



ONCORHYNCHUS

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Aerial view of the Auke Creek Hatchery and weir operated by NOAA since 1980. Photo from Megan McPhee, UAF.

The Reproductive Lives of Salmon: Insights from the Auke Creek Weir

Megan McPhee

One of the longest, continually running, time series of salmon abundance in Alaska comes from Auke Creek in Juneau, Alaska. A weir, located on the short outlet creek of Auke Lake, has been operated by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) since 1980 and is configured to count returning adult salmon through summer/fall and out-migrating fry and smolt in late winter/spring ([Vulstek et al. 2023](#)). The site also houses a small-scale research hatchery and coded-wire tagging facility. The infrastructure at Auke Creek has supported a number of collaborative salmon studies by the University of Alaska, NOAA, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game including outbreeding depression, mechanisms controlling variation in family size, and the dynamics of early and late runs of Pink Salmon ([Gharrett and Smoker 1991](#); [Gilk et al. 2004](#);

[Geiger et al. 2007](#); [Kovach et al. 2012](#)). The long time series has increased our understanding of the effects of climate change on Auke Creek salmon, including a shift toward earlier run timing and a contraction in the total number of days that salmon are returning upstream ([Kovach et al. 2013](#)). In 2008, the sampling protocol expanded to include genetic tissue sampling of all returning Sockeye and Coho salmon adults, which has opened up exciting new opportunities to study the reproductive lives of salmon in great detail.

The first study conducted with the census genetic sampling was an assessment of the demographic and phenotypic consequences of hatchery supplementation in Sockeye Salmon. We conducted three years of captive breeding of a small number of spawners (30 females, 15 males each year). Eggs and embryos were incubated at

Continued on next page

The President's Corner



AFS Alaska Chapter President Erik Schoen

Hello Alaska Chapter,

It's my pleasure to dedicate this column to highlighting a generous endowed gift to our Chapter that will support Alaska fisheries students for decades to come: **The Meacham Family AFS Student Travel Fund**. Charles Meacham Sr. and Charles Meacham Jr., are retired fisheries scientists who dedicated most of their decorated careers to Alaska fisheries. To support the future of the Alaska fisheries profession, the Meacham Family has pledged \$30,000 to the AFS Alaska Chapter to establish an endowment fund dedicated to supporting student travel and professional development. With your help, this gift will grow to provide a permanent, reliable source of funding to support students and strengthen the future of our profession.

If you have ever attended an Alaska AFS meeting, you know that robust student participation is one of our greatest strengths. The high quality of student talks and posters always inspires me, and I have heard from many agencies and other employers that Chapter meetings are a key networking and recruiting pipeline connecting energetic new talent with job opportunities around the state. The purpose of the Meacham Family AFS Student Travel Fund is to *prioritize the growth and*
Continued on next page

Auke Creek Weir, continued

the hatchery, and the fry were ponded for several weeks and then released into the lake to grow and out-migrate naturally. Three to six years later, the offspring of these hatchery spawners returned as adults alongside their wild counterparts, and we used a form of genetic fingerprinting to match these offspring to their parents. This allowed us to count the number of adult offspring produced by each individual in the population, both hatchery and wild, and to compare the characteristics of salmon that came from each type of parent.

We found that hatchery spawning was highly productive, with hatchery females producing on average 6, 49, and 14 times the number of returning adults as did the wild spawners in brood years 2011, 2012, and 2013, respectively. This result is perhaps not surprising, given that hatchery spawning shepherds eggs and embryos through what is a time of extremely high mortality (~80-90%) in nature. When comparing the phenotypes (outward characteristics) of hatchery- and wild-born individuals, we found that hatchery spawning had no discernible effect on return timing or size-at-age but did shift the age composition: hatchery-born fishes tended to be younger on average than their wild relatives. This result was less expected given that hatchery spawning took place for only one generation and the developing offspring were held in the hatchery for a relatively short period of time. We suspect that something about hatchery spawning and early rearing put the hatchery-born fish on a faster early growth trajectory, because hatchery fish were more likely to spend one rather than two years rearing in Auke Lake prior to smolting compared to wild fish.

