



ICL Artist in Residence Jessica L. Bryant.

ART & NATURE



To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, our report cover features South Fork Salmon River, a 14" x 18" watercolor painting by ICL artist in residence Jessica L. Bryant.

ICL's 2018 Artist in Residence Jessica L. Bryant created our cover image this year as part of ICL's celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Our artist in residence program is sponsored by ARTA River Trips and supported by an anonymous donor. The residency explores the nexus between art and nature.

Jessica's amazing and detailed landscapes have an almost-photographic quality, and if you are lucky enough to view them in person the luminosity of these watercolor paintings is likewise striking. Jessica committed to supporting ICL's work by creating a series of paintings of Idaho's wild and scenic rivers. She traveled the state to research and document the views she would translate into paint, and exhibited the results in Sandpoint in December. We thank Jessica for sharing her stunning work with us and invite you to support her work through her website: jessicabryant.com.

Now we are excited to welcome our 2019 artist in residence, contemporary landscape painter Carl Rowe. See his work at carlroweart.com.

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FROM MANY COMES ONE

The Idaho Conservation League's Annual Report describes our success in collaborative conservation. An extended hand, established relationships and earned trust still serve ICL well. When firmer advocacy is required, we lean into it, based on a foundation of science and credibility. Long-term priorities keep us focused; breaking opportunities keep us nimble.

A globally changing climate is testing conservation. Climate change will impact the next generation as much as the Internet impacted ours. ICL addresses the causes of climate change on an Idaho scale through our energy and air work. In our water and lands programs, we focus efforts where climate impacts will be the greatest. Looking toward 2020's elections and the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, we are reframing our energy, air, water and

lands work through the unifying lens of the climate.

Climate change won't be "solved" by environmentalists. Grave harm to the planet is already underway and impacts every person everywhere, with the most vulnerable feeling the impacts disproportionately. Think fires and smoke, storms and flooding, forced moves and dislocation. Environmental justice issues are growing rapidly, even in Idaho, and the face of climate change is found at the intersection of environment, public health and extinction.

There are many issues in the crossroads ahead, but they all converge in one place: climate.

Rick JohnsonExecutive Director rjohnson@idahoconservation.org



RICK JOHNSON

Rick Johnson has been ICL's executive director for over two decades. On page 16 he shares important news about his work with ICL.



MEETING THE CHALLENGES, RAISING THE BAR IN 2018

Thanks to your support, we are making a big impact across Idaho.

You hold in your hands the highlights of another important year for the Idaho Conservation League. You see our work on behalf of Idaho's wilderness and wild rivers, energy and transportation policy and clean air and water. We're also building programs for individual voices to become a compelling chorus for conservation. Thanks to your support, we are making a big impact across Idaho, and with your continued help, we will address the challenges of today and prepare for the opportunities of tomorrow.

IDAHO'S RIVERS AND LAKES

2018 marked the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and ICL helped the Idaho Legislature commemorate this historic piece of

legislation and pay tribute to Idaho's own U.S. Sen. Frank Church who led the effort.

Salmon and steelhead, an imperiled Idaho resource, is a growing ICL initiative. We are working with the conservation community to build urgency as the extinction threat grows. A new ICL fellowship with a professional river guide is building business voices for salmon conservation.

For the first time in Idaho, there is a proposal to pipe water from one overworked watershed into another, a process known as an interbasin transfer. A real problem exists in Elmore County, created by poor aquifer management over many decades. However, the proposal is perversely framed to continue more poor





management decisions into the future. Interbasin transfers are common in other arid states as well, but through a complicated regulatory process, ICL is standing up for sound water management.

Mining remains one of the greatest threats to Idaho's rivers, and ICL is the lead voice for scrutinizing new development proposals, including CuMo, Midas Gold, and Kilgore. ICL also tracks existing mines, including collaborative work resulting in a program where phosphate mining companies voluntarily invest in the Blackfoot River watershed for the benefit of all. Across Idaho, abandoned mines create grave problems for Idaho's water, and we are working to ensure that legacy pollution is addressed responsibly.

