What motivates you? Don’t worry - this won’t be a lecture about how you forgot to do your homework. Rather, it is a good thing for us to ask ourselves periodically, “What motivates you, both professionally and on a personal level?” From a professional aspect, most of us originally started down our current career path because we love fish. So what happens when we hit a plateau, slump back into the chair and just drudge along? If we don’t find ourselves pushing through the ‘slack water,’ is it because we don’t feel challenged enough in our professional development?

Professional development opportunities are almost everywhere, especially if you think about non-traditional options. There are a number of ways to add some spice to your career, whether it is a class to learn about modeling or a refresher on statistics, mentoring a student or new biologist, or a day in the field taking a kid or a veteran fishing. I was recently reminded of the excitement of “all things fish” when talking to 4th graders about fish biology. If you think you are too old to learn something from a grade school class, think again! And, most importantly, don’t overlook our Chapter for professional development.

Our Chapter offers opportunities for a variety of professional developments. We currently have seven committees and six officer positions. Help is always accepted for planning of the next annual meeting, and volunteers are always needed during the annual meeting. If you aren’t ready to share your time at these levels but feel like you have a good idea, let us know that too. We didn’t rise to our current membership level without offering ways for most everyone to be involved.

Don’t forget - AFS extends far beyond Idaho. Many of our members publish in peer-reviewed journals and present their research at conferences, workshops, and in public outreach. Many of our ICAFS members have also served as officers for the Western Division and the AFS Parent Society. Our student chapters are among the most active in the country. The work and perspectives of our chapter members is invaluable. If there is a part of your work that you are really excited about or feel has wide application, share it, whether it is through a poster, presentation, journal article, mentoring, volunteering, etc. Speaking of the perspectives and experience of our membership, our Chapter has a few surprises during the next year, including some at the 2013 annual meeting. Are you curious?

You will start seeing advertisements for next year’s annual meeting titled, “Fisheries: Learning from the Past and Looking Towards the Future.” How will you be involved with the ICAFS 2013 meeting?

So remember, when you start feeling that slump come on at work, you don’t have to look far to find ways to boost your professional development and refresh those things that motivate you. Oh, and one more thing: get outside and enjoy a breath of fresh air!

- Dmitri
ICAFS: Mentoring Committee
By Steve Elle - Chairperson

It is time once again to consider those amongst us who have gone above and beyond the call in mentoring students and/or young professionals during their career. The Idaho Chapter annually recognizes one member with the Outstanding Mentor Award, which will be presented at the 2013 annual meeting.

Please take a few minutes to nominate one (or more) of your peers who have invested their time over the years to make a difference in the development of folks within our profession.

The recipient of this award should meet or exceed the following criteria:
1. A current or previous fisheries professional.
2. Provided substantial assistance to Idaho fisheries professionals/students, with preference given to those who are or were active in ICAFS.
3. Demonstrated a sincere interest/devotion in seeing students and professionals succeed.
4. Provided ample learning and training opportunities for students and professionals to gain experience otherwise unobtainable without the assistance of the nominated professional.

Please send nominations to Steve Elle

Mission: To promote the development of successful fisheries professionals through mentoring.

In other news, I am looking for input on the format of the student mixer at the annual meeting next April in Boise. We plan to have the mixer at the Grove Hotel on the 3rd floor balcony, a large open air location. The balcony is off 4 rooms that will be available to the chapter during the meeting. It will provide a large enough location to gather for the mixer-social and still provide indoor space if the weather does not cooperate. Because this is a joint Idaho Chapter/Western Division meeting, the question arose as to whether we want to use the “professional speed dating” format we have used the last 2 years or just go back to an informal gathering we used in earlier years. If you have opinions or suggestions for other formats, please drop me an email and EXCOM will sift through the options.

And lastly, this will be my final year as Chairman of the mentoring committee. Jason Vogel has offered to step up. If anyone else is interested in getting involved as a chair or co-chair please contact me, Dmitri Vidergar, or Jason Vogel.

