



# PISCATORIAL PRESS

OREGON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

Where has the last year gone? It doesn't seem that long ago I was writing my first President's Corner. What a great year we have had with an incredible Chapter Annual Meeting with over 400 attendees, excellent presentations, and great networking events. Thank you to Michele Weaver and all the members of the Annual Meeting Planning Team on the outstanding job. At the annual meeting and throughout the past year our Chapter gave out over \$14,000 in support for students (scholarships and subunit support) plus over \$11,000 in grants and sponsorships that supported K-12 educational programs and non-ORAFS meetings.

The Oregon Chapter has a long history of being one of the top AFS chapters, we have received the Outstanding Chapter Award from AFS 16 times out of 30 years. This isn't by accident but from all the hard work put into the Chapter by many volunteers looking out for what's best for the fish in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

Holding a successful Annual Meeting and being an active, productive Chapter takes a good team. If you would like to be part of the 2025 Annual Meeting planning team you can contact incoming President-elect Cory Sipher at [Presidenelect@orafs.org](mailto:Presidenelect@orafs.org). Cory will be starting his term as President-elect on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you would like to get involved with the Chapter other than on the annual meeting team, consider joining one of our External Committees. You can find out who to contact for the [External Committees](#) here. Here are a few highlights for the upcoming year: The Diversity, Equity and

Inclusion committee is busy planning a virtual DEI workshop for this year. The Native Fishes committee will be holding their annual Native Fish Workshop in early September. The Legislative committee will be preparing for the Oregon Legislative long session that will start in January 2025.

Before I end my final President's Corner, I would like to thank all the ExCom members that I have served with this past year Joe Lemanski (Internal Director), Alex Harrison (External Director), and Chris Hirsch (Past President). I really appreciate your years of serving on ExCom and I'll miss working with you this next year.

Thank you for our ExCom members that signed on for another year, Michele Weaver (soon to be President), Kate Self (Vice President), Jordan Smith (Treasurer) and Sarah Sapienza (Secretary). And congratulations to our new ExCom members Cory Sipher (incoming President-elect), Stephanie Messerle (incoming Internal Director), and Amy Unthank (incoming External Director). I look forward to working with the new 2024-25 ExCom and can't wait to see what we accomplish, of course with help from our Oregon Chapter AFS membership.

Gary Vonderohe,  
President  
[President@orafs.org](mailto:President@orafs.org)



## FISH CULTURE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Each year the Fish Culture Committee for Oregon AFS meets at the annual meeting. The group is focused on promoting advancements in fish culture techniques to protect the biodiversity of native fishes, encourage the exchange of ideas among fish culturists, and improve public knowledge about fish culture in Oregon. The committee often supports a session at the annual meeting focused on fish culture specific topics, including rearing and release strategies, and fish health. We also provide travel scholarships for 1-3 students each year to attend either the Northwest Fish Culture Concepts Meeting or the annual meeting. This year two students, one from the Oregon Coast Community College, and one from Oregon State University, received travel support to the annual meeting from the committee.

being done at local hatcheries, tribes, schools, and research facilities that are advancing fish culture. As part of that initiative, we intend to start taking an annual field trip that will allow attendees to experience new techniques or participate in different aspects of fish culture than they are normally exposed to. Keep an eye out as we'll announce the trip here later this year!

For questions or comments for the committee, see the last page of this issue for Jen Krajcik's and Marla Chaney's contact info as the chairs.



This year, the committee discussed the need to improve the diversity of students available for jobs, and ways of increasing visibility of fish culture to the Oregon AFS audience. It was recognized that hiring managers want to increase the diversity of their hires, but that is only possible if the diversity of students entering the field increases. The committee considered ways to get older students involved in fish culture, perhaps by participating in the Egg-to-Fry program for grade schoolers as mentors, or by supporting STEM Educator Conferences. The committee also is interested in utilizing the current AFS outreach tools, such as Facebook and the *Piscatorial Press* to increase awareness of what fish culture is happening around the state. We hope to showcase the incredible work



