



IDAHO
CONSERVATION
LEAGUE

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The Idaho Conservationist



Cover: Rain To Grain by ICL Artist in Residence Carl Rowe.
Oil on canvas, 48" x 42", www.carlroweart.com.

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Embracing change...



Rick Johnson

One of ICL's greatest characteristics — and one of the reasons we're successful — is that we embrace change. When times call for it, we adapt our strategies. When opportunities arise, we move toward them. When something stops working, we stop doing it. When we see gaps, we fill them.

Embracing change is also about empowering people. Our board has term limits, and while we miss the expertise and friendship of departing board members, we always have a breadth of new talent and expertise to bring on. We have three board members leaving shortly and three strong nominees to fill their shoes. In May we'll also have a new board chair.

On the staff side, in the past year we've promoted a set of young and talented professionals, primarily women, to new areas of responsibility and leadership. We've hired a new communications staffer to better tell our story. We have also built a deeper bench for accounting and finance. And we've continued to empower the whole team toward new challenges and opportunities.

And yes, we now have a new executive director on deck, preparing to take the reins from me this summer after more than 23 years. We'll overlap for a while. I'll step back in June.

A national publication just wrote, "Rick Johnson of Idaho Conservation League believes that his organization is strong enough across all levels to benefit from a succession, rather than be hobbled by it. They have prepared for change, embedded it in their culture, and are ready to use it as a catalyst for further growth."

I know this to be true because of your support.

Rick Johnson

Executive Director

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"Embracing change is also about empowering people."

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Justin Hayes to Be ICL's *new* Executive Director

As I prepare to step away in late June, I could not be more pleased to announce that Justin Hayes will be the next executive director of the Idaho Conservation League. Justin has served as ICL's program director for more than 17 years and has been instrumental in shaping the program work we've done over these past years.

I hired Justin in 2001 after getting to know him back in 1996 when he worked for Idaho Rivers United. Justin then worked in Washington, DC, first to defend the Owyhee Canyonlands from a proposed bombing range, and then to restore salmon and river ecosystems for Save Our Wild Salmon and American Rivers. When he returned to Idaho, we picked him up.

Justin is preparing to enter this new and exciting role leading ICL. After an open hiring process involving a number of qualified candidates, the ICL board of directors selected Justin to be ICL's next executive director. Lori Gibson Banducci chaired the board's hiring committee, which included current and past board

chairs and other board members bringing extensive non-profit executive hiring experience. The entire board was involved in final interviews leading to a unanimous board vote.

Justin's new role will start May 1, but our overlap begins immediately. To a certain degree, as conservation partners for many, many years, our overlap began a long time ago, and I am very confident that the many factors that make ICL successful, a great conservation investment and a great place to work are in secure hands.

"I'm a crazy mix of excitement, joy, nerves and bursting energy. But most of all, I'm humbled and grateful," Justin said to the ICL board.

I'll add that I can think of no better job in service to a great place with great people. I know, because it's the one I have had for over 20 years.



Justin Hayes

"... a great conservation investment and a great place to work are in secure hands."

Rick Johnson

Executive Director

rjohnson@idahoconservation.org



Lana Weber / Photo



Lana Weber / Photo

Mary Beth Whitaker: When You *see* ICL



Mary Beth Whitaker

“Mary Beth has diligently worked to build a respected and recognized visual brand to all our materials, making them not just easy to read, but a pleasure to read.”

It’s not everyday that an artist has the opportunity to build a career using their creative talents to advocate for things they love. But that is the story of one of ICL’s longest-tenured staffers. Mary Beth has spent the last 25 years making ICL look good. With an artist’s eye and an environmentalist’s heart, she has been able to shape ICL’s visual brand, image, publications and more into materials we are very proud of.

When Mary Beth announced her departure from ICL, staff felt a sadness at the idea of her bright personality and creativity not being in the office each day. At the same time, we are all excited for her to be able to turn her full attention to things that fill her soul: watercolor painting, music performance, songwriting, poetry and more.

It is common to hear great feedback on ICL’s publications. While Mary Beth has a whole lot to do with the look of our web presence, too, it’s the newsletter, what you

hold in your hand, that’s most commonly lauded.

Mary Beth has diligently worked to build a respected and recognized visual brand to all our materials, making them not just easy to read, but a pleasure to read. In this information-overloaded time, people often tell me they read ICL’s newsletter “cover to cover.” She makes it look easy. It’s not.

In addition, Mary Beth has shepherded ICL’s popular Artist in Residence program since it first began over five years ago. Just another example of how Mary Beth was able to find the nexus of art and nature, bringing that joy and beauty to our organization.

We’re excited to see what Mary Beth will create in the future, and we’ll miss her.

Rick Johnson

Executive Director

rjohnson@idahoconservation.org



1994 Staff - Kathy Richmond Photo



Julia Rundberg Photo

Three Terms, Nine *years*

Three terms, nine years on the ICL board — the past two years as board Chair. As I draft this, I remember my ICL beginnings. Driving home from Redfish Lake, head spinning with all I had heard about conservation issues in Idaho at the weekend's annual *Wild Idaho!* conference, I was experiencing information overload. That was May 2008.

Two years later, I found myself on the ICL board. I liked the financial stability of ICL — most statewide and smaller nonprofits struggle. While I knew that other nonprofits were fighting to emerge from the recession of 2008-2009, I was impressed with ICL's full-time staff of fourteen and governing board. We were tackling so many issues.