In 2018, a set of suction dredge mining operators stated clear intention to violate laws, and ICL amped up oversight by hiring a professional investigator to document violations and enforce the law.

ICL also remains focused on water quality. As the Snake River crosses Idaho, the water quality shifts from world-class fly fishing to one of the West's most

polluted rivers. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality even issued health advisories for the western section of the river above Hells Canyon, warning of toxic algae growth that can harm both humans and animals.

Between these two extremes are a myriad of problems. Idaho is the third-largest dairy state in America, and Idaho's rivers feel the impact of over 400,000 dairy cows and feedlots around Twin Falls. ICL is hoping to expand the use of methane digesters to create energy from livestock waste. This will help protect Idaho's surface water and ensure that clean energy is part of Idaho's future.

Water quality is also tied to our homes and businesses. ICL tracks community wastewater plants, often woefully outmatched by rapid growth and insufficient budgeting, and we issued our second annual report on the status of Idaho's municipal wastewater treatment. Thanks to ICL's ongoing engagement, water quality in areas like Lake Pend Oreille will improve significantly.

ICL is standing up for sound water management.



PROTECTING WILD IDAHO

While not perfect, years of collaborative work with diverse interests won hard-earned support for Idaho's sage-grouse protection plan. But the federal bar just got dramatically lowered for protection across the West, and we are troubled by that result. ICL worked with the state of Idaho to help negotiate maintaining some of the most important safeguards for sage-grouse, but we are now counting on the state to deliver on those agreed-upon protections and create a clear standard for the federal government to apply. This will take vigilance.

Last December's designation of the nation's first international dark sky reserve was a big win. While new national monument designations in Utah and beyond are threatened, Idaho celebrated popular dark sky recognition for the Sawtooth, Boulder, and White Cloud Mountains thanks to collaborative work by ICL and others. ICL's wilderness stewardship program grew this summer,

with many more trained volunteers assisting the U.S. Forest Service in caring for these special places.

ICL is a leader in collaborative conservation, and nothing demonstrates this more clearly than the ten formal partnerships in which we actively participate. We join with diverse stakeholders to create commonsense solutions to difficult public lands issues, including long-range land management initiatives amid a changing climate.

Despite great progress in collaborative conservation, Idaho can still empower voices fearful of change, and, as we see nationally, it remains easier to tear something down than to build good things up. Anti-wilderness advisory votes passed in Bonner and Idaho counties (against Scotchman Peaks and Clearwater areas, respectively). A vote against wild river protection also passed in Idaho County. Fremont County passed a paradoxical measure against highway overpasses for wildlife, which is also a major public

ICL is a leader in collaborative conservation.

safety issue. While these votes have no authority, they can have a chilling effect on elected leaders that are hesitant to buck their party or constituents.

CLIMATE AND IDAHO

An underlying challenge in advancing climate policy is the denial that there is a problem. ICL believes science education can help address this issue and with others advocated for adoption of modern scientific standards in schools. Unfortunately, the Idaho Legislature had stonewalled this initiative but in 2018, after years of work, new science standards were approved.

ICL successfully opposed Idaho Power's latest attempt to kill the market for rooftop solar. The Idaho Public Utilities Commission (PUC) agreed with ICL that individuals have the freedom to make energy choices. The PUC also accepted our position that the benefits of home-

based clean energy outweigh the costs, meaning that utilities must engage with us and other stakeholders to calculate the full range of solar benefits.

Supported by ICL advocacy, the city of Sandpoint passed a resolution voicing concerns about impacts from construction of a second railroad bridge on Lake Pend Oreille. Pressure to build the bridge stemmed from a growing number of coal and oil tanker trains aiming to transport fossil fuels across our state to port facilities on the coast. ICL also continues to be a catalyst for divesting from coalfired power plants that Idaho utilities coown in Montana, Nevada and Wyoming.