ICAFS: Fund Raising Committee
By Chris Sullivan, Patrick Kennedy, and Greg Schoby

We would like to welcome Greg Schoby to the fundraising committee. Greg willingly accepted our invitation to help and will be a great asset, thanks Greg!

With the 2013 annual meeting only about 6 months away, we have started ramping up our efforts. This year is a joint meeting with the Western Division, and we have an opportunity to show the other chapters what Idaho AFS is all about. As always, we need your help to find donations for our fundraising event, so get out, solicit your local shops, and show your support for the Chapter by acquiring a donation.

Because this is an exciting year for the Idaho AFS, we are going to add some new twists to the auction/fundraiser (more to come later), the first of which is a modification to the traditional reward for a Fish-O-Flies fly donation. Because *O. idahoii* is an ICAFS icon, we need to make sure the fish looks its best for the big show. This year, for every 12 flies you donate, your name will be entered into a special raffle for a Redington Tempt 5 wt Fly Rod. Donating flies will be the only way to enter this raffle, putting the odds in your favor, so get on those vises and tie some up, bring them to the meeting in April and you could win this great rod!

If you have comments or suggestions, contact us via e-mail (icafs.fundraising@gmail.com) or by phone (208) 465-8404.
ICAFS: Fish Habitat Committee
By Corey Lyman, Stephanie Hallock, and Dan Scaife

In support of our mission, the Fish Habitat Committee actively supported the development of workshops and symposiums during 2012. Last July, EXCOM and the committee supported the Henry's Fork Foundation in hosting the Caldera Symposium in Island Park, Idaho.

The symposium explored the ecology of one of Idaho’s most fabled trout waters and included presentations covering aquatic research and anglers’ perspectives. Over sixty participants attended the symposium.

In 2013, the committee will be supporting EXCOM in hosting WDAFS in Boise, ID. The committee is partnering with EXCOM to host the Poster Session in addition to a fisheries engineering-themed symposium entitled Hydraulics and Habitat. If you have ideas for habitat related symposiums or workshops that would fit well with the 2013 WDAFS meeting in Boise, please contact one of the Fish Habitat Committee names above to discuss further.

ICAFS: Public Education Committee
By Lauri Monnot

Show me the money!

The Public Education Committee is pleased to announce student and student training scholarship opportunities. Our committee offers five scholarships: two graduate student scholarships, one undergraduate, one for high school students seeking a career in fisheries or aquatic resources, and one to assist Idaho students pursuing training opportunities consistent with the mission and objectives of the American Fisheries Society. Details can be found on page 7 of this newsletter. Additional fishery scholarship opportunities can be found at the University of Idaho website at https://vandalweb.uidaho.edu/PROD/ui_fa_schols.print_schols_by_coll?code=11&code_type=COLL&cols=1

The public education committee continues to be involved in supporting Trout in the Classroom projects throughout the state. If you would like to be involved with this outreach effort, please contact Lauri Monnot at lauri.monnot@deq.idaho.gov or (208) 373-0461.
Kaleb Heinrich — President

Origin: Carlsbad, NM

Study: I am a doctoral student at the Stream Ecology Center at Idaho State University. My current research is exploring the direct interactions that may occur between multiple invasive, non-native species, and both the direct and indirect consequences for stream communities and ecosystem processes. I received my B.S. in Biology at Kansas State University and my M.S. in Zoology from Southern Illinois University.

Involvement: This is my second year in AFS. The society directly benefits my interests/research and provides a great opportunity for outreach and education.

Career Goals: I want to teach at the university level.

Alex Bell — Vice President

Origin: Pocatello, ID

Study: I am pursuing a B.S. in Ecology at ISU. My education and research has generally focused within the realm of freshwater ecology; my interests include investigations of nutrient dynamics, organismal interactions, and trophic behavior within streams, as well as quantifying the connectivity between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. I dig anything from benthic algae to fish—and everything in between.

Involvement: I joined AFS in order to actively participate in an organization that improves our understanding of fisheries science/freshwater ecology in general. I hope to be involved in the freshwater ecology community, learn about contemporary research, and establish professional relationships.