Today, almost a decade later, staff, board and revenues have all grown by about thirty percent. This increase equates to more resources to address the many conservation issues and problems challenging Idaho.

I share Rick Johnson's optimism that ICL has never been stronger. Reflecting on my nine-year board experience, I thought about a comment made several years ago by a current board member who comes to us with gold standard credentials. She is a retired dean of the University of Idaho, cofounder of a worldwide toxic cleanup company and the daughter of the world's foremost rocket scientist. Several years ago, when I asked her if she would consider joining the ICL board, Margrit responded, "Wow. It would be the greatest honor of my life." That put this organization into perspective for me.

In nine years, from our exceptional staff, I have learned much about the issues and challenges facing Idaho. I have given what I'm capable of, and in return have received much more. Thank you ICL.



Steve Mitchell

"I have given what I'm capable of, and in return have received much more."

Steve Mitchell, Chair
Idaho Conservation League Board of Directors



Facing Climate Change and Supporting a *clean* Energy Future for Idaho

Pristine air quality, snow-packed mountains, cold rivers and lakes — people from around the world come to Idaho to experience this beautiful state. This is not just a recent phenomenon. For millennia, people (and before them fish and wildlife) migrated to the vast forests, grasslands and waterways that define our home state. Over time these species and our society adapted to Idaho's particular patterns of temperature and precipitation — our climate. Selkirk Caribou found a niche in the mossy forests of North Idaho. Salmon found pristine spawning habitat in Idaho's high mountains and a river corridor connecting them to the ocean. Farmers and city dwellers filled our broad river valleys.

Today, we are seeing shifts in the seasonal pattern of temperature

and precipitation that affect fish and wildlife habitat, migration patterns, water availability, air quality, wildfires, agriculture, the economy and quality of life. The science is clear: human caused greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, electricity and agriculture are changing the climate now. For example, later in this newsletter, Brad Smith provides an update on the plight of the Selkirk Caribou and Austin Hopkins talks about Idaho's air quality. Climate change is impacting the people and wildlife of Idaho and will continue to change the world around us if we don't work to kick the fossil fuel habit now. In response to these alarming changes, ICL is growing our clean energy program. The good news is — it's working.

Idaho's political climate is changing. In January, at one of his first formal public appearances, Gov. Brad Little addressed climate change saying, "We've just got to figure out how we're going to cope with it. And we've got to slow it down." We are encouraged to see Little address both aspects of this issue — the need to adapt to the climate change we see today and the need to prevent additional climate pollution.

ICL is doing the same. To address current climate impacts, we engage with federal and state agencies to plan for wildfires, connect protected habitats and protect waterways. We seek to include future climate conditions when

setting air and water protection standards. Across the board, we are increasing our efforts to include climate change adaptation and mitigation into all decisions about our natural heritage.

ICL is also reducing fossil fuel pollution. At a recent event at the Idaho State Capitol, Little proclaimed Feb. 14 Electric Vehicle Day in Idaho. ICL's electricity work is successfully cleaning up our electric grid. Since car exhaust is our leading climate pollutant in Idaho, electrifying transportation is a real, attainable solution to protect our air and climate.

On that same day, ICL signed a settlement with Avista to resolve the accounting for their portion of the Colstrip plant. Addressing divesting from coal plants will facilitate Avista's transition to clean alternatives. This transition also helps ICL's overall climate goal to clean the grid and electrify everything.

The Idaho Conservation League works hard to support a clean energy future for Idaho. And there are many ways our members and supporters can help!

Ben Otto

Energy Associate

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To get started and to support clean energy in Idaho, visit www.idahoconservation.org/energy



Protecting Your Health *during* Poor Air Quality Events

Idaho's air quality can feel like a binary computer system. You have the 0, which is clean, healthy air and then you have the 1, which is highly polluted air due to wildfires or inversion conditions. Thankfully, Idaho's "default setting" is clean, healthy air — but that doesn't mean we can ignore the poor air quality events when they do happen. It's important to be prepared for the times our communities are inundated with smoke or choked with vehicle exhaust because we need to know the best ways to protect our health during those times.

The key to protecting your health during wildfires and inversions is to be prepared and have a plan. Your plan should consider your current health conditions, the resources you can use to find air quality data and how often you check it, which level — or color — of the Air Quality Index (AQI) you should take action at, and what those actions might include. For example, your plan could say that due to your asthma, you'll stop outdoor activity when the EPA's AQI data reaches the orange level. As you develop your plan, take the time to write it down so you can refer to it later.

We can do more than just riding out poor air quality events. When poor air quality strikes, think about the sources of pollution you can control — like wood burning or vehicle exhaust. Burning and driving less during wildfires and inversions can help protect your health as well as the health of other Idahoans.

Austin Hopkins

Senior Conservation Associate
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During wildfire season, inversions or other periods of poor air quality, be sure to check the Air Quality Index (AQI) daily to make sure it's safe for you to recreate outdoors.



*Sensitive groups include people who have asthma, heart disease or COPD

“When poor air quality strikes, think about the sources of pollution you can control..”



Shared Stewardship in our Forests

As we've reported for years, collaboration leads to durable solutions for our public lands. While we may disagree on some policy details, when we walk in the woods with folks from the timber industry, rural counties or development, we often find areas of common ground.