# MHCC STUDENT SUBUNIT UPDATE

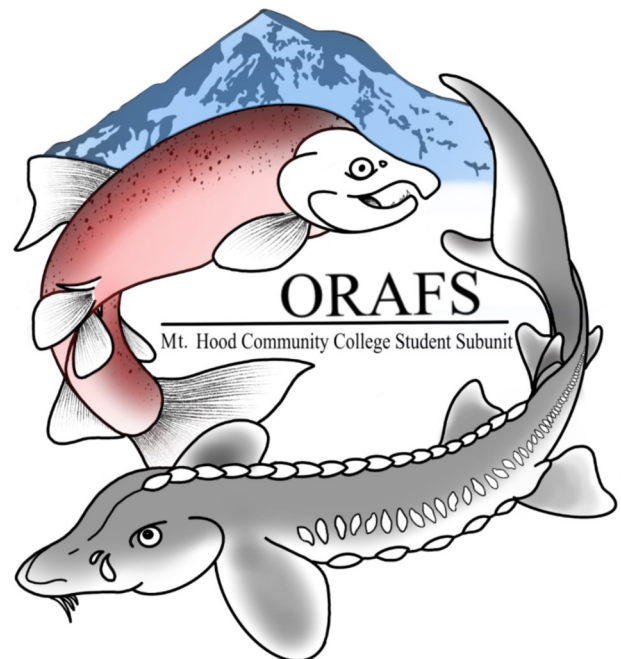
Winter term has ended for the students at Mt. Hood community college, and everyone is preparing to enter spring term. The last few months have been busy with event planning and balancing schoolwork. The student hatchery is in full-swing for the second years, and the first-year students are continuing their studies in fish biology and fisheries techniques. Overall, we had an eventful winter term and we are excited to start in on the next one.

The MHCC subunit had multiple people from the first-year and second-year classes attend the Oregon AFS annual meeting this year in Bend. Prior to the meeting, we gave out “scholarships” to five lucky students which covered the cost of admission to the meeting. This helped overcome any financial restrictions to attendance and has been a tradition for the subunit for a couple of years now. We also had several volunteers who helped run the Cornhole Tournament, which was a boisterous and exciting experience for everyone involved. All the students in attendance also participated in the student-mentor mixer, which was an excellent opportunity for our subunit members to network and talk with existing professionals in the Fisheries field. The annual meeting was a fun time for everyone who attended, and the Mt. Hood students are already looking forward to next year’s meeting.

Besides attending the ORAFS meeting, the subunit has also been planning several upcoming events and inviting guest speakers to talk to the class. We recently had Katherine Cory from Columbia Springs attend our March meeting and speak about their Kids Fishing Festival, which will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Many of the students wanted to get involved in the community and we have quite a few people who expect to volunteer for the event. The Subunit officers are also currently planning our Annual Crabbing Trip, which will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> in Newport. The crabbing trip is a major yearly event for the MHCC Student subunit, so everyone has been anticipating the excursion since fall term.

Looking forward, the subunit recently elected our student officers for next year, and the current officers will begin to show them the ropes for each position this spring term. All in all, we have high hopes for the coming months and look forward to seeing what this new term will bring.

For more information please direct questions or comments for the subunit to: [mhcc.orafs.subunit@gmail.com](mailto:mhcc.orafs.subunit@gmail.com)  
Emma Shafers, AFS Subunit President



# OSU STUDENT SUBUNIT UPDATE

Coming out of the 2024 annual meeting and a well needed Spring Break, the OSU student subunit leadership team is already hard at work planning a full slate of events for our student body. On the docket for this term, we are already planning on hosting another 1-2 beginners fly fishing trips, as well as a non-game fish workshop for students to come and learn about some of the awesome species in our area! Subunit leadership will be sponsoring a table at the 2024 OSU Marine days event at Hatfield Marine Science center where we will be presenting marine specimens from our biological collections for the public to see and interact with. Later in the term, we are also hoping to host an opportunity along with the South Santiam Watershed Council to allow students to take part in a bio-blitz in the South Santiam river basin.

We are very proud of all of the students from the OSU subunit that attended and/or presented at the 2024 annual meeting, including all of our scholarship winners! We appreciate all of the professional/early career mentors that came and shared their wisdom with our undergrads at the student mentor mixer. We have heard many reports of students that found the event very helpful and enriching for their potential future endeavors!

On April 12th, OSU will be hosting their annual RAFWE convention, which is an opportunity for students to present and receive feedback on their Research Advancements in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Ecology. If anyone is interested, please consider attending and offering professional feedback for all of the students involved with RAFWE!

