benefit everyone".

Stephanie Hallock accepted the *Award of Excellence in Riparian Management* - also known as the Riparian Challenge Award. This award is given to conservation agencies for on-the-ground accomplishments in riparian habitat management in the region encompassed by Western Division. Stephanie accepted the award on behalf of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

Elizabeth Ng with the University of Idaho and Past President of the Palouse Student subunit was awarded the *Eugene Maughan Graduate Student Scholarship*. Selection is based on demonstration of excellent scholarship, potential for future contributions to the fisheries profession, and significant progress toward a degree.

THE IDAHO CHAPTER IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE

2016 Annual Meeting

March 8-10, 2016
Workshops March 7, 2016



Committees in Action

Public Education Committee - Lauri Monnot

Rivers from Beijing to Boise

The Idaho Chapter AFS partnered with the College of Idaho to provide an outdoor classroom experience for 14 high school students from Beijing, China. Students were immersed in the study of water quality and in determining if a body of water is swimmable-fishable, as defined by the Clean Water Act. For two weeks, students and mentors experienced the diversity of resources and culture between Idaho and China.



The students' questions, observations and comparisons between rivers in China and Idaho were insightful. Over two weeks they conquered unfamiliar concepts and the riparian 'jungle'. Observing their trepidation and then exhilaration while swimming in the Snake River was rewarding for both students and mentors. We are hopeful that this brief experience will influence the students as they continue their education and embark on their professional lives. Idaho Chapter members are proud to have had a part in this unique experience.



Teachers presented water quality, aquatic species, and habitat lessons in the classroom. Then students applied their knowledge at six field sites on the Boise River. Their water quality data were brought back to the classroom for evaluation and analysis. Students were also able to explore the Snake River on a raft trip from Swan Falls Dam to Celebration Park. This trip allowed informal interaction with professional scientists and fish biologists. Idaho Power demonstrated electrofishing to observe the fish community. Students recorded their experiences with pictures, journals and demonstrated their new knowledge in student showcase presentations on the last classroom day.



Mentoring Committee - Jessica Buelow and Lance Hebdon

Mentors and Mentees:

Idaho Chapter AFS Mentoring Committee is working to match mentors and mentees via a link on our website!



How it works:

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

The survey takes just a few minutes to fill out and this is a service that is offered year round!



Be a Mentor, Find a Mentor, Today!

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

If you have any questions please contact Jessica Buelow

jessica.buelow@idfg.idaho.gov

or Lance Hebdon lance.hebdon@idfg.idaho.gov

Free Resume Evaluation!

The Idaho Chapter AFS is offering an opportunity for students and young professionals to have their resume reviewed anonymously by Fisheries professionals in order to help you get a job!

How it works:

- ⇒ Send your resume to Jessica Buelow jessica.buelow@idfg.idaho.gov
- ⇒ Remove your name from the resume, or it will be done for you.
- ⇒ I will send it to two fisheries professionals who will review it. I have several professionals who are interested in helping out and they all review a lot of resumes!
- ⇒ The edits will be returned to you for your use.

2016 ICAFS student workshop ideas

Idaho Chapter AFS Mentoring committee is looking for ideas for a student/young professional workshop for the 2016 ICAFS meeting in Coeur d'Alene. The goal of the workshop is to help students and young professionals build a career in Fisheries. If you have any suggestions for a workshop, please contact:

Jessica Buelow jessica.buelow@idfg.idaho.gov or Lance Hebdon lance.hebdon@idfg.idaho.gov.



Executive Committee



President
Jim Chandler
Phone: 208-388-2974
jchandler@idahopower.com



President-Elect
Jay Hesse
Phone: 208-790-2576
jayh@nezperce.org



Vice President
Helen Neville
Phone: 208-345-9800
hneville@tu.org



Past President
Thomas Curet
Phone: 208-756-2271
tom.curet@idfg.idaho.gov



Secretary
Kevin Meyer
Phone: 208-465-8404, ext. 227
kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov



Treasurer
Steve Anglea
Phone: 208-955-6766
steve.anglea@biomark.com



Nominations Chair
Bryan Grant
Phone: 208-236-1256
bryan.grant@idfg.idaho.gov

The EXCOM wants your ideas ...

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

This is your Chapter !