In 2016, the state of Idaho stepped into collaboration with the Good Neighbor Authority (GNA), a partnership between the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the U.S. Forest Service. The program allows IDL to assist the Forest Service in administering contracts and can increase the capacity to carry out timber sales, forest thinning, restoration work and environmental analysis. That capacity is needed because hiring freezes, government shutdowns and retirements have taken a toll on the Forest Service. GNA was recently expanded in the 2018 Farm Bill.

While we've been cautiously supportive of the program, we are watching closely to ensure that other collaborative agreements and protections for clean water, wildlife and other sensitive resources are not undermined. The Trump administration's push to double timber harvest from national forests threatens to disrupt those agreements, so it's critical that we're at the table.

In December, Gov. Butch Otter and Gov.-elect Brad Little signed an expanded Shared Stewardship Agreement between IDL and the Forest Service that will deepen this relationship. While largely symbolic, it commits the agencies to develop two landscape-scale projects, one in northern Idaho and the other in southern Idaho. ICL is at collaborative tables across the state and we'll continue to monitor this partnership to ensure that it reflects the thoughtful agreements of existing local collaborative efforts.

Jonathan Oppenheimer
Government Relations Director
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Jonathan Oppenheimer, location Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, 2011

Salmon and Steelhead: An Idaho *identity*

Salmon and steelhead are inextricably tied to Idaho's identity. Idaho's indigenous cultures built their entire lives around these special species. Miners, ranchers, trappers and loggers settled in our great state and there was an abundant natural resource of fish to sustain them. Today, anglers, outfitters and guides continue to foster strong ties with these iconic creatures, while bolstering Idaho's economy through small businesses and recreation.

Now imagine an Idaho without salmon and steelhead. If attitudes and actions around the state don't change soon, we are likely to lose these important fish to extinction. The 2018 return rates for adult salmon and steelhead were dismal and are projected to be even worse in 2019. Although we have been advocating for salmon and steelhead for decades, the status quo has not worked. ICL has significantly stepped up our campaign work in this important area.

It is our goal to provide Idahoans with the tools they need to be the heroes that save salmon and steelhead for the next generation. We continue to raise awareness and shine light on the very real threat of extinction across the state. We have met with anglers, outfitters, guides, other conservation groups and water users, just to name a few. There has been extensive outreach to our new governor, Brad Little, to let him know that salmon and steelhead are important to Idaho's economy, identity and quality of life.

The Idaho Conservation League is a leader in these efforts. We believe our work will be strengthened by hearing the personal stories Idahoans have about salmon and steelhead. We are empowering Idahoans to share their own experiences with these spectacular fish. ICL has created an

easy-to-use platform to record and share memories about salmon and steelhead. All stories are being archived in the Library of Congress and storytelling events are popping up around the state. We have a form on our website that allows supporters to take action by emailing Gov. Little and our Idaho delegation directly.

Share your personal experiences today and be a hero for salmon and steelhead — contact our staff to learn how.

“We believe our work can only be strengthened by hearing and passing on the personal stories Idahoans have with salmon and steelhead.”

Dagny Deutchman

Conservation Fellow

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Aimee Moran Photo



Brad Smith Photo



Josh Udesen Painting

Speaking of salmon,

How does a guided trip down the main Salmon river sound? Join ICL's Matt Nykiel and Haley Robinson, along with our friends at SOAR Northwest on Aug. 3-8, 2019.

The main Salmon River flows through the second deepest canyon in America and the heart of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness. Big sandy beaches, exciting rapids and incredible scenery make this trip one you won't want to miss!

The price is \$1,500 per person, plus an additional gift of \$250 to ICL. Contact Jenny Estes (jestes@idahoconservation.org) to learn more or sign up.