A second study using census genetic sampling focused on the contribution of "jacks" to the Coho Salmon population in the Auke Lake drainage. Jack Coho Salmon are males that spend six months rearing in the ocean prior to maturation and are distinctly smaller than females and the males that spend a full year in the ocean. Jacks avoid directly engaging with full-size males on the spawning grounds, instead hanging back and "sneaking" into the redd to release sperm when the female lays her eggs. How successful jacks are at producing
Continued on page 4

President's Corner, continued

professional development of student members of the Chapter by supporting student travel and networking opportunities. Establishment of this fund allows donors to contribute to student development with confidence that their donations will do exactly what they intended.

The Chapter's Financial Assets Oversight Committee (FAOC) worked with the Meachams to establish the fund with a sound financial plan to provide a permanent and stable source of funding for student travel. Building on the Meachams' founding donation, the Chapter plans to raise more funds until we reach a base principal of \$85,000, which will be held in perpetuity. After the fund reaches this initial goal, student travel endowment awards will be disbursed annually, using up to 2% of the market value of the fund. After the fund principal reaches an ultimate goal of \$125,000, the amount available for awards will rise to 4%, providing a minimum of \$5,000 per year for student travel. The fund's guiding principles state that awards will be made to graduate and undergraduate students intending a career in a fisheries-related field, with priority given to students attending Alaska campuses or conducting Alaska-specific research.

Having chaired this year's annual meeting in Fairbanks, I know first-hand how valuable this financial support will be. This year, we awarded nearly \$5,400 in travel awards to support 17 student volunteers' travel to the meeting from around the state. These funds came from proceeds from the silent and live auctions, supplemented with sponsor donations and registration fees.

Having a stable, dedicated source of student travel funding will be a major boost to students and the Chapter overall.

On behalf of the AFS Alaska Chapter and our members, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Meacham Family for their generous and visionary founding gift. I would also like to thank Lee Ann Gardner for her expertise and dedication in turning the endowment from an idea into a reality. Many thanks to the FAOC members who worked out the details over several years to bring this idea to fruition: Chair Ray Hander, Chapter Treasurer Trent Dodson, and members Milo Adkison, Lee Ann Gardner, Tim Joyce, and Trey Simmons.

How to contribute: If you or your organization would like to make a fully tax-deductible donation to the Meacham Family AFS Student Travel Fund, please join me in making a check out to AFS Alaska Chapter and mailing it to:

AFS Alaska Chapter

1614 Tanaga Ave., Kenai, AK 99611

Please indicate that your donation is for the Meacham Student Travel Fund. The American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We are working on an online donation mechanism for this and our other funds, and we plan to have this in place by the time you register for next year's annual meeting in Seward. Stay tuned for more information on the Meachams, the fund, and our progress towards reaching our initial goal so the endowment can begin to support students.

All the best,

Erik 🐟

AFS Alaska Chapter Meeting

Save the Date! We are thrilled to announce the upcoming AFS Alaska Chapter annual meeting in Seward, Alaska, scheduled for March 24-29, 2024. This will be the 50th annual meeting for the AFS Alaska Chapter, and the first time the meeting will be held in Seward. Late March is an incredible time in Seward as the days are longer, the climate is mild, and marine life begins returning to the area. Join us for a week of engaging socials and

