



Gill Raker Gazette

The Newsletter of the Idaho Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

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Editor: Brett High

President's Message - Perspectives



It has been an unbelievable year. Despite a serendipitous boon on snowpack that is sure to bode well for fish this summer, it is hard to ignore the continuing threats to the hard work we all do to protect them and their habitats. I find myself constantly asking "what can I do?"

One thing that gives me hope is the knowledge that I can *bring it local*. We are so fortunate to have such incredible resources here in Idaho, of beautiful and unique fisheries and habitats ranging from small ephemeral desert streams to some of our nation's largest rivers. No matter what goes on in the world around us, *we can double-down* on what we do here, in Idaho, every day. And you know what? We do a lot! Collectively, in our various lines of work, we generate high integrity science and research, teach, develop cutting-edge management techniques and implement strategic management actions, monitor change, mentor students and young professionals, protect and restore aquatic habitat and flows, ensure fish health, educate the public on the importance of fish, control non-native species, and pull together diverse partners in collaboration to effect change we may have once thought couldn't happen – and I'm sure I didn't even capture some of what we all do in our jobs in that impressive list.

This year's annual meeting was threaded with all of these themes, and seeing it all come together in one venue emphasized to me that we not only have incredible *natural* resources in ID, but incredible *human* resources in our ID AFS chapter. Clearly, those of us searching for things to be involved in and inspired by need look no further. At this year's joint meeting with The Wildlife Society, AFSers alone gave over 70 contributed oral contributed talks and presented 32 posters – and that doesn't even include the excellent plenary and special sessions. The integrity of those presentations was truly inspiring and served as great continuing education for us all. On top of that, our continuing education committees jointly hosted *seven* workshops that provided an opportunity to roll up our sleeves on topics ranging from R programing, to aquaculture, to technical manuscript editing, to amphibian identification.

One of the most inspiring things to me is the contribution to and engagement of our students in our Chapter and, therefore, opportunities for the rest of us to participate in some form of mentoring. We had over 70 AFS students attend our annual meeting! Given that propague pressure, this meant over 40 students participated in the resume and mock interview booth our Mentoring Committee co-hosted with TWS. (A great success, it may be expanded next year to provide a similar venue for professionals to hone their interviewing skills.) And in case you haven't kept up with goings-on outside of the meeting, our student sub-units also organize tons and tons of activities with more opportunities for engagement: they host socials, fund-raising game-feeds and ice-fishing events, river clean-ups, kids' fishing days, native fish sampling and other field trips, student-agency conferences, professional talks and more.

Likewise, our committees provide a whole other layer of opportunity. Last year our Committees received seed funds to jumpstart on-the-ground activities. And they are jumping: Stream of Dreams! Salmon Cam! Student Scholarships! Continuing Education Courses and Training! Native Fish Field Trips! Educational Outreach Products! Trout in the Classroom! Recently, you all got information on the upcoming Summit on Idaho's Changing Climate, which we are helping to sponsor and develop, and will have many volunteer opportunities and needs.

Making these things happen takes member dedication, time, and expertise, and we can *always* use more of all. I encourage you to ruminate on these varied opportunities and see the summaries further on in this newsletter, and if you are looking for ways to engage with or help the chapter let us know. We can hook you up, right here in Idaho.

Looking forward to working with you, Helen Neville



Idaho Chapter AFS Sponsors Electrofishing Course

The Idaho chapter recently hosted a three-day backpack electrofishing course taught by Dr. Jim Reynolds, Professor Emeritus of fisheries science at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. Dr. Reynolds is one of the world's experts on electrofishing. This was a unique opportunity for the chapter's membership to interact with other fisheries professionals engaged in a multi-day continuing education course outside of the annual meeting. The course was attended by a diverse group of 25 fisheries professionals and students from around Idaho and eastern Oregon representing various state, federal, and tribal entities. Dr. Reynolds' course focused on the application of electrical concepts in fishery science, electrofishing safety, power standardization, and assessment of immobilization thresholds for fish sampling. The course was highly interactive with a mix of lecture and hands-on work training with electrofishing equipment in both the field and classroom. Students were able to apply the course material during a group field sampling trip to Logger Creek near Boise. Moving forward, the chapter will look for additional ways to provide continuing education opportunities outside of the annual meeting workshops.



Special thanks to Dr. Reynolds, Kevin Meyer, and Lynette Moran for their efforts that made this course such a success for our members!