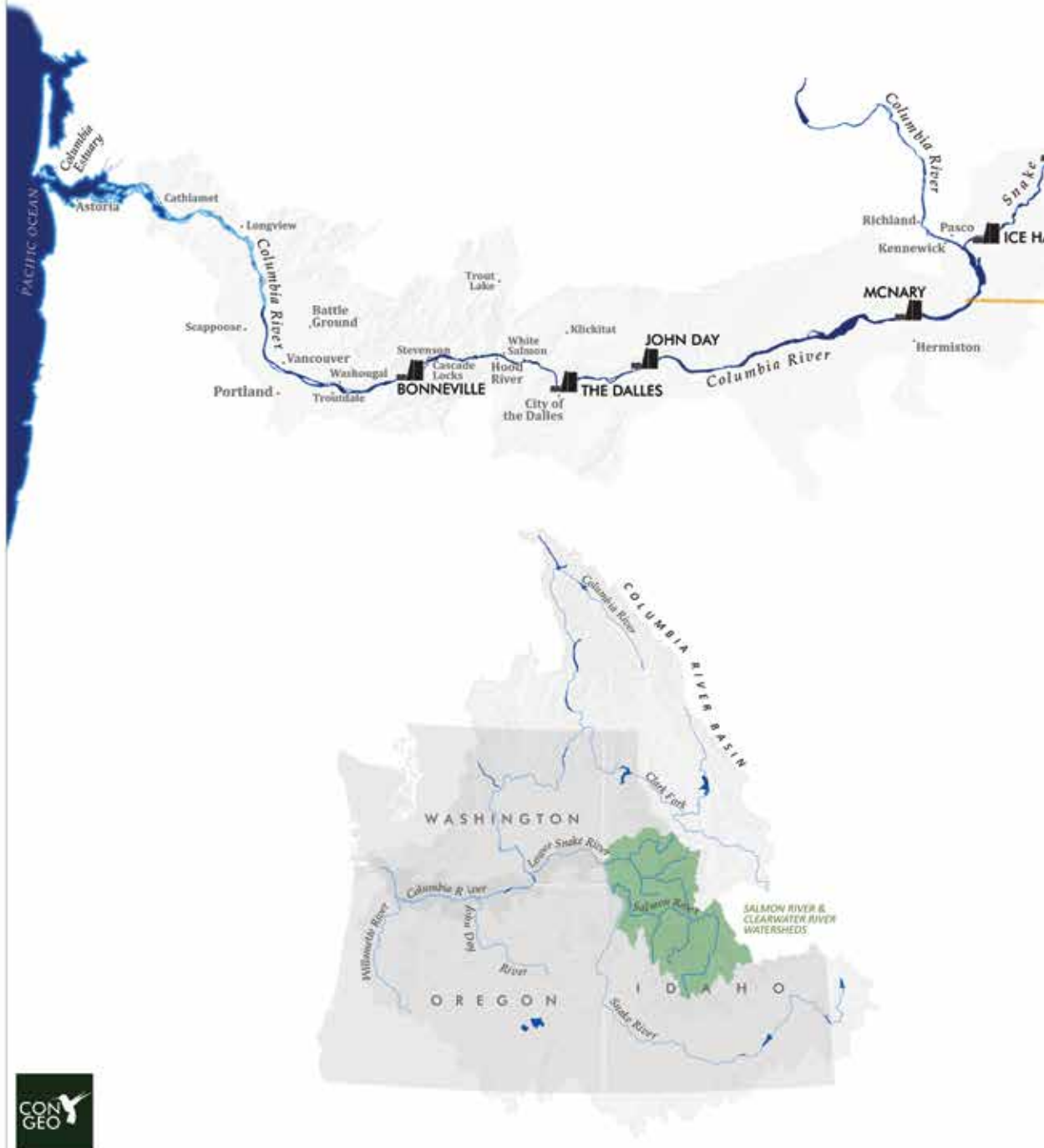
We hope you'll join us!

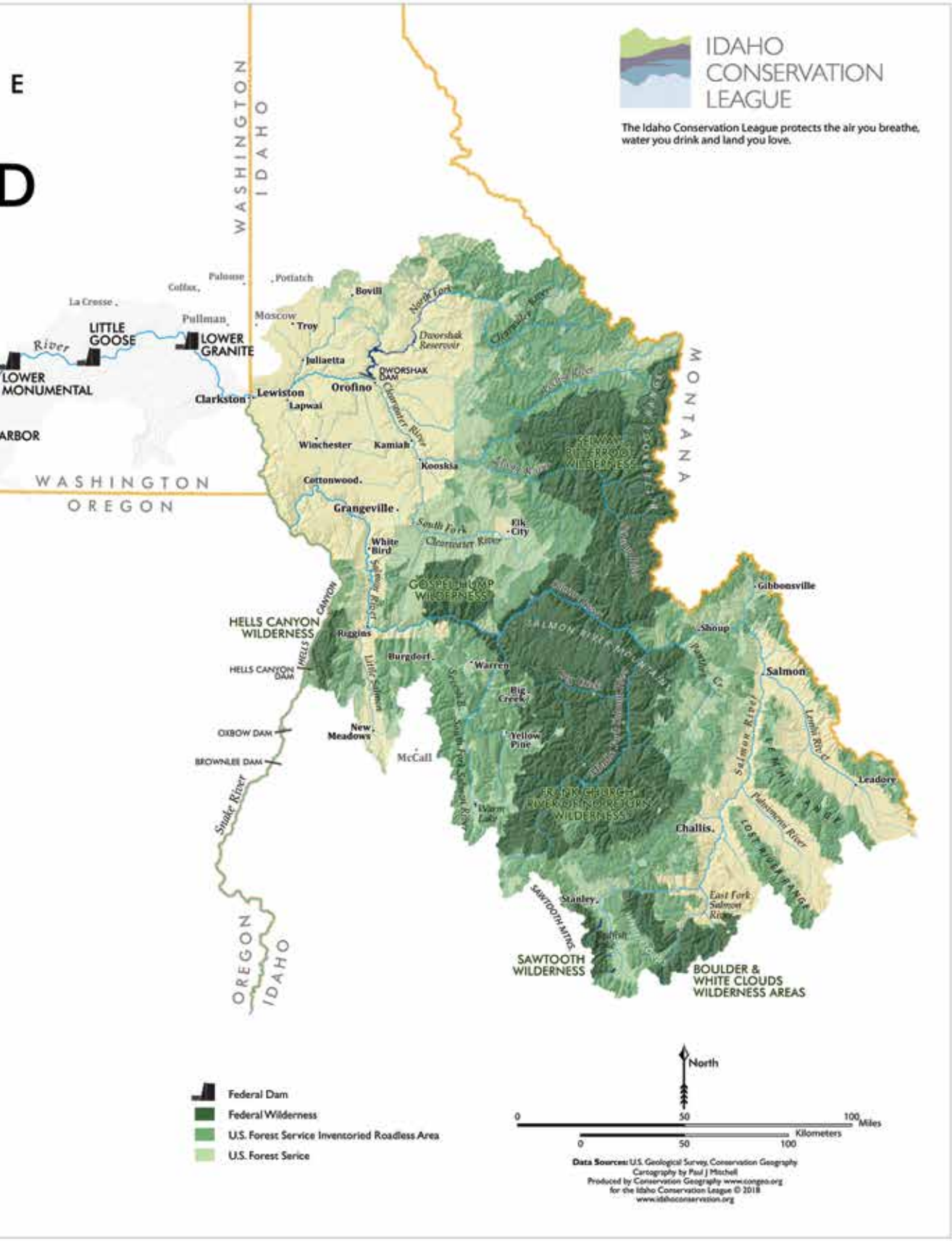
Young Idaho salmon and steelhead make the arduous pilgrimage from the headwaters of high mountain streams to the Pacific Ocean, grow for a few years and return home to their native stream to breed and die.