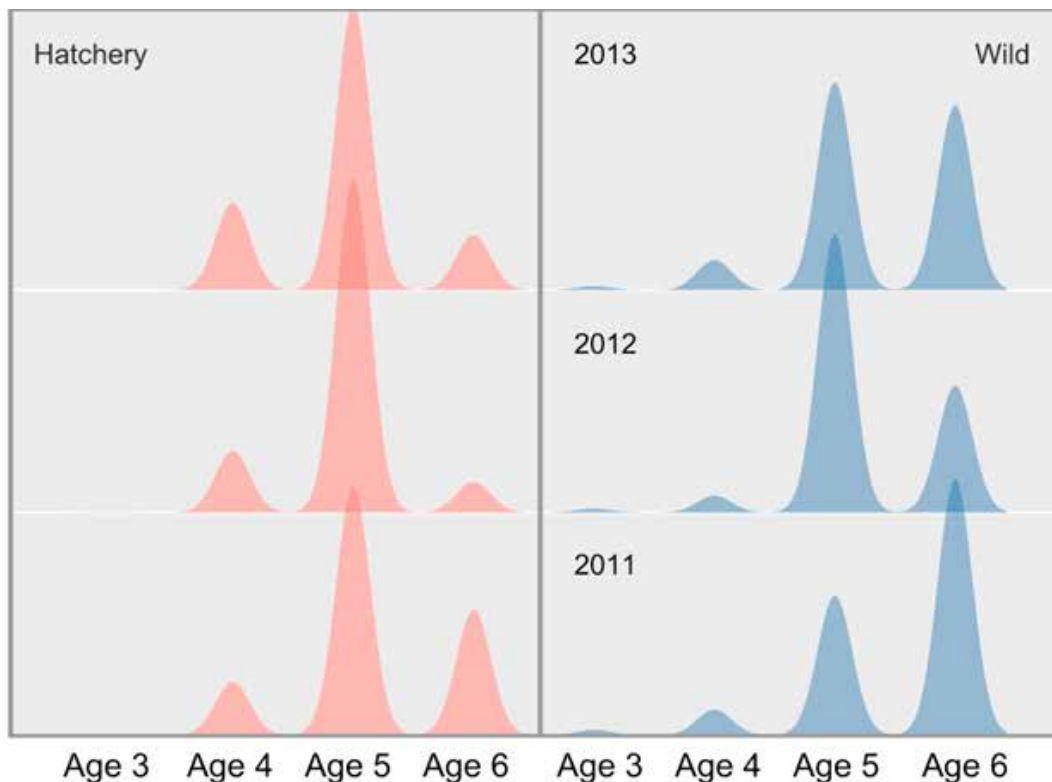
networking opportunities, research-filled sessions, and exciting field trips, all with the backdrop of Resurrection Bay! Information will continue to be updated on the AFS Alaska Chapter website: <https://units.fisheries.org/ak-mtg/>.

It's never too late to join the meeting planning team! If you have any questions or want to get involved with the planning committee, please contact meeting Program Chair Donnie Arthur at presidentelect@afs-alaska.org. 🐟

Auke Creek Weir, continued

adult offspring has not been well quantified, and their contribution to the effective number of breeders (a parameter that determines genetic diversity in a population) has not been studied until now. Erika King, a UAF Fisheries M.S. graduate, led a study quantifying the adult-to-adult reproductive success of jacks and full-size males over six brood years (2009–2015). King found that Coho jacks were successful at producing adult offspring but at levels lower than that of full-size males: the average number of adult offspring per spawner was 0.7 for jacks, compared to 1.1 for full-size males (King et al. [2023a](#), [2023b](#)). Despite their lower reproductive success, jacks had minimal effect on the effective number of breeders (N_b) relative to the actual number of spawners, due to N_b being determined not only by average reproductive success but also its variance. One might expect that jacking, a heritable life history trait with consistently lower reproductive success, would disappear from a population. But the persistence of jacks is likely due to the higher marine survival experienced by jacks given their shorter time at sea.

We are just beginning to scratch the surface of potential studies afforded by complete genetic sampling of adult Sockeye and Coho salmon at the Auke Creek weir. A new UAF M.S. Fisheries student, Mary Commins, is researching the second-generation effects of the three years of hatchery supplementation of Sockeye Salmon. We are also using the rich pedigree information to estimate quantitative genetic parameters such as heritability



Age composition of adult returns from a study of the demographic and phenotypic consequences of hatchery supplementation in Sockeye Salmon at Auke Creek Hatchery. Photo from Megan McPhee, UAF.

and additive genetic variance of key life-history traits including age at maturity, run timing, and lifetime reproductive success. Finally, we are using these data to explore both intrinsic (e.g., body size) and extrinsic (e.g., temperature during upstream migration) factors affecting reproductive success of adult salmon. These examples underscore the

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Out-migrating smolt sampled at Auke Creek Hatchery. Photo from Megan McPhee, UAF.