BYU Idaho Subunit Celebrates First Year

The BYU Idaho Subunit was excited to celebrate our one year anniversary as an AFS student subunit in conjunction with Earth Day by holding a public lands cleanup and barbeque. We went to two different recreational access points on the Snake River and collected over 300 lbs. of trash. Some onlookers decided to pitch in with the effort after being impressed by the students' hard work and willingness to clean up our local water access spots. We have continued our seminar series by hosting biologists from Idaho Fish and Game, United States Forest Service, and a local consulting firm. As we only have an undergraduate program at our university, these speakers provide great exposure for the students about fisheries career options as well as volunteer and employment opportunities while they are still students. In May, a group of fisheries students visited Grace Fish Hatchery in southeast Idaho. After a tour of the facility, students assisted hatchery personnel with spawning Bonneville cutthroat trout for the conservation hatchery program for this species. While our student subunit is still in its infant stages, we have greatly appreciated the support received by local biologists, the Idaho Chapter, and the Western Division.



Idaho Chapter Student Subunit Presidents



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Portneuf Student Subunit Update Summer 2017

Summer represents that time of year for fisheries students when the mind becomes singularly focused on data collection and for many Portneuf subunit members that was the case this summer. However, all of our members still made time to participate in a variety of exciting activities. Some of these activities included: presenting research at both the WDAFS meeting in Missoula MT and the SFS meeting in Raleigh NC, volunteering with IDFG on their annual Yellowstone Cutthroat spawn on the South Fork of the Snake River, participating in the long-term monitoring project on Big Creek and its tributaries in the Frank Church Wilderness, and perhaps most importantly, many of our graduate student members mentored undergraduates that received summer funding to conduct research through the MILES (Managing Idaho's Landscapes for Ecosystem Services) program. A variety of really cool projects were conducted, and the undergraduate researchers presented their findings at The Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research. These events and activities made for an eventful and productive summer for the Portneuf student subunit.



Undergraduate Megan Brauner presents her summer research on cutthroat trout population structure at The Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research.



Palouse Student Subunit



PUAFS Vice-President Kat Gillies-Rector explaining fisheries careers to middle school students attending a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics summer camp.

PUAFS members (including a young, honorary member) at the annual stream clean-up of Paradise Creek.



PUAFS members (including a young, honorary member) at the annual stream clean-up of Paradise Creek.

PUAFS and its members. We hope to maintain momentum during the remainder of the year with increased membership and engagement through mentoring, field trips, and community outreach events.

Student members of the Palouse Subunit of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (PUAFS) have been busy this summer. Our members pursued research in Idaho, Oregon, Wyoming, Washington, and California. In addition, PUAFS members presented their research at the Annual Meeting of the Washington-British Columbia Chapter of AFS, Annual Meeting of the Western Division of AFS, Annual Meeting of AFS, and the World Recreational Fishing Conference. At the Annual Meeting of AFS in Tampa, Zach Klein received the John E. Skinner Memorial Award. Members of PUAFS were also engaged in local outreach and educational activities over the summer. In May, PUAFS members participated in the annual stream clean-up of Paradise Creek in Moscow. Three members traveled to Lapwai to discuss different occupations in the field of fisheries with middle school students attending a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics summer camp. In August, PUAFS volunteered with the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute to teach young children about fish. Members led a fish-themed story time, explained fish anatomy through a demonstrated dissection, and assisted with fish-related arts and crafts. Thus far, 2017 has been a rewarding year for



Past PUAFS President Laura Jenkins reading a fish book at the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute.

PUAFS member John Heckle collecting Westslope Cutthroat Trout during early summer sampling in the St. Marie's River.



PUAFS member John Heckle collecting Westslope Cutthroat Trout during early summer sampling in the St. Marie's River.





**2017 Western Division of the American Fisheries Society
Student Colloquium**



November 14—17, 2017

Hosted by the Palouse Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society in McCall, Idaho



The 2017 Student Colloquium is a great opportunity to:

- Interact with a diverse array of students from all over the West
- Present current research in a friendly, constructive environment
- Receive feedback on your research
- Attend an R workshop presented by Dr. Derek Ogle

The meeting is free and the planning committee is committed to providing travel assistance to attendees!

Meeting schedule:

11/14—Travel and Welcome Social

11/15—Fisheries Stock Assessment in R workshop presented by Dr. Ogle

11/16—Student presentations with feedback

11/17—Travel home or explore central Idaho (cross country skiing, late-season fishing)

Please visit the Palouse Unit of the American Fisheries Society website for important updates and information

<http://palouse.fisheries.org/2017-wdafs-student-colloquium-4/>

Contact information:

Palouse Student Subunit President, Shannon Blackburn (Blac2622@vandals.uidaho.edu)
Western Division AFS Student Representative, Zach Klein (Klei7686@vandals.uidaho.edu)



Climate Summit to be held this November!