The trip to and from the ocean has become increasingly difficult due to many of the obstacles the fish encounter after swimming out of Idaho. Although there are many obstacles for the fish to face, the four lower Snake River dams are the most insidious.

ICL is working hard to find a win-win-win solution: a survivable river for our fish, reliable, affordable energy to power our state, and a healthy, balanced ecosystem from the headwaters of the Salmon and Clearwater rivers to the Pacific Ocean.

IDAHO CONSERVATION LEAGUE
**SAVING IDAHO'S
 SALMON & STEELHEAD**





NORTHERN IDAHO

Is It the *end* of Caribou in Idaho?

Idaho's lone woodland caribou herd may be gone forever. Biologists struggled for decades to recover a small herd between Sandpoint, Idaho and Nelson, British Columbia.

Caribou / David Moskowitz



The tragic news broke on Facebook when Canadian resident Jim Ross posted a photo of a stock trailer parked at a gas station in Salmo, British Columbia. Ross learned that the biologists who were towing the trailer had just rounded up the last remaining caribou from Idaho's Selkirk Mountains. The trailer was bound for Revelstoke, British Columbia where the caribou will live out its remaining days alongside caribou from other lost or imperiled herds.

It's a tragic tale and a brutal reminder that we must do more to save declining fish and wildlife populations. Biologists hope to one day reintroduce caribou to the Selkirk Mountains.

However, for reintroduction to be possible, Canada must first do something different north of the border where all of the caribou herds are in decline. Provincial governments must stop underwriting old growth logging operations. Mountain caribou feed exclusively on arboreal lichens during the winter. These lichens only grow on trees that are 150 years old or more.

Provided that our neighbors to the north can do something to stop the decline of mountain caribou, then maybe our grandchildren will be able to see a wild caribou roaming the U.S. Selkirks again one day.

Brad Smith

North Idaho Director
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CENTRAL IDAHO

An *update* on the Salmon-Challis Forest Plan Revision

The Salmon-Challis National Forest is one of the crown jewels of the National Forest System — and it's located right here in the heart of Idaho! The U.S. Forest Service is in the midst of revising the Salmon-Challis National Forest management plan, the document that guides

Pioneer Mountains / Josh Johnson



how the forest's resources and special places will be managed for the next 15 or more years.

We would like to see a forest plan that provides necessary protection for special places — such as the Pioneer Mountains and Borah Peak — and offers conservation-minded management direction throughout the forest.

To work toward this goal, ICL has submitted comments directly to the Forest Service on important aspects of the plan, such as areas that should be designated wilderness. ICL also participates in a community-based effort called the Central Idaho Public Lands Collaborative aimed at finding common ground among

diverse stakeholders. We also encourage and empower our members to provide their own comments to the Forest Service.

During the wilderness evaluation phase of the process, ICL members and supporters provided more than 130 comments to the Forest Service offering their thoughts about protecting some of our most treasured places in Idaho. Thank you to those who commented! As the Forest Service moves forward in the development of the Salmon-Challis plan, there will be more opportunities for the public to engage. We will keep you updated on ways to offer your input throughout this important process!

Josh Johnson

Central Idaho Conservation Associate
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NORTHERN IDAHO

Is Idaho's Largest Lake Ready for *another* Rail Bridge?

If you haven't been, Lake Pend Oreille is truly a sight to behold. What once held a massive glacier thousands of years ago now holds a lot of water, as deep as 1,150 feet — the Eiffel Tower is only 1,063 feet!

Lake Pend Oreille supplies local drinking water, drives the regional economy and shelters vast numbers of birds, fish and aquatic life. Doesn't it seem reasonable to take special precautions before doing anything that could jeopardize this unique place? That's what ICL is demanding from the federal agencies reviewing plans to construct a second rail bridge across the lake.

Train derailments are a real threat to consider. In summer of 2017, a train derailment spilled up to 30 carloads of coal into the nearby Clark Fork River. Idahoans need to carefully

consider these types of risks as we weigh whether or not to expand the rail system near our drinking water. Careful consideration is important because Idaho doesn't employ a single track inspector to provide public oversight of rail safety. ICL believes that everyone deserves a comprehensive analysis of all the risks of transporting crude oil and other dangerous substances by rail.

March 25 is likely the last opportunity for the public to weigh in, and we need your help to ensure Lake Pend Oreille gets the protections it deserves.

Visit www.idahoconservation.org/takeaction to learn how you can help.

Matt Nykiel

Conservation Associate
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Rail Bridge / Russell Heistuman

CENTRAL IDAHO

Wilderness Stewardship: Go On an *adventure*, Make a Difference

Are you starting to daydream about trails underfoot, vast expanses of untouched land and the solitude of a night spent under the stars? You're not alone.