Lastly, we wanted to highlight an awesome event that the subunit hosted last term that did not quite make the deadline for the presentation at the 2024 business meeting. Erlin Mansfield

(Officer at large) helped to host a Discover SCUBA event for our subunit body, in which students were able to get in the water with equipment and dive professionals to gain their first experience in SCUBA diving!

Tjaden Archer

AFS Liaison for the OSU Fisheries and Wildlife Club

archertj@oregonstate.edu



*Erlin Mansfield (Officer at large, black dive suit) along with a group of students at the Discover: SCUBA subunit event.*



**OSU** fisheries & wildlife club

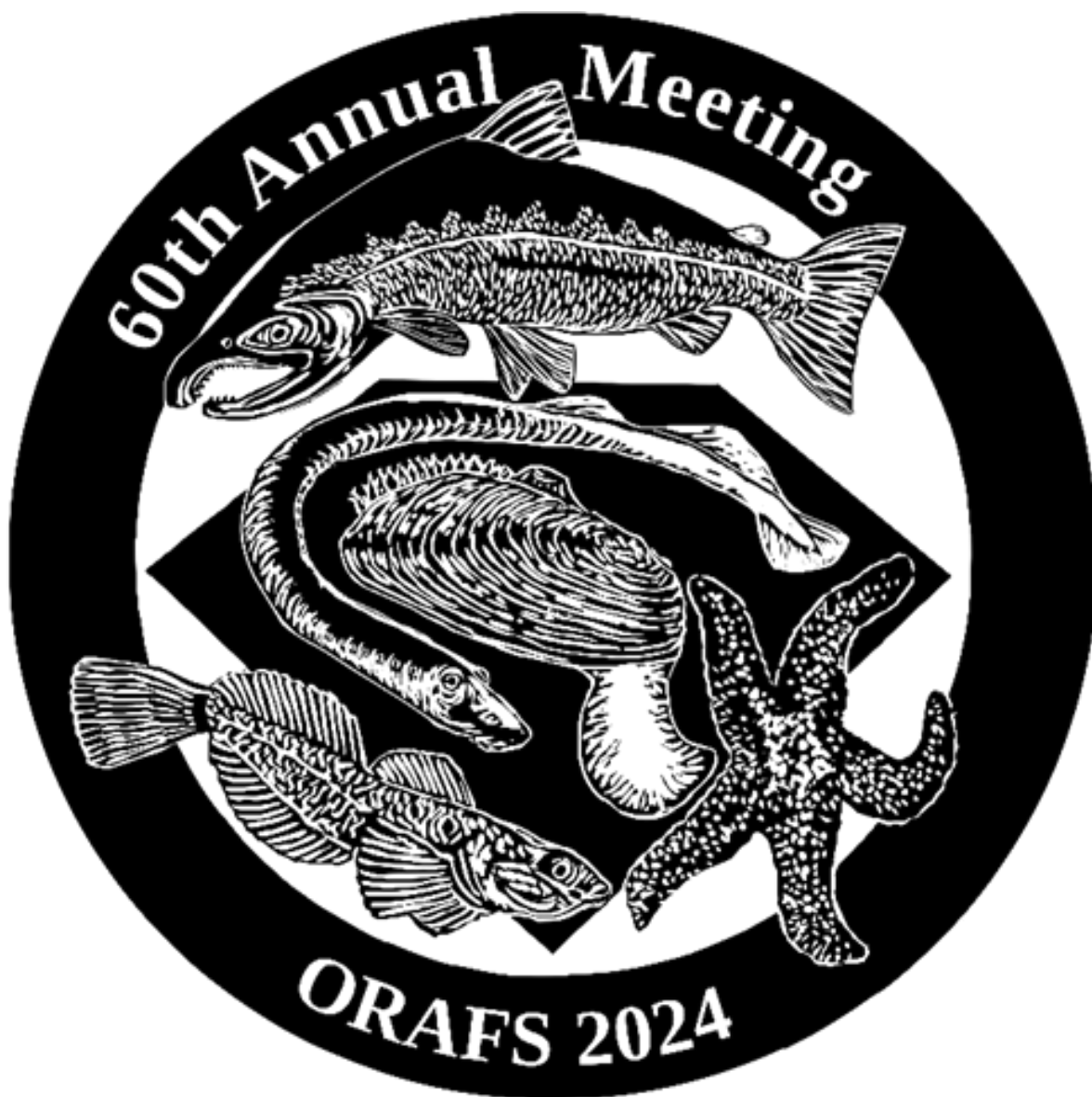
A F S & T W S S T U D E N T C H A P T E R S

## ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

60th ORAFS Annual Meeting  
Bend, Oregon

February 27 – March 1

Better Together - Celebrating 60 years of  
partnerships, collaboration, and teamwork



# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

## Highlights:

- The program featured 23 sessions with 150 talks and 25 posters presented by individuals representing 64 different organizations and entities
- There were three workshops; Beaver-based Considerations for Restoration, Federal and State Funding Opportunities, and Navigating Difficult Conversations.
- Two dynamic plenary speakers kicked off the meeting – Laurie Weitkamp and Brian Erickson
- Registration totaled 461 people from over 90 different organizations, representing at least 5 different states, including at least 2 international guests.
- Participation options included a live stream only option for registration. All who viewed the presentations remotely said they would not have been able to participate otherwise and for 3 people, this was their first ever ORAFS meeting. We expected most attendees to view the live stream from a remote location only, however there were quite a few in-person attendees that took advantage of this option and were viewing presentations through the zoom link while onsite, but not sitting in the meeting rooms.
- A meeting App was developed for the first time. While there were some struggles during this first year of use, around 50% of the attendees were using it and we have lots of feedback and ideas for ways to make it more user friendly for next year.
- If you want to reference the program or look at the abstracts, both can be found here - <https://orafs.org/past-meetings-and-workshops/>

## THANK YOU!

The ExCom and Annual Meeting Planning Team are extremely grateful to all the attendees, livestream viewers, participants, sponsors, and donors for supporting the 60<sup>th</sup> ORAFS Annual Meeting this year.

## We started Wednesday with great plenary presentations:



Plenary speakers Laurie Weitkamp (left) and Brian Erickson (right) with President-Elect Michele Weaver (middle)



# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP-CONT'D

## Workshops



## ExCom



# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP-CONT'D

## Student Mentor Mixer



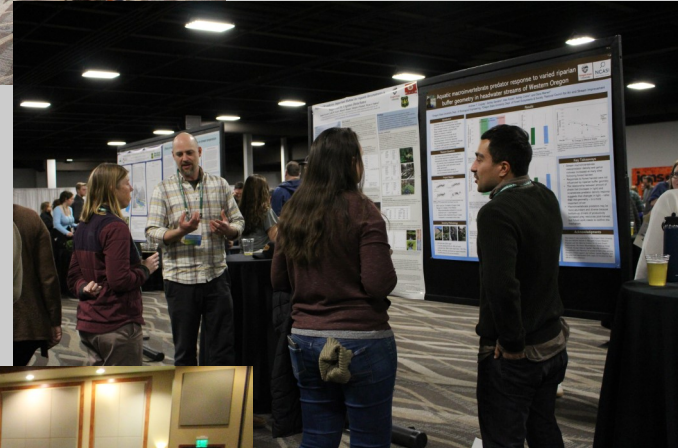
## Spawning Run/Carcass Crawl Organized by: Stephan Kelly





# ANNUAL MEETING RECAP-CONT'D

## Socials & Banquet



## AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

The 2024 Annual Meeting was a place to visit with old friends, meet new friends, share ideas, and learn about current fisheries work. It was also a place to recognize the achievements of our colleagues. This year's professional awards were managed by Brian Bangs and the Awards Committee. Congratulations to the award winners, and thank you to all of the members who submitted nominations and reviewed the awards nominations.

- ◆ The **Award of Merit** is awarded to individuals, groups, or organizations that have made special contributions to fisheries. This year's recipient was **Chad Brown**



- ◆ The Chapter's most prestigious award is the **Lifetime Achievement Award**, presented to someone who goes above and beyond year after year and has made a substantial lifetime contribution to fisheries. For his dedication to fisheries this year's recipient was **James Capurso**