Our Water, Our Land, Our Health, Our Future

What: Idaho Climate Summit: Safeguarding Idaho's Economy In a Changing Climate is a two-day summit about Idaho's changing climate designed to explore market-based solutions for safeguarding Idaho's economy, health, landscape, and lifestyle.

When: November 16-17, 2017

Where: Boise State University (live)
Idaho State University, Pocatello
University of Idaho, Moscow

More info can be found at: <http://www.idahoclimatesummit.com/>



Anadromous Committee-Summer Update 2017

The Anadromous Committee has been working towards a Stream of Dreams project in Riggins, ID over the last year. The Stream of Dreams program is a non-profit educational program that focuses on teaching community members about the source of their water, how to protect their water, and where their water goes after it has been through their homes and schools. Importantly, the program provides this education through the scope of the life cycle of Salmon and aquatic animals in general. The lasting legacy of this program is the installation of a mural

comprised of up to 700 hand painted fish (painted by members of the community and students) on a fence in the community. This adds outstanding artistic and outreach facets to the program. We have received logistical and financial support through the Riggins Search and Rescue, the Riggins City Council, and the Salmon River School Board. Additionally, the Anadromous Committee has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation to help get this project implemented. We anticipate to install this mural in the Spring of 2018, so keep your ears open for updates and calls for assistance as the time nears to bring the Stream of Dreams to the City Park in Riggins, Idaho! Please visit this website (<http://www.streamofdreams.net/>) for more information on this wonderful program.



Aquaculture Committee Update

The Aquaculture Committee was able to provide approximately \$1000 of chapter funds to support travel for two undergraduate students to attend the 2017 University of Idaho - Coldwater Fish Culture Course that was held at the U of I Fish Culture Experiment station in Hagerman, Idaho. Personnel from Idaho Fish and Game, USFWS, and faculty from the U of I designed and focused this course on cold water salmonid culture for young professionals. The course materials included lectures and hands-on practical exercises in Fish Nutrition, Genetics, Reproduction, Pathology, Biosecurity, Physiology, Stress, and Farm Management. There was also a full day of hatchery/farm tours in the Hagerman Valley. The course was taught from July 10th thru the 14th, where 35 professionals and students from IDFG, Nez Perce Tribe, Clear Springs Foods, EV Aquaculture, Fish Breeders of Idaho, USFWS, and the University of Idaho attended the course. All of the attendees took a pre- and post-course exam and the overall class score showed an improvement of 49% from the pre- to the post-test.

The ICAFS graciously sponsored two undergrad students to attend this course by funding course fees, meals, and transportation. Scholarship applications were reviewed, scored, and awarded by the ICAFS Aquaculture Committee Co-chairs. Olivia Starr, currently a junior at BSU studying Biology, was awarded one of the scholarships to attend this course. Olivia, inspired by her father Chris Starr, is very interested in Anadromous fish and has worked several seasons as a bioaide for IDFG at the Eagle and Sawtooth Fish Hatcheries. Matthew Sutterfield was awarded the other scholarship. Matt is currently a Junior at LCSC in Lewiston and is also studying Biology. Matt was raised at hatcheries in Washington State and is working toward earning a degree that he can use to establish a career in fish culture. Matt has also been consistently working as a bioaide for IDFG at Rapid River and McCall Fish Hatcheries for the past few years. Both of these students expressed their sincere gratitude and appreciation to the chapter for being able to attend this course.

Looking forward, the Aquaculture committee would like to put on another continuing education workshop at the 2018 Meeting in Idaho Falls. From input gathered at last year's committee meeting in Boise, this year's CE workshop will likely focus on fish transport.



Aquatic Habitat Committee Opportunities for Field Experience

The Aquatic Habitat Committee has some great opportunities for volunteers to get on the ground and work with/observe/learn how we actively create aquatic habitat through restoration design and construction. This fall, there will be work done to create floodplain and dig side channels on the Lemhi River. If you're closer to Lewiston, there are a couple projects going on there where folks are invited to help or just supervise and observe.

One involves instream wood placement and floodplain development on the East Fork Potlatch River; the second is installing downstream rock weirs and steller baffles in a large highway culvert to assist in steelhead migration. Please let Ryan Hillyard (ryan.hillyard@idfg.idaho.gov) or myself, Jeanne McFall (jeanne.mcfall@idfg.idaho.gov) know if you'd like to learn more!