Auke Creek Weir, continued

unrivaled value and importance of maintaining the Auke Creek weir time series for Alaska salmon science.

Megan McPhee is an Associate Professor of Fisheries at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, located at the Juneau Fisheries Center at Lena Point. She studies the ecology and evolutionary biology of fishes with particular interest in the mechanisms generating and maintaining life-history diversity in Pacific salmon. She currently serves as Past-President of the Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and skiing the many trails in the Juneau area.



Weir at Auke Creek. Photo from Megan McPhee, UAF.

Marine Debris Student Art Contest Open

This contest is for students across the United States and territories to have their original artwork selected for the 2025 Marine Debris Calendar/Planner. Students in grades K-8 from the United States and U.S. territories can submit artwork that answers the following questions:

- How does marine debris impact the ocean and Great Lakes?
- What are you doing to help prevent marine debris?

The contest will accept entries electronically and by mail! If submitting electronically, you will need to send in your artwork as a JPEG, PNG, or TIFF file. For more contest and submission guidelines, [please visit our website](#) and download the entry form. You can also see previous winners and calendars/planners in that site. Artwork entries are due December 15, 2023.



2025 Knauss Fellowship Program Accepting Applications

The Sea Grant Knauss Fellowship provides a unique educational and professional experience to early career professionals with an interest in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources and in the national policy decisions affecting those resources. Since 1979, Sea Grant has provided one-year Knauss Fellowships to over 1,600 early career professionals to work in federal government offices in Washington, D.C.

To be eligible, students must be enrolled towards a degree in a graduate program at any point between the start of the 2023 fall term and the application deadline. Successful applicants will be matched with host offices in the legislative or the executive branch of government for a one-year

paid fellowships from February 1, 2025, to January 31, 2026.

If you are a graduate student in Alaska interested in applying to the 2025 Knauss Fellowship program, visit <https://alaskaseagrant.org/education/awards-fellowships/knauss/> for more information. The application deadline is February 15, 2024, 5 p.m. Alaska Time.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Katie Russell

The Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (AKAFS-DEIC) began a partnership this fall with the University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (UAF-CFOS) and the Alaska Student Chapter of the Society for Marine Mammalogy (AKSMM) in a joint fisheries and marine science mentorship program. The goal of this mentorship program is to pair interested mentors with students, early career professionals, and any others interested in mentorship, including peer mentorships. In the past, the AKAFS-DEIC and UAF-CFOS had separate mentorship programs, but joining forces and new collaboration with AKSMM has allowed for pairing a wider range of mentors and mentees across the state.

To participate in the mentorship program, you do not need to be associated with UAF-CFOS, be a member of the AFS Alaska Chapter, or a member of AKSMM. The mentorship program is open to all interested Alaska students and professionals in the realm of Alaska fisheries, marine, and ocean sciences. Interested participants can sign up as mentors, mentees, or both! The sign up for this program was available this fall via a google form sent to the AFS Alaska Chapter listserv and other university and professional listservs as well. The

mentorship program planners will send out a new survey twice a year, once in spring and once in fall, to allow time to pair mentors and mentees based on the personal and professional interests that participants list in their survey responses. This fall, there were over 40 interested participants, and pairings are currently in process if not already done. In the most recent mentorship sign-up and in past iterations, there have been more interested mentors than mentees, so we highly encourage students and professionals interested in receiving mentorship to apply!

For this fall, the mentorship program sign-up has closed, but there is some flexibility to include interested participants, especially for those interested in mentorship. If interested in immediate mentorship, please email deic@afs-alaska.org.

If you'd like to join the mentorship program at a later time, please be on the lookout for our spring mentorship email. The AFS Alaska Chapter annual meeting last year had a mentorship mixer event to allow those interested in giving or receiving mentorship to meet and network in person. The spring 2024 AFS Alaska Chapter annual meeting will also have a mentorship mixer event, and all interested folks are encouraged to attend! 🐟

Sara Gilk-Baumer and Madeline Lee

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) for the AFS Alaska Chapter is excited to announce that we have two new co-chairs, Madeline Lee and Sara Gilk-Baumer, who are stepping up to replace Cheryl Barnes. Cheryl joined the DEIC in 2018 and started serving as chair of the committee in 2020. She recently has accepted a position as assistant professor in marine fisheries with the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station at Oregon State University (OSU) and will stay on as a contributing member of the committee. As Cheryl continues to work in collaboration with ADFG, NOAA, and UAF to better understand population and community dynamics of groundfish species in the North Pacific, folks can stay updated on their work at <https://cheryl-barnes.github.io/>.