Career Goals: Right now, my main goal is to continue my education and research in freshwater ecology by pursuing a graduate degree.
Hannah Harris — Secretary

Origin: Pocatello, ID

Study: I am a M.S. student in Biology at Idaho State University. My project in the South Fork Salmon River drainage focuses on how wildfire and associated debris flows affect the export of aquatic insects from headwater streams downstream through drift and laterally to riparian areas through emergence. My research also investigates how the flux of stream insects downstream and laterally influence the local abundance of predators such as fish and spiders.

Involvement: I joined AFS to meet others in the field and learn more about native fishes and wild places.

Ryan Blackadar — Treasurer

Origin: Salmon, ID

Study: I am in my final semester of a master’s degree with Dr. Colden Baxter at Idaho State University’s Stream Ecology Lab. My research seeks to evaluate the effect of river ice on aquatic organisms. Specifically, the role of river ice disturbance on biofilm communities and aquatic macroinvertebrates. Overall, my research aims to assess possible effects of climate-induced shifts on river ice regimes. My field site is Big Creek within Idaho’s Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness.

Involvement: I’ve been a member of AFS since 2010.

Career Goals: Upon graduation, I plan to spend time in the wild lands of the western U.S.
Ryan Whitworth – Outreach Coordinator

Origin: Inkom, Idaho

Study: I am currently a Junior at Idaho State University with a Major in Biology: Ecology and Conservation Biology Emphasis. I have not yet decided what I specifically want to study. However, I do take a great interest in Idaho’s fish, wildlife, and general ecology. I want to get as much knowledge as I can now and hopefully sometime in the future be able to find an area that I really want to focus on.

Involvement: I became involved with AFS primarily because I wanted to know how professionals work in areas of fisheries biology. I also have many good memories of fishing with my father and brother. This propels me to want to make sure that fish and their habitat are well maintained for future generations.

Career Goals: I have a strong desire to work in wildlife and fisheries biology professionally. After my undergraduate degree, I hope to go to graduate school and then work with any agency that would need my specific skill set.
Call for Award Nominations

The Executive Committee is soliciting nominations for awards to be presented at the 2013 meeting in Boise. 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 Jason Vogel no later than January 31, 2013. If you have any questions please contact Jason at jasonv@nezperce.org or (208) 621-3602.

**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](http://www.idahoafs.org/scholarships.php). Applications must be postmarked (or emailed) by February 28, 2013. 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 or (208) 373-0461.
John Walrath — President

Origin: I am originally from Nebraska where I received my B.S. degree in Fisheries and Wildlife from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Study: Currently, I am a M.S. student at the University of Idaho. My project is focused on Coeur d’Alene Lake to determine if poor adfluvial westslope cutthroat trout returns are due to predation by northern pike and smallmouth bass. I will also evaluate management alternatives for northern pike and smallmouth bass populations within the context of adfluvial westslope cutthroat trout conservation efforts.

Involvement: I chose to get involved with the American Fisheries Society to better develop myself professionally by staying current on research and networking with fellow members to ensure our fisheries resources will be enjoyed by future generations.

Career Goals: I would like to continue work in fisheries to increase angler opportunities and satisfaction while meeting population management objectives.

For additional information regarding Palouse Unit activities, visit our webpage at http://www.cnr.uidaho.edu/afs/.

Benjamin Cross — Vice President

Origin: Hutchinson, MN

Study: I am pursuing a Ph.D. in Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences at Washington State University. My studies focus on a variety of aquatic and fisheries research projects including hydroacoustic sampling techniques, hypolimnetic oxygenation to improve coldwater fisheries and reduce internal nutrient recycling, ecosystem-based fish stocking models, and understanding walleye recruitment variation.

Involvement: I am involved with AFS because I believe in the organization’s mission. Additionally, AFS provides great networking opportunities and allows me to stay up to date with the latest fisheries related science and news.

