



Gill Raker Gazette

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American Fisheries Society

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Editor: Dan Schill

President's Message - "Who Do You Hang With?"



Jim Rohn's concept that "you are the average of the five people you spend the most time with" has me thinking about the intentionality of my learning and the role the American Fisheries Society has in raising the bar of fisheries professionals. I see two important "truths" in Mr. Rohn's statement 1) the relationships you invest energy into will influence what we achieve professionally (this is a two-way street as others will influence you and you will influence others), and 2) professional organizations, such as the American Fisheries Society, are unique catalysts for developing new and renewing old relationships. As such, AFS membership, meeting attendance and mentorships are worthy investments in your career and our profession.

I am proud to be an AFS member and it has been an important part of my fisheries career. My experience with AFS members is one of commitment, competency, self-motivation, and caring (for each other and the resource). It is a tight-knit community, in which membership yields many benefits whether you are a student or professional, early or late in your career. By the very fact that you are reading this newsletter, you are engaged in Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. However, over half of the people getting this newsletter are not an AFS member. You, the Idaho Chapter, and the American Fisheries Society will benefit from your membership, go to <http://fisheries.org/membership/> today to become a member and remember to check the Idaho Chapter box. To be a voting member in the Idaho Chapter, you must be a Society member who has paid their current year dues and have a desire to participate in the Chapter. Members of the university-based Palouse, Portneuf and BYU-Idaho Subunits are recognized as Chapter members.

Our Chapter excels in annual meeting attendance and participation. This year's annual meeting, themed Where Land and Water Meet, will be a joint meeting with The Wildlife Society. It will be an outstanding opportunity to share your recent work with others (abstracts are due November 18th) and to establish and renew relationships. The pre-meeting workshops and continuing education courses are aimed to hone your technical skills, but are also an ideal setting to interact with a diverse set of leaders in our field. Plan on coming to Boise a day early for some excellent life-long learning and extra time to build relationships.

Mentoring (for the both the mentor and mentee) is arguably the most rewarding professional experience we can have. It was not until the passing of one of my mentors that I realized the importance of his routinely spoken words: "take time to smell the roses." I often wonder if our mentors are able to detect our struggles with some type of all-knowing insight or are they just sharing their experiences, assuming that you will likely travel a similar path. The answer probably does not matter. What does matter is our willingness to learn from others.

Think big, play well with others, take time to smell the roses, and hang with AFS!

- Jay



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2017 ICAFS/TWS Joint Annual Meeting Call for Abstracts



Deadline November 18, 2016

It'll be here before we know it! Our next annual meeting, being held jointly with The Wildlife Society, is on February 28-March 3, 2017 at the Boise Centre, Boise, ID and the theme is: **Common Grounds: Where Land and Water Meet.**

We are accepting Contributed Papers for a wide range of fish and wildlife topics. We invite abstracts for presentations and posters on all topics in fish and wildlife research and management, vertebrate biology, habitat management, conservation programs and practices, and applications of research findings to conservation and management practices.

Tentative Schedule:

February 28 - Workshops* and Working Group Meetings, Welcome Reception

March 1 - Plenary, Special Sessions, Posters, Student-Professional Mixer

March 2 - Contributed Presentation Sessions, Posters, Banquet

March 3 - Contributed Presentation Sessions

*Separate registration may be required for some workshops

Special Session topics:

- Terrestrial/Aquatic Interactions
- Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife

Workshop topics will include:

- Program R
- Aquaculture
- Technical Manuscript Editing and Review
- Amphibian Identification & Ecology
- Riparian Habitat Improvement

Abstracts for all oral presentations and posters must be submitted electronically as Microsoft Word documents by **November 18, 2016**. Instructions are available at www.ictws.org and at www.idahoafs.org.

Students—come give a talk! All student presentations (full oral and poster) will be considered for "best presentation" and "best poster" awards from your respective society.

Give an IGNITE! Presentation! These short, to-the-point talks provide a fun platform for people to quickly share project updates, notes from the field, or other important topics that don't require a full 20-minute presentation. IGNITE! talks are 5 minutes long, and each slide in the presentation must advance automatically every 15 seconds (we will send a template and instructions if your abstract is accepted). Topics can be inspirational, funny, or informative, but all should strive to be engaging and entertaining.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Steering Committee Chairs:

Anna Owsiak (anna.owsiak@idfg.idaho.gov) ICTWS

Helen Neville (hneville@TU.org) AFS

Crabby about this deadline?!

EXCOM was informed by our steely-eyed President Hesse that he had to negotiate hard for the above date. Apparently even this ABSTRACT deadline of Nov 18, an early-bird record for us fish types, was considered very late by the Wildlife gang!

Don't know if this means they are good planners or we fish squeezers are poor at it but regardless, it was the best compromise Jay could get. Let's all just pitch in and do our best with this date, even if all the results and P-values are not quite in hand. Let's be honest, all that detail in an abstract clutters it up anyway.....





2017 ICAFS

Call for Award Nominations

**There are many people who deserve recognition...
Have you been putting it off?
Take the time to nominate them this year!!**

The Executive Committee is soliciting nominations for awards to be presented at the 2017 Annual Business meeting in Boise. These awards are independent from awards presented by the Native Fish, Mentoring, Fish Habitat 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 Jim Chandler no later than **January 6, 2017**. If you have any questions please contact Jim at (208) 388-2974 or email at jchandler@idahopower.com

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.

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.