Madeline and Sara are eager to share the DEIC
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Sara Gilk-Baumer



Madeline Lee

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, continued

Chair position and are working on a workshop focused on breaking down visible and invisible barriers in fisheries as part of the AFS Alaska Chapter annual meeting in Seward. Tribal youth and elders will be invited from across the Chugach Region to participate in the workshop as well as agency scientists, the Chugach Regional Resources Commission team, and UAF Tamamta scholars and professors.

Madeline recently joined the Chugach Regional Resources Commission staff as a Tribal Fish Biologist and has completed her Fisheries M.S. from UAF-CFOS studying heat stress in Chinook Salmon in Southcentral Alaska. She is excited to merge her role at CRRC and continue work with the AFS DEIC.

Sara is the Lab Director and Principal Geneticist at the Gene Conservation Lab for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. She is looking forward to being a bridge between the department and the AFS Alaska Chapter. Sara is our longest standing AFS Alaska DEIC member and we are lucky to have her step into the co-chair role as she is a wealth of knowledge!

Additionally, the DEIC has two new members, Jeff Muehlbauer and Harmony Wayner.

Jeff is the USGS Assistant Unit Leader—Fisheries and a UAF Assistant Professor in Environmental Studies and Fisheries Ecology. He worked with UAF students and faculty to establish a JEDI (justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion) Committee and is looking forward to continuing this work with the AFS Alaska Chapter.



Jeff Muehlbauer



Harmony Jade Sugaq Wayner

Harmony Jade Sugaq Wayner is a tribal member of Naknek Native Village, a commercial fisher in the Bristol Bay salmon fleet, and a marine scientist focused on social-ecological systems to promote Indigenous values and well-being in fisheries. Harmony has a Master's in Resource Management from the University Centre of the Westfjords in Iceland and a B.S. in Biology from the University of Alaska Southeast. She works at the International Arctic Research Center as an Indigenous Liaison for the Research Networking Activities for Sustained Coordinated Observations of Arctic Change Project (RNA CoObs) and is assembling an expert panel to work on salmon in Bristol Bay. She currently resides in Anchorage and travels home to Naknek to put up fish with her family in the summers. 🐟

Environmental Concerns Corner

Changes to Alaska Water Management

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources has unveiled proposed changes to water management regulations in Alaska. After review of public comments and feedback, some changes regarding applications and certificates for instream flow reservations will be postponed. However, other proposed regulation changes, including the closure of water right applications, temporary water use, and related procedures, will proceed with modifications based on public input. You can review the proposed regulations at <https://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/news/>.

Ambler Road Supplemental EIS Public Comment

In response to a U.S. District Court ruling due to deficiencies in the 2020 Environmental Impact Analysis (EIS), especially regarding subsistence impacts under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Bureau of Land Management has submitted a Supplemental EIS and is requesting comments through December 19, 2023. Comments can be made at: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/57323/530>.

The Ambler Road proposal aims to link the Dalton Highway, running from north of Fairbanks to Deadhorse, with the Ambler Mining District

Environmental Concerns Corner, continued

in northwest Alaska, crossing lands managed by the BLM, state of Alaska, Alaska Native Corporations, and the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. The draft supplemental EIS examines three route alternatives from the 2020 analysis and a no-action alternative. The analysis identifies 66 communities potentially impacted by subsistence activities, a significant increase from the previous 27. Additionally, the draft EIS includes updated information on potential effects on caribou and fish populations and incorporates Indigenous Knowledge obtained through consultations, ethnographic interviews, comment letters, testimony, and Regional Advisory Council meetings. The BLM will announce the schedule for public meetings, subsistence hearings, and engagement opportunities on the BLM National NEPA Register soon.