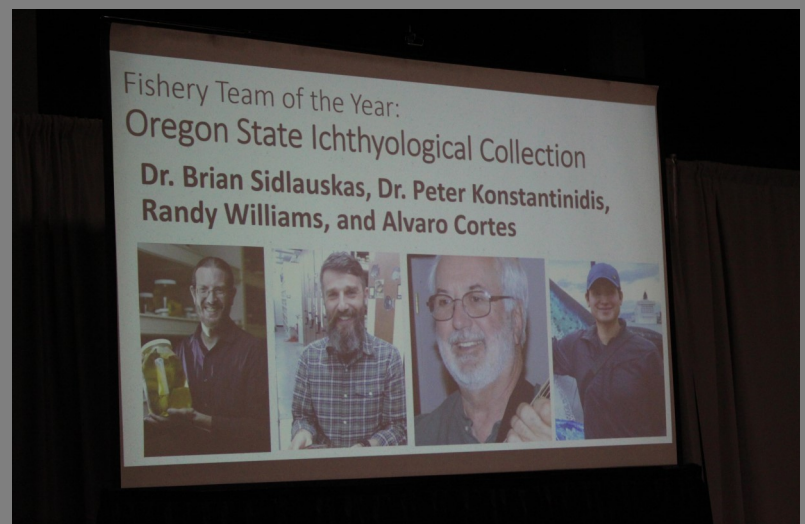
## AND THE AWARD GOES TO...(CONTINUED)

- ◆ The **Bill Wingfield Memorial Award** in Fish Culture goes to individuals or groups that have contributed significantly to advancing fish culture in Oregon. This year's recipient was **Todd Hanna**.



- ◆ The Chapter's **Fishery Worker of the Year Award** is presented annually to an individual responsible for substantial single or sustained accomplishments above and beyond their regular jobs. For his contributions to fisheries this year's recipient was **Mike Riehle**.

- ◆ The **Fishery Team of the Year Award** goes to a group of people responsible for substantial single or sustained accomplishments above and beyond their regular job. This year's recipient was the **Oregon State Ichthyological Collection**.



# AND THE AWARD GOES TO...(CONTINUED)

## Student Scholarship Recipients

The 2024 ORAFS student scholarships were awarded to:

- **Emma Shafers**, Associate Degree, Mt. Hood Community College
- **Gabrial Askew**, Undergraduate Degree, Oregon State University
- **Kayla Kelley**, Master Degree, Oregon State University
- **Jansen Ivie**, Carl Bond Memorial Scholarship, Oregon State University
- **Anna Hosford and Roberto Ponce Velez** (Oregon State University), Albert G. Lassuy Diversity Scholarship,
- **Hayden Krause**, Jerry Bouck Memorial Scholarship, Oregon State University

Helena Linnell and the scholarship committee did an excellent job managing the scholarship process and evaluating the worthy applicant pool.



## Best Student Paper and Poster

Stephanie Gunckel did a great job planning for these important awards. Many thanks to Stephanie and the team of 26 volunteer judges who helped make these awards possible!

The Best Student Paper Award went to **Morgan Johnston**, Oregon State University, and the runner-ups were **Nilanjana Das**, Oregon State University and **Margaret Campbell**, Oregon State University.

The Best Student Poster Award went to **Susanna Charlton**, and the runner-up was **Roberto Ponce Velez**, both of Oregon State University.



Thank you to the planning team – The meeting would not have been a success if it wasn't for the exceptional planning team that worked together so well this year. Big shout out to all who are on this list!

ANNUAL MEETING 2024		PLANNING COMMITTEE
<b>60th Annual Meeting Program Chair</b> Michele Weaver	<b>Live-Streaming Tech</b> Stacy Strickland Helena Linnell Katie Woodside	<b>Representing DEI</b> Guillermo Giannico
<b>60th Decade Celebration</b> Mike Gauvin	<b>Logo</b> Patrick Norton	<b>Signs and Banners</b> Gary Vonderohe
<b>Arrangements</b> Joe Lemanski	<b>Meeting App</b> Jordan Smith Michele Weaver Kate Self	<b>Spawning Run/Carcass Crawl</b> Stefan Kelly
<b>AV</b> Joe Lemanski	<b>Meeting Buddy</b> Chris Hirsch	<b>Sponsorships</b> Gary Vonderohe
<b>Awards</b> Brian Bangs	<b>Meeting Swag</b> Mike Gauvin	<b>Student Activities</b> Tjaden Archer Emma Schaffers
<b>Budget</b> Gary Vonderohe Jordan Smith	<b>Merchandise</b> Kate Self Mike Gauvin	<b>Student/Mentor Mixer</b> Kate Self Tjaden Archer
<b>Business Meeting</b> Gary Vonderohe	<b>Photographer</b> Sara Hart	<b>Student Paper and Poster Judging</b> Ivan Arismendi Stephanie Gunckel
<b>Communications</b> Sarah Sapienza	<b>Posters</b> Brook Silver	<b>Student Scholarships</b> Helena Linnell
<b>Cornhole</b> Kate Self Kirk Handley	<b>Printed/PDF Program</b> Natalie Scheibel	<b>Theme</b> Michele Weaver
<b>Entertainment</b> Tony Siniscal	<b>Raffle/Auction</b> Kate Self Kyle Bratcher Ron Constable	<b>Technical Program</b> Michele Weaver
<b>External Committee Meetings</b> Alex Harrison	<b>Registration</b> Jordan Smith Sarah Sapienza	<b>Vendor Exhibits/Trade Show</b> Chris Hirsch
<b>Food/Beverage</b> Joe Lemanski		<b>Volunteer Coordination</b> Olivia Boisen
<b>Imbibements</b> Greg Silver Andrew Derugin		<b>Workshops</b> Michele Weaver