Career Goals: I would like to continue conducting fisheries and aquatic research related to ecosystem-based management objectives.
Amber Barenberg — Secretary

Origin: Middleton, Idaho

Study: I am pursuing my M.S. in Fisheries Resources. My research is geared towards finding alternative, economically feasible, and environmentally friendly disinfection options for ballast systems against invasive species to help prevent their spread to other regions.

Involvement: I joined AFS in hopes of meeting and networking with other students and staff who share the same passion for fisheries that I do. Being involved in this club also keeps me informed on current research topics and issues in fisheries.

Career Goals: To do my part in helping to protect Idaho (and the Pacific Northwest) against unwanted aquatic invaders.

Chris Smith — Treasurer

Origin: Cherokee, Iowa

Study: I am pursing a M.S. degree at the University of Idaho under the direction of Dr. Michael Quist. My research focuses on an evaluation of sampling techniques targeting juvenile burbot on the Kootenai River of Idaho.

Involvement: I am involved with AFS to expand my knowledge of current fisheries topics, assist with undergraduate mentoring, and to network with fellow fisheries professionals.

Career Goals: I would like to continue to research questions associated with the management of sport fishes and the conservation of imperiled fishes in a variety of systems. Eventually, I would like to work as a research or management biologist for a state agency.
Knut Marius Myrvold – Graduate Student Advisor

Origin: Norway

Study: I am three years into my Ph.D. in Water Resources at the University of Idaho, where I study the impacts of an altered flow regime on the viability of a threatened population of steelhead in the Lower Clearwater basin. A variety of methods goes into the project and the analyses range from individual-based growth models to identifying key mechanisms of population regulation.

Involvement: I am a member of AFS to support our largest professional society, learn about current issues in fisheries, and stay up to date on aquatic ecology. At the local level I like to get students involved, so that is why I have taken an active role in the Palouse Unit.

Career Goals: A primary interest of mine lies in the interface between science, management, and policy making. With time I hope to coordinate research based on academic and societal needs, facilitate systematization of findings, and use these insights towards improving management and policy.

Cordell Perkins — Student Affairs Council Representative

Origin: Southern Idaho

Study: I am currently in my final year at the University of Idaho studying Ecology with an emphasis in Fishery Resources. I am interested in understanding the hydrology and management of watersheds as to how they impact the fishery resources that we cherish here in the Pacific Northwest and ultimately across the globe.

Involvement: My involvement with AFS stems from my desire to be actively involved with the world of fisheries so that I may be able to learn of current research topics, be involved with the aquatic ecology community, and give insight to underclassmen investigating PUAFS or simply the field of fishery resources.

Career Goals: I have a strong desire to work as an officer in conservation and enforcement of fish and wildlife, but I have enjoyed, very much, my past two summers working as part of a team to further the research of both resident and anadromous fish populations.
Tasha Britton — Education and Public Outreach

Origin: Spokane, Washington

Study: Fisheries Resources with a minor in Statistics and Geography

Involvement: I have been studying at the University of Idaho for three years, and I have been an active member of the American Fisheries Society for three years as well. I have attended the last two AFS meetings that are held in March. I am very active in the AFS unit here at the U of I. I attend a great majority of the trips with Fish and Game, and I help with every fundraiser as much as I can.

Career Goals: My goal at this point is very simple. I want to graduate and be able to get a job in my field. I would also like to continue on in school and complete a Masters program. I am not sure what organization or what part of fisheries or where in the world I want to work, but I am only a junior in college, and I have only seen a skim of what is out there for this field. I absolutely enjoy every second of my fisheries related jobs, and this club has shown me that I have great potential and am headed in the right direction to have a very successful future in the fisheries world!

Steve Whitlock — Graduate Student Representative Officer

Origin: Petaluma, California

Study: I am a M.S. student at the University of Idaho. My research is focused on kokanee spawning ecology and shoreline incubation success in Lake Pend Oreille, Idaho. I am also interested in population modeling, genetic stock assessment, and gill raker morphology.

