

The Idaho Master Naturalist Program aims to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to actively work toward stewardship of Idaho's natural environment.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

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Idaho Master Naturalist Rendezvous Harriman State Park

September 18-20, 2015



Rendezvous Speaker Biographies



Rob Van Kirk joined the Foundation as a senior scientist in 2012. Rob has fished the river since 1977, and helped define HFF's work as the Foundation's first research director from 1994 to 1998 before pursuing an academic career. Rob grew up in Arcata, California and received a B.A. and M.S. from Humboldt University. He holds a Ph.D in mathematics from the University of Utah, where he focused on mathematical modeling of fish and wildlife populations. He is a past recipient of HFF's Conservation Award and the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society's Native Fish Conservationist of the Year Award. Rob and his wife, Sheryl, live in Ashton



Ken Olson was born and raised in Austin Texas. After receiving a degree in Accounting, Ken worked in various Texas social services departments including Texas Department of Health, Human Services, and Assistive and Rehabilitation Services. He retired in 2008 and moved to Idaho and joined the IMNP. Ken originally started college with the intent of being a park ranger, economic circumstances of Federal hiring at the time changed his mind. As a Master Naturalist, Ken feels like he is able to fulfill his dreams of being a "park ranger" as he has volunteered for 61 different

projects. Ken has taken the lead on the "Be Bear Aware" Program, where he has taught thousands of people about bears. "The biggest thrill I get after teaching young kids is when they see me at another event months and even years later and they remember me and the information I taught them. I hope I am helping a new generation understand Bears and their importance in our ecosystem and how it's humans that have the greatest impact on their survival." Ken is married to Collett Olson who is also an Idaho Master Naturalist.

Idaho Master Naturalist of the "Year"- This award is to honor a person who exemplifies what it means to be a Master Naturalist. Qualifications for this award might include but are not limited to number of hours, number of years, leadership, initiative, communication, community connections

Idaho Master Naturalist Chapter of the "Year" This award is to honor a chapter that has had a positive impact toward conservation in Idaho. These chapter qualities may include, but are not limited to, number of years in existence, number of members trained, number of hours contributed by members, diversity of projects, communication, community outreach, initiative.

Idaho Master Naturalist Sponsor Organization of the "Year" This award is to honor an organization or agency that has contributed significantly to the IMNP. Eligibility for this award may include but is not limited to, number of years sponsoring a chapter, meeting space donated to a chapter, teachers/speakers donated to a chapter, volunteer projects offered to chapters, financial resources offered to chapters.

Idaho Master Naturalist Sponsor of the "Year" This award is to honor an *individual* that works for a chapter sponsoring agency. For eligibility, this individual may have exceptional qualities that may include but are not limited to, number of years helping a chapter, number of years and quality of presentations to a chapter, providing volunteer opportunities to a chapter, helping with administrative tasks for a chapter.

Idaho Master Naturalist Project of the "Year" This award is to recognize an outstanding project either generated by Master Naturalists (individuals or chapters) or taken on by Master Naturalists to the point where the project would not have been completed otherwise. Projects considered for this award will be judged on but not limited to the following qualities, number of Master Naturalists involved, initiative, community involvement and outreach, number of people served, number of acres served.

Rendezvous Speaker Biographies



Professor Dan Moore grew up mostly in California, Virginia, and Utah. He and his wife, DaLynn, have seven children. Dr. Moore received bachelors and masters degrees in geology from Brigham Young University and a doctorate degree in geology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Prof. Moore and his students research the history and origins of the Yellowstone – Snake River Plain volcanic province. Other scholarly interests include the nature of reasoning

in the geosciences; the relationship between science and religion; and mastery-focused teaching approaches. Dr. Moore worked as an executive at the American Geophysical Union before becoming a professor of geology at Brigham Young University - Idaho in 2001. At BYU-Idaho, he has been the Chairman of the Department of Geology and the Research and Creative Works Council, and currently serves as Associate Dean of the Office of Faculty Development and Mentored Research. He is a member of the board of directors of the Research and Business Development Center—a nonprofit organization that provides research experiences for undergraduates, has been a councilor for the Council on Undergraduate Research, and is currently the President of the Idaho Academy of Science and Engineering.



Beth Waterbury has 30 years of experience with the state fish and wildlife agencies of Idaho, Oregon, and California as habitat biologist, research biologist, and regional wildlife biologist. Since 2002, she has served as the Wildlife Diversity Biologist for the Salmon Region of IDFG where her primary job duties are conservation efforts for SGCN, including applied research, monitoring, habitat management, and public education. Beth has worked on a wide range of wildlife species ranging from rare invertebrates to at-risk birds to elusive forest carnivores. She served as IDFG lead in developing the *Management Plan for the Conservation of Wolverines in Idaho* published in 2014.