## WELCOME TO THE 2023-2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

### The new officers are:

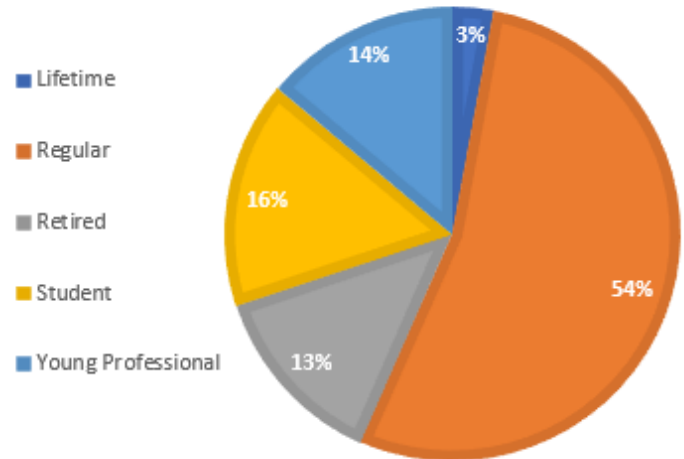
President-Elect : Cory Sipher, BLM  
Internal Director: Stephanie Messerle, BLM  
External Director: Amy Unthank, USFS (retired)

### The returning officers are:

President: Michele Weaver, ODFW  
Past President: Gary Vonderohe, ODFW  
Secretary: Sarah Sapienza, ODFW  
Vice President: Kate Self, NPCC  
Treasurer: Jordan Smith, ODFW

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Oregon Chapter membership is important for our members' professional development and to ORAFS sustainability. The Chapter receives a 3% rebate from AFS for all "regular" dues paying members. Additionally, 100% of the ORAFS Chapter dues are passed directly from the Society to ORAFS, so please check to make sure you are also registered as an Oregon Chapter member. As of February 2024, ORAFS membership included 309 members. For questions regarding membership, send an email to [secretary@orafs.org](mailto:secretary@orafs.org).



Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society  
Membership breakdown as of February 2024.



Sarah Sapienza, Secretary  
[Secretary@orafs.org](mailto:Secretary@orafs.org)

## BECOME A LIFETIME MEMBER OF ORAFS

Are you an AFS Life Member and interested in showing your life-long dedication to the Oregon Chapter? We have an Oregon Chapter Life Membership that allows you to do just that! The Oregon Chapter Life Membership costs \$125 or 12.5 times the Oregon Chapter annual membership rate. This relative cost difference mirrors the AFS Life Member cost. Show your dedication to the ORAFS legacy and invest in a membership that will pay off for a lifetime! Please contact Sarah Sapienza ([secretary@orafs.org](mailto:secretary@orafs.org)) for more information.

## PISCATORIAL PRESS: CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**Do you have something newsworthy to share?**

**Hot Topics, Fishery Features, Upcoming Events...**

**Submissions from ORAFS members are welcome!**

Do you have an update on interesting work you would like to share with the membership? Are you interested in providing a Fishery Feature or a Hot Topic to tell the membership about your recent project? Do you have an upcoming event that you would like to advertise to the membership? If so, please submit your story or thoughts to Stacy Strickland at: [stacy.a.strickland@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:stacy.a.strickland@odfw.oregon.gov). **Submission deadlines** for news items are: September 15; December 15; March 15; and June 15. The newsletter is published approximately three weeks after submissions are received. Submissions are used as time and space allows.