Involvement: I am grateful for all of the opportunities that AFS has given me and I am glad to lend my support to the organization. Involvement with AFS allows me to form professional connections and stay updated on the research and outreach that is going on in the profession.

Career Goals: After completing my M.S. degree, I plan to pursue a Ph.D. and later conduct applied fisheries research within a government agency or academia.
Vision—the act of anticipating that which may or will come to be. Such was the idea of providing a venue where kids could participate in learning about Idaho’s Chinook salmon and their plight for survival. Then in 2012 the inaugural Clearwater Salmon Camp came to be. Twelve kids, ages 11-16, were given three days of Chinook salmon education. All participating youths were recommended by school teachers, resource workers, or other professional workers who attested to their interest in fish resources and their ability to work within their peer group. Participants came from the Lewiston, Lapwai, Genesee, and Moscow School districts.

The camp began on August 13 with a morning session of classroom presentations on Chinook salmon life history, their habitats, the perils of passage around and through hydroelectric facilities on the Snake and Columbia rivers, the role of hatcheries in Chinook salmon management, and, finally, their role in the ecosystem. Over the next two and one-half days, visits to Lower Granite Dam, Clearwater Fish Hatchery, other juvenile and adult trapping facilities, and Chinook salmon spawning areas on upper Red River expanded on the topics discussed in the classroom.

The tour at Lower Granite Dam allowed the students to visit the adult fish ladder and processing facility. At Clearwater Hatchery, the students were given hands-on experience in spawning Chinook salmon. At the Crooked River trap, the students learned about the role of satellite trapping structures to provide adults for spawning at Clearwater Hatchery. On Red River the group was involved in observation and discussion of Chinook salmon habitat. The last event was the viewing of Chinook salmon staging in upper Red River as it was too early for spawning activities to be occurring. Pre-spawn mortality provided an opportunity for the participants to examine another Chinook salmon up close while also learning the importance of data recording.
Call for Symposium Proposals!

The Program Committee for the 2013 Western Division AFS meeting is asking anyone who has a strong interest in any fisheries related topic that would be of general interest to AFS members to submit their symposium proposals at


Guidelines on how to submit symposium proposals can be found on this website. For those proposals selected, the lead person will be expected to select and organize at least six presenters, collect and organize abstracts for each speaker, and provide a moderator/chair for their session. We thank you for helping to make this Western Division meeting a success.

Deadline for symposium submissions is November 30, 2012!

If you have questions feel free to contact the program committee:

Joe DuPont joe.dupont@idfg.idaho.gov or 208-799-5010
Pamela Sponholtz Pamela_sponholtz@fws.gov or 303-236-4255

Check out the Idaho Chapter AFS website. A lot of good work has gone into making this a top notch site.

http://www.idahoafs.org
Don’t miss the 2013 Annual Meeting!!

Western Division AFS

Boise, Idaho April 15-18, 2013

Fisheries: Learning from the Past and Looking Towards the Future

Sponsored by AFS Idaho Chapter and AFS Western Division

Join us in downtown Boise

- April 15-18, 2013
- Conference at the Boise Centre
- Rooms will be reserved at the Grove Hotel
- For more details or updates on the meeting visit http://www.idahoafs.org/meeting.php

While in Boise, you can also:

- Tour the World Center for Birds of Prey
- Experience spring skiing at Bogus Basin
- Whitewater raft one of the local world famous rivers
- Hike, jog, or bike the green belt, foothills, or local wildlife management area.
- Tour local wineries (20+) or breweries (7)
- Fish for steelhead in the Boise River just 5 minutes from the Grove Hotel.

Contacts:

Program and Local Arrangements
Joe DuPont joe.dupont@idfg.idaho.gov or 208-799-6010
Pamela Sponholz Pamela_sponholz@fws.gov or 303-236-4255

Sponsorship 
Pat Kennedy cafs.fundraising@gmail.com or 208-465-8404 ext 271
Christina Swanson tinaswanson78702@gmail.com or 415-472-2748

All photos courtesy of Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce
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Photo not available

Photo not available