We have committee funds available to help with transportation and lodging while you're there. If other project managers have additional opportunities, please let me know.



Public Education Committee Update

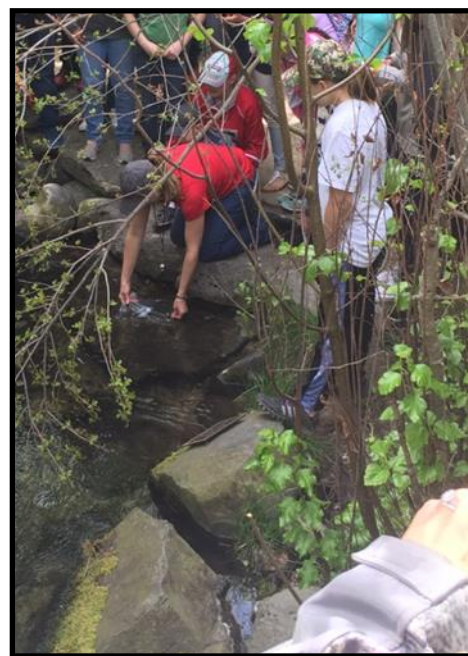
The Idaho Chapter AFS supports the Trout in the Classroom program through an annual support grant administered by the Public Education committee. Schools can apply for grants to

pay for bus transportation for classroom field trips to learn about aquatic resources and re-lease trout raised in Idaho Trout, Steelhead, or Kokanee in the Classroom programs. This year grants were awarded to 19 schools in Idaho allowing more than 1000 students



Sagle Elementary Waterlife Discovery Center

in grades 2-12 to get outside and learn more about fisheries resources. Classrooms got a chance to practice angling skills, learn to clean and cook fish, tour fish hatcheries, visit education centers, and participate in educational activities mentored by fisheries professionals.



Sagle Elementary fish release



ICAFS Grant Opportunity

An Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society's Training Opportunity and Project (TOP) Grant up to \$750 is available for students. The grant money can support attending a professional conference, workshop, or training; conducting research outside typical degree requirements; implementing education projects; or other activities that support the Idaho Chapter mission and goals. For more information please visit <http://www.idahoafs.org/ICAFStopGrant.php> or contact Lauri Monnot @ (208) 373-0203.

ICAFS Scholarships

The Idaho Chapter is pleased to announce four annually awarded scholarships for students attending Idaho schools. These are as follows:

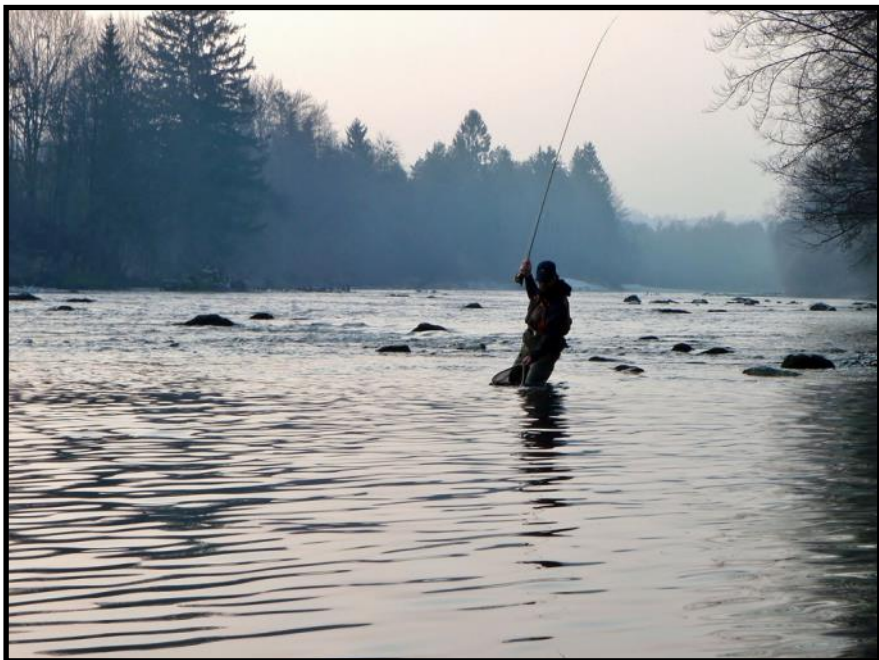
- Idaho High School Student Scholarship** - This \$500 scholarship will be awarded annually to an Idaho High School senior that is planning to attend a college or university located in Idaho.
- Idaho Undergraduate Student Scholarship** - This \$1000 scholarship will be awarded annually to any Idaho college or university undergrad involved with the Idaho Chapter, including student units.
- Idaho Graduate Student Scholarship** - This \$1000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduate student that is enrolled at any Idaho college or university or involved with the Idaho Chapter including student units.
- Susan B Martin Graduate Student Scholarship**- This \$1000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduate student that is enrolled at any Idaho college or university or involved with the Idaho Chapter, including student units.