Beth has a passion for working with partners to address threats to at-risk or declining wildlife populations, which led her to investigate the status of monarch butterflies in the Salmon Region in 2014. Beth and her husband Tom, also a wildlife biologist, are outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy birding, gardening, fishing, hunting, and exploring the special places of the West.

Rendezvous Speaker Biographies



Gregg Losinski is the Regional Conservation Educator (RCE) for the Upper Snake Region of the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (IDFG). He has worked for the State of Idaho for over 32 years, the last 24 at IDFG, the first 9 at Idaho State University. He has been in the Upper Snake Region for over 20 years.

In addition to his job as RCE he has been very involved with grizzly bears. While in the Clearwater region he help draft the recovery plan for the Bitterroot Ecosystem. He is part of the team of agencies that is

working to delist the grizzly bear in the Yellowstone Ecosystem, and he is in charge of the committee that handles all the information and education work for grizzly bears in the lower 48 states.

Since 2010, he has been helping to help keep brown bears in the Carpathian Mountains of Slovakia from getting into trouble with people by helping to modify trash containers so the bears can't break into. Gregg continues to be involved with these international bear efforts.

Gregg grew up in Illinois and was very involved in Boy Scouts. He went to the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and earned a Bachelors Degree in Scientific Land Management and went on to work for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the National Park Service. He worked for Idaho State University and received a Masters Degree in Education before joining IDFG. His hobbies are brewing beer and cross-country skiing. He is married and has three sons.



Becky Abel is a Regional Wildlife Biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Pocatello, Idaho. Her work is dedicated to improving knowledge of the distribution, diversity, and abundance of Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Idaho and providing on-the-ground conservation for wildlife. Becky completed her B.S. in Biology at the University of Minnesota - Duluth and completed her M.S. in Integrated Biosciences from the University of seven species of bats in boreal

forests of northeastern Minnesota. Becky promotes conservation of bats through monitoring, disease surveillance, and education and outreach. Becky is the Secretary of Western Bat Working Group.

Schedule of events

Thursday, September 18th

1:00 pm Rendezvous Planning Committee meeting-this meeting is intended for the people who have been planning the conference.

Location: Scovel Center Conference Room

4:00 pm IMNP Chapter leaders meeting-this meeting is intended for chapter leaders to meet and exchange ideas and help shape the future of the IMNP.

Location: Scovel Center Conference Room

5:00-8:00 pm Rendezvous Participant Check in-Scovel Center Lobby

Dinner: on your own

Friday, September 19th

9:00-10:00 am Welcome and Introductions

Location: Boys House

10:00-10:30 am BREAK

10:30 am-12:00 pm Rob Van Kirk, Henry's Fork Foundation

Sense of Place and the Henrys Fork Watershed

Location: BOYS HOUSE

12:00 Lunch

1:00-3:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

GOLD STARS

Gregg Losinski, IDFG

Grizzly Bear Recovery

Location: Dining Hall

SILVER STARS

Ken and Collett Olson, IMN

Grizzly Bear Trailer

Location: Boys house

3:00-3:30 pm Break and switch rooms

3:30-5:30 pm Attend session you did not attend before

6:00 pm Dinner in dining hall

7:00 pm Bat Walk-meet at fire pit in front of Dormitory.

8:00 pm Campfire Program

Jeff Smith, Idaho Parks and Recreation, IMN

Saturday, September 19th

8:00-9:00 am Breakfast

9:00-10:30 am Daily announcements and Concurrent Sessions

GOLD STARS

Beth Waterbury, IDFG

Monarchs and Milkweed Monitoring

Location: BOYS HOUSE

SILVER STARS

Dan Moore, BYU

Island Park Idaho, Born of Fire

Location: DINING HALL

10:30-11:00 am Break and switch

11:00 am-12:00 pm Attend the session above you did not attend before

12:00 pm Pick up sack lunch and meet for afternoon field trips

12:15 pm Field Trips

Walking Tour of Harriman State Park, Buildings and History

Location: DORM LOBBY

Driving Tour of area for Geology

Location: DINING HALL

Visit to Flat Ranch, Dave Westcamp, The Nature Conservancy

Location: SCOVEL CENTER

Trumpeter Swan lecture at Harriman State Park with Ruth Shea

Location: BOYS HOUSE

6:30 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Music Entertainment around campfire

Sunday, September 20th

9:00-10:30 am.....Concurrent Sessions

GOLD STARS

Becky Abel, IDFG

BATS

Location: DINING HALL

SILVER STARS

Grizzly/Wolf Discovery Center

Live Raptor Presentation

Location: Outside or BOYS HOUSE

10:30-11:00 am Break and switch

11:00 am-12:00 pm Attend the session you did not attend before

12:00-12:15 pm Au Revoir-

12:15 pm- Clean Common Spaces and Lodging rooms before departure

1:00 pm Safe Travels