Alaska Students Selected for National Marine Policy Fellowship

Two Alaska students have been selected for the 2024 Sea Grant Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship program, one of the most prestigious marine policy fellowships in the country. Kit Cunningham and Nick Mills were chosen after being nominated for the positions by Alaska Sea Grant. Cunningham and Mills will join a class of 85 early career professionals from around the country to spend a year working on marine and coastal science,



Kit Cunningham graduated from Montana State University in 2017 with a B.S. in Conservation Biology and Ecology. The following year, a two-week contract disentangling northern fur seals on the Pribilof

Islands changed her career path, sparking a passion leading to field work in remote circumpolar locations in Alaska and Antarctica. Kit currently works with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game focusing on marine debris removal from the Forrester Island (Gaskúu) complex in Southeast Alaska, and is also a graduate student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Cunningham was selected to work with the legislative branch based on a desire to build the skills to create legislation that could instigate immediate action regarding marine conservancy.

Be involved

If you are interested in keeping up on the rapidly changing mining story in Alaska and other topics, consider joining our new environmental concerns listserv. Please send an email to ecc@afs-alaska.org with “Join ECC Listserv” in the subject line. We will get you signed up. This listserv will be a space for learning and discussion and hopefully improve our capacity for commenting as a Chapter on projects or permits where our fisheries expertise will be valuable.

If you have an issue in your region or related to your fisheries work where the Chapter could be impactful, please reach out to Sue Mauger and Joel Markis at: ecc@afs-alaska.org. As chairs of the Environmental Concerns Committee, we want to bring our Chapter into conversations where our expertise has the greatest value. 🗣️

public administration, and policy issues with the government in Washington, D.C. Knauss Fellows are chosen through a competitive process that includes several rounds of review. In the coming months, the Fellows will participate in a multi-day interview process used to pair recipients with host offices in the legislative or executive branches of government. Fellows will begin their one-year fellowships in February 2024.



Nick Mills, a graduate student at the University of Montana, recently participated in a scuba diving program at the University of Alaska Southeast. Mills will serve his fellowship in the executive branch.

Originally from Montana, Mills combines his love of nature and politics, earning a B.S. in wildlife biology and an M.A in public administration from the University of Montana. Mills also completed several legislative and governmental relations internships in Montana and Washington, D.C. In January 2023, Mills moved to Sitka to participate in the University of Alaska Southeast’s Alaska Dive Semester, and he is currently interning at the Coral Restoration Foundation in Key Largo, Florida, where he applies his scientific diving experience from Alaska to restore coral populations along Florida’s reef tract. 🐠

Establishing a new Instream Flow and Water Level Conservation (IFWLC) Training, Research, and Development Center: Progress Report

For nearly two decades, interdisciplinary instream flow related conservation (protection, restoration, and enhancement) training, research, and development services were provided through the federal Cooperative Instream Flow Service Group (CIFSG) in Fort Collins, Colorado. But that group ceased to exist in 2001, and no equivalent centralized uniform source of instream flow and water level conservation (IFWLC) training and support services has been established. Many who were trained by the CIFSG subsequently retired or moved



to other jobs. As a result, this interdisciplinary water conservation field has been losing a central focus, potentially leading to diminished knowledge, mentorship, and leadership for quantifying the effects of water uses, management, and research on effective conservation of instream flow and water levels on fish, wildlife, and habitat.

These and related concerns are being addressed by the Instream Flow Council (IFC) and the American Fisheries Society (AFS) through a multi-state conservation grant project to first assess the needs and support for establishing a new IFWLC training, research, and development center (Center), and contingent on positive outcomes of the assessment, develop strategies and pathways forward to establish and operate the Center. As part of this process, the IFC and AFS established a steering committee comprised of experts

representing governmental, non-governmental, academic, and private sectors with extensive experience in integration of the interdisciplinary development, training, and application of IFWLC methods, and who have remained actively involved in water resource allocation issues. The committee includes Co-Chair David Weedman (IFC Past President), Co-Chair Doug Austen (AFS Executive Director), Tom Annear, Daren Carlisle, Christopher Estes, Thom Hardy, Allan Locke, Donald Orth, Dudley Reiser, and Clair Stalnaker.