Idaho is the fastest growing state in the nation and we've seen a large increase in visitors to our public lands. With increased backcountry visitation comes an uptick in degradation ranging from litter to abandoned camp fires.

ICL works hard to put protections — such as wilderness designations — in place to safeguard our public lands, but we don't stop there. Wilderness areas give each of us so much and they need our help in return. In 2016 we created our Wilderness Stewardship Program in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. Stewards are trained in collecting wilderness data, clearing trails, naturalizing

degraded areas and more. Becoming a steward enables you to make a difference while you're out enjoying your own adventure. It also gives you a platform to speak up and give back to the special places in Idaho that you love.

This year, in our fourth season, we will expand the program to include additional patrols in established and recommended wilderness areas such as Craters of the Moon, increase our involvement with the Salmon-Challis National Forest Plan revision process and offer a week-long trail trip opportunity.

Interested in becoming a wilderness steward? Visit www.idahoconservation.org/volunteer. See you on the trails!

Emily Williams

Central Idaho Community Engagement Assistant
ewilliams@idahoconservation.org



Stewardship / Betsy Mizell

SOUTHERN IDAHO

Celebrating the Ten Year Anniversary of Wilderness in the Owyhees



Owyhee BLM / Bob Wick

There are several reasons to think of the Owyhee Canyonlands this spring. First, given the snowpack to date, this could be a fantastic spring for wildflowers and river running. Second, this March marks the 10-year anniversary of the Act of Congress which protected 517,000 acres of wilderness and 16 rivers in Owyhee County under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

After decades of conflict regarding grazing, wilderness and access issues, discussions started in 2001 about using a collaborative approach to protect this remarkable landscape. Participants included conservationists, ranchers, recreationists and outfitters, among many others. The group’s effort became known as the Owyhee Initiative.

Thanks to a dedicated effort by Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho), Congress passed the Owyhee Initiative into law in 2009. The Owyhee Initiative continues to meet and track the implementation of this agreement. Look for opportunities to celebrate with us later this year!

With wilderness designation, folks don’t have to worry about these canyons and old homesteads ever being buried by an open pit mine dump or getting sold off and posted with “no trespassing” signs. The Owyhees are one of the best areas for solitude, primitive recreation and wildlife in Idaho.

John Robison
Public Lands Director
jrobison@idahoconservation.org

SOUTHERN IDAHO

Downstream Residents Speak Out against the CuMo Project



CuMo / Haley Robinson

In February, 500 concerned citizens weighed in on the CuMo Project in the headwaters of the Boise River. The Canadian mining company, American CuMoCo, hopes to develop one of the world’s largest molybdenum mines next to Grimes Creek and is currently in the exploratory stage of planning.

The U.S. Forest Service is analyzing the impacts of a proposed, 4-year exploratory drilling program. ICL and our partners won two previous rounds of litigation because the Forest Service had not conducted adequate baseline studies as part of the environmental review. This winter we held a series of public workshops and raised public awareness about this project. We noted that the locations of the drill pads and roads are still unclear. In addition, more details are needed on how

exploration activities will impact water quality, plants, wildlife and recreationists.

The Forest Service and mining company hope to have a final decision on this phase of the CuMo project issued later in 2019. We will see if the project passes legal muster.

The policy propelling this project forward is the Mining Law of 1872, which holds mine development as the highest and best use of our public lands. There are some encouraging discussions in the House of Representatives about reforming this mining law. Stay tuned for opportunities to engage.

John Robison
Public Lands Director
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ICL's New Artist in Residence: *A passion for Idaho*

ICL's 2019 artist in residence, Carl Rowe, is passionate about rural Idaho.

While Idaho's mountainous landscapes fascinate him, Carl's rural childhood influences his thoughts about conservation to this day. For his residency project, Carl will explore areas across the state of Idaho to paint the natural beauty he finds near Idaho's smaller towns.

Carl's large contemporary landscape paintings portray the rugged muscularity and vast spaces of Idaho's beautiful lands. He began painting in order to interact with the Idaho land that mesmerized and inspired him. He says, "As a flatlander Illinois native, this terrain held a sumptuous allure and a sinewy, mysterious beauty."

"Though the land seemed huge in scale and seemingly imperturbable, I soon realized that many forces besides Nature's sculpting influences were at work. I quickly saw that development of some sort threatened nearly every area."

Carl's ties to conservation and ICL go back at least as far as the successful Boise foothills open-space levy of 2002, when the campaign poster featured one of his paintings.

Carl has painted professionally for more than 25 years, is represented in galleries across the West, and has earned numerous awards.

View Carl Rowe's art online at www.carlroweart.com. Learn more about Carl Rowe and this program at www.idahoconservation.org/about/icl-artist-in-residence/.

ICL's artist in residence program explores the nexus of art and nature. It exists to share the beauty of the places ICL works to protect and tell the Idaho story in creative new ways to expanded audiences. The program is sponsored by ARTA River Trips (www.arta.org) and supported by the generosity of an anonymous donor.