Committee Activity

Native Fish Committee holds field trips to help university ichthyology collections

By Zach Klein and Dan Dauwalter (Committee Co-Chairs)

Every year or two (or three) the Idaho Chapter AFS Native Fish Committee holds a field trip to get its members into the field to see some of Idaho's unique native fishes. In 2016, the Committee worked with BYU-Idaho, the College of Idaho, Idaho State University, and the University of Idaho to sample fishes for each institution's ichthyology collection. One group focused its sampling effort on the Kootenai River while a second group sampled the Boise River. Each event was a huge success and collectively we had over 45 individuals attend the field trips.

The Kootenai River trip took place from September 3 - 4 and had a total of 15 attendees. Attendees represented the Palouse Unit of AFS, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Chapter AFS, and Idaho State University.

Sampling effort was focused on the mainstem Kootenai River and its tributaries to maximize the number of species sampled. Two groups sampled the Kootenai River with boat-mounted electrofishers and two groups sampled tributaries of the Kootenai River with backpack electrofishers. Both groups sampled a number of fishes representing 13 genera. Collected fish were preserved and will be distributed to BYU-Idaho, the College of Idaho, the University of Idaho, and Idaho State University to improve their current ichthyology collections.

The Boise River field trip was held on September 17th and was attended by ~30 people from BYU-Idaho, the College of Idaho, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Geological Survey, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho Power, Trout Unlimited, and Idaho Chapter AFS. Primary sampling occurred via backpack electrofishing in the Boise River. Approximately 15 fish species were collected, including the non-native oriental weatherfish (*Misgurnus anguillicaudatus*) that is a common aquarium fish and now naturally reproduces in the Boise River. Approximately 5 individuals of each species were preserved and sent to the four respective colleges and universities to supplement existing fish collections. In addition to sampling fishes, Jim Reynolds (expert on all things electrofishing) briefed everyone on electrofishing theory and tested every backpack electrofisher on site to see whether electrical outputs were sufficient.



Torrent Sculpin collected from the Kootenai River



Oriental Weatherfish

Both events were quite successful. Fishes sampled in 2016 will aid in educating future fisheries professionals (meeting the mission of the Committee!). Additionally, a number of individuals new to the field gained valuable experience with a number of sampling techniques. Although the event was planned and implemented by the Native Fish Committee, the field trips would not have been a success without the generous support of a number of entities. Funding for the Kootenai River field trip was provided by the Palouse Unit of AFS and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game provided technical support for the trip. The Boise River trip was largely funded by Idaho Chapter AFS 2016 Challenge Funds to the Native Fish Committee.

Who doesn't need \$500-2000 for school in 2017? Raise your hand...

Do you:

Plan to enroll in classes for Spring semester 2017?

Have a GPA of 3.0 or better?

Have career goals to improve fisheries resources?

If you answered yes to all of the above then don't miss the chance to apply for scholarships available through the Idaho Chapter AFS.

Think there is no chance you will be selected?

You have a better chance of getting a scholarship (33%¹) than getting the flu (5-20%²). Which would you rather have?



Information and application materials are available on the Chapter website (<http://www.idahoafs.org/scholarships.php>). Applications must be emailed (or postmarked) by January 31, 2017. Winners will be announced during the business luncheon at the annual meeting in March. For more information, please visit the Chapter website (<http://www.idahoafs.org/scholarships.php>) or contact Lauri Monnot, Public Education Committee Chairperson, at lauri.monnot@deq.idaho.gov or (208) 373-0203.

¹According to scholarship applications received 2010-2014

²Center for Disease Control, 2013

Annual Meeting Volunteers needed...

Volunteer Opportunities: Assistance at the conference is always needed! Please consider volunteering some time to help your Chapter during the event. Whether you have a particular area you would like to help with or are willing to help in whatever capacity is needed, get in touch with one of the Steering Committee Chairs below and we will match your interest and availability with where assistance is needed.

Contact

Anna Owsiak (anna.owsiak@idfg.idaho.gov) ICTWS

Helen Neville (hneville@TU.org) AFS

www.ictws.org or www.idahoafs.org.



SAVE THE DATE —
May 22-25, 2017:
WDAFS meeting hosted by
MTAFS in Missoula, MT
"Change and Continuity: Celebrating 50
years of Fisheries in the West"



Planning for the 2017 meeting in Missoula, Montana is well underway! Missoula is a vibrant, active, and scenic setting for the meeting, and a river really does run through it. The meeting will be held at the University of Montana on the banks of the Clark Fork River. The rich cultural and natural history of the region has inspired the conservation and management of fisheries for decades, guaranteed to infuse the range of work you'll see presented at this meeting. There will be a large, outdoor celebration recognizing the Montana Chapter's 50th anniversary, where we will celebrate a half-century of exceptional science, stewardship, and dedication to the aquatic resources our members hold dear. Fortunately for our microbrew fans, Missoula offers eight local breweries to taste the local flavors Missoulians love to celebrate.

The meeting will include:

- Symposia covering a wide range of captivating topics
- Fun and educational field trips
- Trade Show with enticing vendors
- The mother of all raffles and auctions at the closing social and banquet

And much, much more! More information will continue to be available at:

<http://wdmtg.fisheries.org/>

We look forward to sharing great science together and all that western Montana has to offer in Missoula, May 2017.

Most sincerely, Leslie Nyce & Amber Steed (MTAFS President-Elect 2016 and President-Elect 2017)



Executive Committee



President
Jay Hesse
Phone: 208-621-3552
jayh@nezperce.org



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



Vice President
Dan Schill
Phone: 208-921-7848
dan.schill@idfg.idaho.gov



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



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



Secretary
Carson Watkins
Phone: 208-369-0295
carson.watkins@idfg.idaho.gov



Nominations Chair
Eric Pankau
Phone: 208-226-2015
eric.pankau@idfg.idaho.gov

The EXCOM wants your ideas ...

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

This is your Chapter !