Based on public review and feedback of the January 2023 draft, the final feasibility assessment report for establishing an instream flow and water level conservation (IFWLC) training, research, and development center has been completed and is available for download at <https://www.instreamflowcouncil.org/>. 🐟

**TRAINING, RESEARCH, AND
DEVELOPMENT CENTER TO SUPPORT
INSTREAM FLOW AND WATER LEVEL
CONSERVATION**

**FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT
PROJECT NUMBER F21AP01124**



Student Subunit Happenings

Becky Shaftel, Student Subunit Representatives

Student Subunit Officers

The Student Subunit for the University of Alaska elected new officers for the 2023-24 academic year: President – Allison Guzman, Vice President – Sydney Almgren, Treasurer – Linnaea Doerner, DEIC Liaison – Anna Medina, and Secretary – Erika Ebert. Congratulations to all and thank you for sharing information about yourself!

Allison Guzman, President - Allison is a first-year undergraduate student in the interdisciplinary program studying marine biology and climate change. Previously, she received a B.A. in public policy from Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh. After working on the Hill and in marketing for nonprofits in D.C. during the pandemic, she wanted to make a switch to a different field. She hopes to bridge the gap between science and policy making for marine conservation. Whenever she isn't studying, she is hanging out with her best bud, a corgi named Murphy.

Sydney Almgren, Vice President - Sydney is a second year M.S. Fisheries student in Fairbanks, currently studying the population genomics of Pacific Herring in the eastern Bering Sea. Sydney earned her B.S. in Environmental Sciences from Washington State University, and through aquaculture experiences in Idaho and fisheries fieldwork in Wyoming, developed an interest in fisheries resources. Sydney hopes to gain career experience as a geneticist or fisheries biologist before returning to academics to pursue a Ph.D. in fisheries. In her free time, Sydney enjoys cooking, reading, and trying out all the activities Alaska has to offer.

Anna Maria Medina, DEIC Liaison - Anna is originally from Southern Idaho where her love of fisheries began in the waters of the Snake River. After attending her local community college and working for Idaho Fish and Game, Anna moved to Northern Minnesota to earn her B.S. in Fisheries Management and a minor in Wetlands Ecology

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Summer Graduating Class

Congratulations to the many graduate students and undergraduates who completed their degrees this summer!

Katie Corliss (M.S. Marine Biology, Advisor: Katrin Iken) – “Trophic Pathways and Their Relationship to Growth in Nearshore Consumers Across the Northern Gulf of Alaska”

Claire Delbecq (M.S. Fisheries, Advisor: Jeff Falke) – “Impacts of Streamflow Variability and Antecedent Conditions on the Magnitude, Timing, and Form of Watershed Carbon and Nutrient Export from a Coastal Alaskan Watershed”

Oliva Edwards (M.S. Fisheries, Advisor: Jeff Falke) – “Influence of Freshwater Processes on Juvenile Chinook Salmon Size, Movement, and Outmigration Timing in the Chena River, Alaska”

Kevin Fitzgerald (M.S. Fisheries, Advisor: Jeff Falke) – “Environmental Controls on Foraging and Growth of Juvenile Salmonids in a Southeast Alaska Watershed”

Madelyn Hoefler (B.A. Fisheries, Concentration in Fisheries Business and Social Sciences)

Mary Keenan (M.S. Marine Biology, Advisor: Lara Horstmann) – “Variability of Total Mercury Concentrations in Steller Sea Lion Bone Locations and Bone Elements”

Madeline Lee (M.S. Fisheries, Advisor: Peter Westley) – “Adult Chinook Salmon Heat Stress and Reproductive Consequences in Southcentral Alaska”

Bethany Matala (B.S. Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. Concentration in Ocean Sciences)

Jaide Phelps (M.S. Marine Biology, Advisor: Katrin Iken) – “The Effect of Sedimentation on Spore Settlement and Recruitment of the Endemic Arctic Kelp, *Laminaria Solidungula*”