American Fisheries Society  
September 15-19, 2024  
Honolulu



# AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

September 15 - 19, 2024 | Honolulu

*Conserving Fishes and Fishing Traditions Through Knowledge Co-Production*

The American Fisheries Society (AFS), President Cecil Jennings, the AFS Western Division, and AFS Pacific Islands Chapter are excited to host the 154th AFS Annual Meeting, September 15-19, 2024 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The theme "Conserving Fishes and Fishing Traditions through Knowledge Co-Production" will stimulate a wide range of sessions focusing on the past, present, and future of fisheries conservation and management as we bring together professionals from across North America, the Pacific Islands, and countries throughout the world. The Honolulu Program Committee invites proposals for symposia, workshop/ continuing education courses, and innovative sessions that support the theme and look to advance the fisheries profession.

<https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/>

**2023-2024 OREGON CHAPTER AFS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS  
(ORAFS EXCOM)**

**President:** Gary Vonderohe;  
president@orafs.org

**President-Elect:** Michele Weaver;  
presidentelect@orafs.org

**Past President:** Christine Hirsch;  
pastpresident@orafs.org

**Vice President:** Kate Self; vicepresident@orafs.org

**Secretary:** Sarah Sapienza;  
secretary@orafs.org

**Treasurer:** Jordan Smith; treasurer@orafs.org

**External Director:** Alexis Harrison;  
externaldirector@orafs.org

**Internal Director:** Joe Lemanski;  
internaldirector@orafs.org

**OSU Student Rep:** Tjaden Archer;  
osustudentrep@orafs.org

**MHCC Student Rep:** Emma Shaffers;  
mhcc.orafs.subunit@gmail.com

**EXTERNAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Climate Adaptation:** Kara Anlauf-Dunn; Kara.Anlauf-Dunn@oregonstate.edu

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Guillermo Giannico, giannico@oregonstate.edu and Nilanjana Das, dasni@oregonstate.edu

**Education and Outreach:** Karen Hans  
karen.m.hans@odfw.oregon.gov

**Fish Culture:** Jen Krajcik  
jenniferkrajcik@ctuir.org and Marla Chaney  
Marla.Chaney@mhcc.edu

**Freshwater Habitat:** Cory Sipher  
541-464-3249; cory.sipher@gmail.com

**Human Dimensions:** Jason Dunham  
jdunham@usgs.gov; Hannah Gosnell  
hannah.gosnell@oregonstate.edu

**Legislative Committee:** Troy Brandt  
503-307-8367; tbrandt@riverdesigngroup.net

***Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Mission***

*Improve the conservation and sustainability of Oregon fishery resources and their aquatic ecosystems for long-term public benefit by advancing science, education, and public discourse concerning fisheries and aquatic science and by promoting the development of fisheries professionals.*

**Marine Habitat & Ecology:** Vacant

**Native Fish:** Jim Capurso  
503-808-2847; james.capurso@usda.gov

**Natural Production:** Ian Tattam  
541-575-1167; Ian.A.Tattam@odfw.oregon.gov

**Social Media:** Vacant

**INTERNAL COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Awards:** Brian Bangs  
541-908-1538; Brian\_Bangs@fws.gov

**Financial Sustainability:** Tony Siniscal  
anthony.siniscal@noaa.gov, and Troy Brandt,  
tbrandt@riverdesigngroup.net

**Scholarships:** Joe Lemanski; internaldirector@orafs.org

**Resolutions and Bylaws:** Kate Self;  
vicepresident@orafs.org

**AFS / TWS Liaison:** Derek Broman  
503-947-6095; derek.j.broman@odfw.oregon.gov

**EXTERNAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

**Webmaster:** Ashley Sanders;  
webmaster@orafs.org

**INTERNAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL**

**Historian:** Mike Gauvin  
michael.w.gauvin@odfw.oregon.gov

**Newsletter Editor:** Stacy Strickland  
541-325-5343; stacy.a.strickland@odfw.oregon.gov

*Additional contact information (mailing addresses, fax numbers) for all officers, committee chairs, and support personnel are available at: <http://orafs.org> under "Officers & Committees".*



**Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**

[www.orafs.org](http://www.orafs.org)

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS & MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:**

To join or change address, go to [www.fisheries.org](http://www.fisheries.org) and be sure to sign up for the Oregon Chapter. Also visit [www.orafs.org/membership](http://www.orafs.org/membership) to join our listserv and get other Chapter information.