These scholarships were developed by the Executive, Mentoring and Public Education Committees, and 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>). Download and complete the application form and obtain a copy of your college transcripts (unofficial transcripts are acceptable). Email your completed application form and your transcripts to Lauri Monnot at scholarships@idahoafs.org. A letter of recommendation to support the application must be emailed to scholarships@idahoafs.org from a biology professional, faculty advisor, school administrator, or supervisor. Applications must be received by January 31, 2018. Winners will be announced during the business luncheon at the annual meeting. For more information, please visit the Chapter website (<http://www.idahoafs.org/>) or contact Lauri Monnot, Public Education Committee Chair, at lauri.monnot@deq.idaho.gov or (208) 373-0203.



Fundraising Committee

Not quite that time of year, but getting closer to the huge ICAFS Banquet and Auction in Idaho Falls. Funds raised at the annual meeting support the multitude of activities that the chapter is involved in, like the Ted Trueblood Chapter Trout Unlimited Trout Camp. Did everyone see Dauwalter's mad skills? Please start thinking about items and/or trips that you would like to donate to the banquet. Last year's Fish-O-Flies was pretty pathetic, so would like to get the tyers and non-tyers thinking about what they can contribute and will probably be worth something like one general raffle ticket per fly. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Rebecca Rogers (rebecca.rogers@idfg.idaho.gov), Joe Thiessen, or myself (Steve Anglea (steve.anglea@biomark.com)).

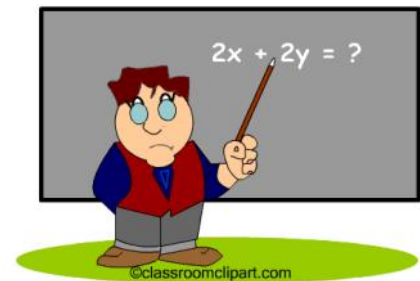


Continuing Education Committee

Continuing education opportunities through ICAFS represent a fundamental component of the Chapter's mission: promoting the development of fisheries professionals. In 2017, the Chapter had one of its finest years for meeting this part of the mission. At the last Annual meeting, we jointly held seven workshops with the Wildlife Society, and we had Chapter representation at all seven of those workshops. One hundred and fifty five ICAFS registrants participated in continuing education opportunities ranging from Amphibian ID and ESA overview to technical manuscript editing and statistical analyses in Program R. The Aquaculture and Aquatic Habitat Committees continued their now annual tradition of



offering excellent symposia and educational field trips to chapter members in those disciplines. In April, Kevin Meyer and Jim Reynolds organized a backpacking electro-fishing workshop that turned out to be a pretty hot ticket item, as Jim graciously discounted the price of this outstanding program to ICAFS membership.



As the smoke clears and the leaves begin to turn, we need to be thinking of hitting the books again next winter when we converge on the frozen high plains of Idaho Falls. A handful of exciting workshop proposals have trickled in over the last few weeks, and we encourage you now to send additional proposals to Matt Corsi (matthew.corsi@idfg.idaho.gov). Be creative. Let's continue to set a high bar for professional development.



FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS!



The 2018 Annual Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Meeting
“Fisheries Scientists Must Write”

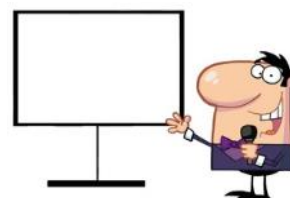
Idaho Falls at the Shilo Inn February 28 to March 2, 2018

All-star Plenary Session Panel includes:

Dr. Daniel Pauly - Author of “Fishing Down Marine Food Webs” and one of the most-cited fisheries scientists on the planet

Dr. Michael Hansen - Long-time editor of the North American Journal of Fisheries Management and Research Biologist at the Great Lakes Science Center

More to come!!



If you are interested in reserving your spot for giving an oral or poster presentation, please send an abstract and your contact information to Jim Reynolds (jbreyolds@alaska.edu) or Rick Wilkison (rwilkison@idahopower.com)



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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 !