Samuel Rosenbaum (M.S. Fisheries, Advisor: Megan McPhee) – “Reliability of Trans-Generational Genetic Mark-Recapture for Enumerating Pacific Salmon”

Student Subunit Happenings, continued

from Bemidji State University. After working for the State of Minnesota and the State of Nebraska the mountains came calling again and Anna moved to Fairbanks, Alaska, to continue her education. Anna is now pursuing her M.S. in Fisheries at UAF with Trent Sutton as her advisor, studying Rainbow Smelt in the nearshore waters of the Beaufort Sea. She is now serving as the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Liaison for the AFS Alaska Chapter student subunit and is looking forward to working with fellow students and developing new ideas. Outside of school you can find Anna ice fishing, curling, hiking, or hanging outside with her dog and partner.

Erica Ebert, Secretary – Erica is a first year graduate student working on an M.S. in Fisheries. Her research is focused on the Fourhorn Sculpin from the Beaufort Sea and using stable isotopes to determine diet and habitat preferences. She's spent the last few years living in coastal Southeast Alaska and is excited to learn how to still play in the water while living in the Interior.

The first Student Subunit meeting will be held November 16, 4:30-5:30, in-person at O'Neill 201 in Fairbanks and also over zoom. 🐾



Becky Shaftel, AFS Alaska Chapter Student Representative

Steven Berkley Marine Conservation Fellowship

This fellowship was created by AFS in 2007 to honor the memory of Steven Berkeley, a dedicated fisheries scientist with a passionate interest in integrating the fields of marine ecology, conservation biology, and fisheries science to improve fisheries management. Berkeley was a long-time member of AFS and a member of the first Board of Directors of the Fisheries Conservation Foundation. The fellowship comprises a competitively based \$15,000 award to a graduate student actively engaged in thesis research relevant to marine conservation; a focus on fisheries issues is not required. Please use the current application requirements at the link below, as revisions have been made recently.

Through this fellowship, Steve's legacy lives on by supporting graduate student research in marine conservation. As we announce the Berkeley fellowship recipients and present the future calls for applications for the fellowship, we revisit

Steve's life and also get updates from previous fellows on how the award impacted their research and careers.

This Award is administered by the AFS Marine Fisheries Section. Information on this award is available at https://mfs.fisheries.org/?page_id=155.

Electronic applications and recommendations must be received no later than February 1, 2024, by Susan Sogard at susansogard@gmail.com. 🐾



Steven Berkeley

Oncorhynchus back issues at
<https://www.afs-alaska.org/newsletter>

Meetings and Events

Alaska Marine Science Symposium

January 29–February 2, 2024.
This symposium will be held in Anchorage, AK. More information at <https://www.alaskamarinescience.org>.



World Fisheries Congress

March 3–9, 2024. The 9th World Fisheries Congress will be held in Seattle, WA. More information is at <https://wfc2024.fisheries.org/>.

American Fisheries Society Alaska Chapter Annual Meeting

March 24-29, 2024. The 50th annual meeting of the AFS Alaska Chapter will be in Seward, AK. More information will be posted at <https://afs-alaska.org/>.



Lowell Wakefield Symposium

April 16–18, 2024. This meeting will be held in Sitka, AK. More information is at <https://alaskaseagrant.org/events/wakefield-fisheries-symposium-2024/>.



American Fisheries Society Parent Society Annual Meeting

August 15–19, 2024. The 154th annual meeting will be held in Honolulu, HI. For more information go to <https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/>.



Fish of the Week!

Join us every Monday for our Fish of the Week podcast! We get to know all the fish.

[We've got lots of fish stories.](#)



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AFS Code of Conduct

The Ethics and Professional Conduct Committee (EPCC) of the American Fisheries Society has developed a code of conduct for our meetings and AFS-sponsored functions, whether virtual or in person. This brief document is available at <https://fisheries.org/about/governance/afs-meetings-code-of-conduct/>. Please read through this document to ensure that we are collectively working to build awareness of this policy to ensure that all AFS-related gatherings are a respectful and inclusive experience for everyone. If you have questions, reach out directly to the EPCC Chair Brian Missildine for support at brian.missildine@dfw.wa.gov.

ONCORHYNCHUS

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