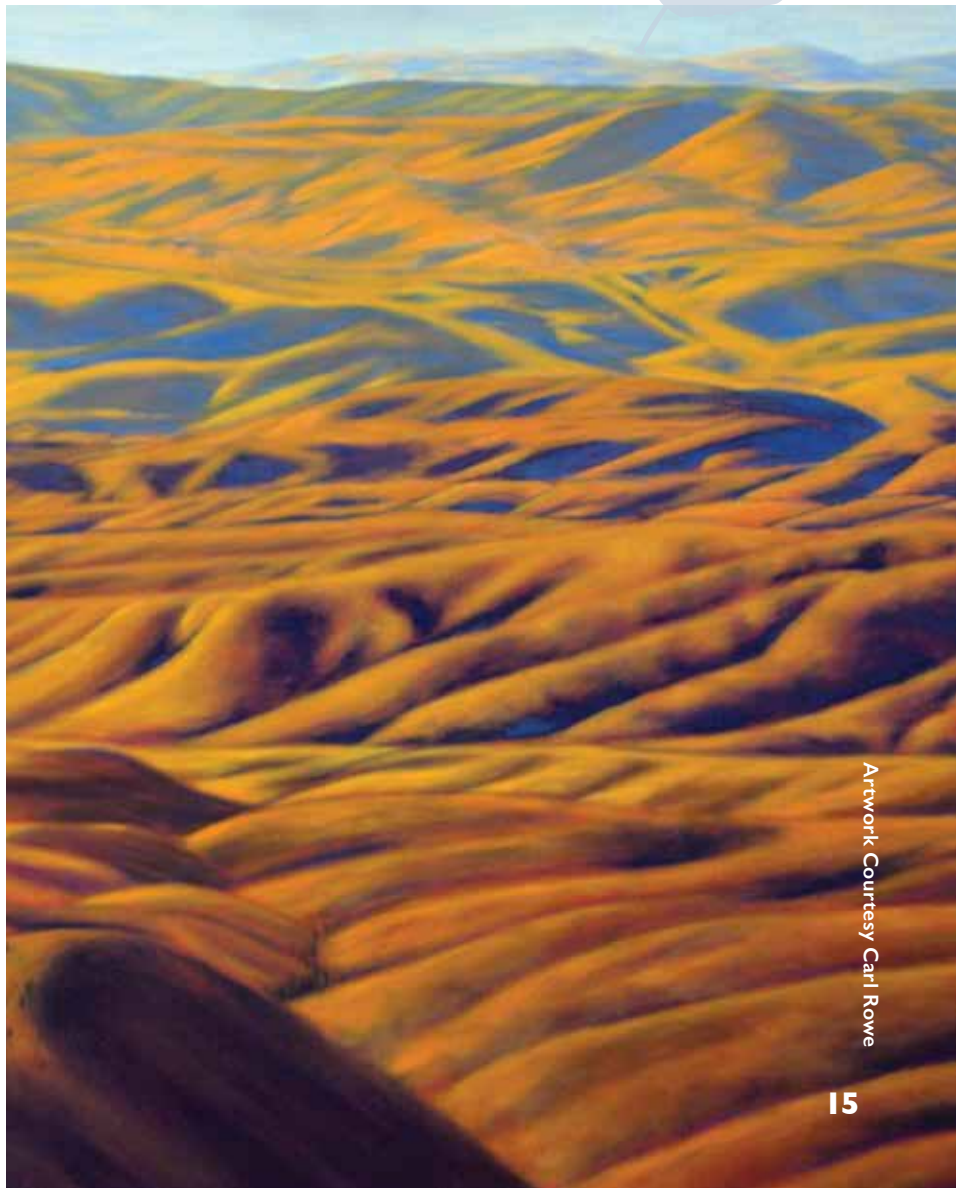


Carl Rowe

Mary Beth Whitaker

Editor & Designer

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Member Profile: Jamie Lundergreen and Cameron Crow



Jamie Lundergreen and Cameron Crow are new to the Idaho Conservation League this year! Cameron (an Idaho native) and Jamie (who has lived in Idaho for more than 7 years) love to hike in the Boise foothills with their dog Wookiee and explore the backcountry of Idaho during summer backpacking trips.

In fall 2017, Cameron and Jamie had solar panels installed on their home. Cameron had long been interested in renewable energy so when he and Jamie became homeowners, he was eager to invest in solar.

“It feels great to be a part of the solution to reduce carbon emissions and inspire others to consider it as well. We get stopped all the time in our front yard by dog walkers who are interested in learning more, or are also considering buying and want to hear about our experiences,” Cameron said.

When it comes to environmental issues they are passionate about, the couple said, “Fighting climate change is super important to us ... we hope to have kids someday and don’t want them to be left with insurmountable climate change-induced problems.”

Jamie works as a program coordinator at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Boise State University. The Osher Institute provides learning opportunities for adults age 50 and over through courses, lectures, events and special interest groups.

Cameron is the founder of Make Idaho Better and Boise Analytics. For both businesses, he uses his expertise to collect data, analyze results and help people make informed decisions. Make Idaho Better is a platform that collects public opinion data through surveys from Idahoans and analyzes the results to help understand the political climate in Idaho. He’s done several surveys about the environment and climate change, and observes that climate change is becoming an increasingly important issue to different ages and demographics in Idaho.

Welcome to ICL, Cameron and Jamie!

Haley Robinson

Development and Marketing Associate
hrobinson@idahoconservation.org

Welcome Scott Ki: ICL's *new* Communications Associate

We are pleased to welcome Scott Ki to ICL as our new communications associate! Scott is an award-winning journalist with more than a decade of experience as a reporter, editor and columnist. His stories have been carried locally and regionally by Edible Idaho, Idaho Press, Idaho Business Review, Boise State Public Radio, Northwest News Network, OPB, EarthFix, The Blue Review and Idaho Statesman. Nationally, Scott's work has aired on NPR and appeared in the AP. At Boise State, he taught undergraduates the basics of journalism and public affairs reporting. Scott and his wife, Suzanne, arrived in Idaho in 2010 after reporting for radio stations in New Mexico.

He is a founding member of the Boise River Enhancement Network (BREN) and volunteers as a certified "Weed Warrior" for the City of Boise to rid the Foothills of invasive plants. Scott helped maintain trails and assisted in planning and operations

for the Trails Alliance of Santa Fe. He also served as Weed Warrior for the Nature Conservancy in Maryland/D.C, where he retreated to a placid spot along the Potomac River to balance out his work on international trade policy.

Scott and Suzanne enjoy exploring Idaho's history and natural beauty. They have traveled from the state's corner of Yellowstone to the Weiser River Trail, Roman Nose to Little Jack's Creek, the Clearwater River to the Big Lost River and many points in between while camping and hiking on public lands, mountain-biking, cross-country skiing, floating with experienced river runners, and wading in bodies of water while tempting fish with artificial flies.

Justin Hayes

Program Director

jhayes@idahoconservation.org



Hiking Hyndman Peak / Scott Ki

Meet Dagny!



Dagny Deutchman, is a fourth generation Idahoan, river guide in the Frank Church Wilderness and University of Montana graduate. Her decade of work as a multi-day river guide and her position on the Board of Directors for the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association motivated her to apply for the 2018-2019 Conservation Fellow position with ICL. Dagny has been working hard to bolster the relationship between the professional outdoor recreation industry and ICL's conservation community. She believes the two worlds are closely related and often parallel in their efforts — and she wants to build more opportunities for them to work together on important issues.

Dagny has been putting much of her time and effort at ICL into program work around saving Idaho's iconic salmon and steelhead. She feels this topic is a natural bridge between her love of Idaho guiding and conservation efforts. Her passion for storytelling has led to ICL's current project of collecting and recording as many stories about salmon and steelhead from across the state as she can.

When Dagny isn't at the ICL office she can be found pursuing art, chasing whitewater, enjoying great food or working on her tiny home. She has applied to doctorate programs in psychology around the West and is excited to make a decision about where to pursue her studies in coming months.

Wherever she goes, she would like to continue to advocate for conservation in Idaho because — like the salmon and steelhead — she will gather nutrients from somewhere else and then, undoubtedly, return someday.

Meet Alli!



Over the course of the 2019 legislative session, ICL welcomed a new legislative fellow, Alli Olson, who assisted our Government Relations Director Jonathan Oppenheimer. Her internship focused on helping track bills that affect our land and water. She also worked on public engagement by posting blogs and connecting members with opportunities to take action on legislative work. During her time with ICL, Alli helped staff with a variety of projects. She worked with ICL's Water Associate Marie Kellner to review transcripts of water rights hearings and gather information about why the public loves the Boise River. She also helped our Public Lands Director John Robison review and put together comments for the CuMo mining exploration project and worked with our Wild Idaho podcast team to create episodes about public lands and clean water. Alli was a great addition to the ICL team this winter!

Alli graduated from Boise State University in 2018 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies, Spanish and a minor in sustainability. She plans

on furthering her education as she heads to the University of Idaho law school to study water resources this fall — a career path she was inspired to pursue after working with ICL's own Marie Kellner.

Growing up in Idaho, hiking and fishing with her grandpa and mom instilled a deep connection to Idaho's forests, especially the Sawtooth National Recreation Area. Having travelled to eleven countries she understands how rare having such clean and accessible recreation areas are and hopes to be able to protect special places like Idaho in her future career.

Volunteer with ICL!

We are so grateful for our volunteers! Our work is only possible thanks to your generous energy and efforts. We look forward to celebrating you this year.

Volunteer with us! Volunteering for ICL is a valuable way to contribute to the conservation community and Idaho. Opportunities to get involved include events and outreach, ICL Stewardship Programs, mailings and administration tasks, as well as, training to become an ICL Advocate. Volunteers are needed statewide. To learn more, please visit www.idahoconservation.org/volunteer!



Amanda Gardner / Photo

Remember the Idaho Conservation League in Your Estate Plans

We hope you will consider the Idaho Conservation League in your estate planning. Memorial gifts and bequests are placed in our endowment fund so that these gifts can permanently support conservation in Idaho. We welcome inquiries about bequests to Jenny Estes at 208.345.6933 x 17 or jestes@idahoconservation.org. If you wish to make a provision in your will, the following general language is suggested: "I give, devise and bequeath to the Idaho Conservation League, an Idaho not-for-profit corporation, located on the date hereof at 710 North 6th Street, Boise, Idaho, 83702, the sum of \$___" (or specifically described property).



Amanda Gardner / Photo

Membership renewal made easier! Your annual membership renewal date is printed on the mailing label below. Please help save costs by renewing your membership before it expires. Renew online at www.idahoconservation.org or use the enclosed envelope.



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Save the date for Wild Idaho!



Matt Wordell / Photo

Join ICL staff, board and members at our annual conference and business meeting at Redfish Lake Lodge for a fun and educational weekend! This year the conference will be held May 17-19, and registration will open on April 1. We hope to see you there!