Transportation is one of the greatest sources of greenhouse gases, and ICL has been increasing efforts to incentivize smart transportation systems, particularly around Boise. Our work included a regional transportation survey in English

ICL also continues to be a catalyst for divesting from coal-fired power plants that Idaho utilities use.



and Spanish, and working with Idaho Power and others to support electric vehicles with additional networks of charging stations.

EXPANDING THE VOICE FOR CONSERVATION

ICL has a top-tier professional staff of 20 working out of three offices. However, the "secret sauce" has always been our members and volunteers. ICL continues to develop tools to communicate and build grassroots efforts that support our advocacy work.

In the past year, we also expanded efforts to develop young leaders. ICL's Emerging Leaders for Idaho's Environment had a positive impact on our work and culture and resulted in a greater network of inspiring youth interested in Idaho's future.

ICL's social media presence continues to grow through blogs, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and a podcast. A new tool for our grassroots online advocacy is Phone2Action, which can generate hundreds of timely and targeted individual actions on any of our key issues.

While the internet grows in importance, so does personal contact and engagement. ICL grew its volunteer conservation program, hosted events across Idaho such as Science Pubs and member gatherings, expanded our wilderness stewardship program, presented trainings on grizzly bear safety and enjoyed multi-day trips with members into Idaho wilderness and wild rivers.

THE BUSINESS OF ICL

Under the ICL hood is a \$2 million business that is lean, efficient and leverages each charitable dollar. Founded and run by Idahoans, we are not part of any national support system. Everything about ICL is in your hands, and we work hard to run an efficient business.

Development Director Jenny Estes now leads fundraising efforts with characteristic integrity and passion. Julia Rundberg, director of finance and administration, is at the helm of our financial systems, ensuring accountability and efficiency. And Betsy Mizell now leads ICL's Central Idaho office and manages important relationships for ICL. In the past year we said goodbye to Emily Cleveland in our Sandpoint office as she returned home to join the staff of the Montana Wilderness Association. Shelby Herber has joined our Sandpoint team, providing community outreach. Mallory Parsons now provides accounting support, Dagny Deutchman is a conservation fellow in Boise, and Emily Williams is helping with community outreach in Central Idaho.

For over a decade, Natalie Chavez filled a variety of key tasks related to communications and editing support, financial and member systems, and when she started, managed the Boise office. We're grateful for her dedicated service to ICL. She'd always catch my challenging use of a comma and many other details important to polishing up what you see from us.

The board of directors are volunteers who come from different areas of professional and conservation experience, but collectively they help set ICL's strategic direction and provide financial oversight. The board also hires the executive director and is currently fully engaged in that process (see page 9).

Rick Johnson

Executive Director rjohnson@idahoconservation.org

ICL's "secret sauce" has always been our members and volunteers.

MOVING FORWARD

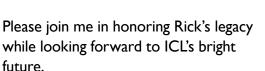
This landmark annual report summarizes ICL's 2018 accomplishments and sets the stage for our future. As you read Rick Johnson's words (see page 16), you'll see that leadership change is coming. There is no perfect time to lose an executive director, and Rick is one of the most dynamic and effective leaders I have ever had the privilege of working with.

The ICL board of director is responsible for hiring the executive director and here is the process moving forward: A succession committee already recommended a hiring process and the board of directors gave it the green light. The hiring committee consists of board leaders, a previous board chairperson, and a senior staff representative. ICL also is working with the executive director, an outside consultant and key external stakeholders. The board of directors will consider input from the committee, but they will have the final decision to hire a new executive director.

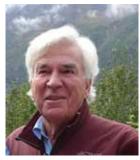
Our consultant (who knows ICL and Idaho issues well) told me that ICL is very fortunate to be in such a strong position, including a collaborative culture, strong

ICL Executive Director Rick Johnson and Chair Steve Mitchell on the shores of Redfish Lake this spring during ICL's annual conference, Wild Idaho! 2018.

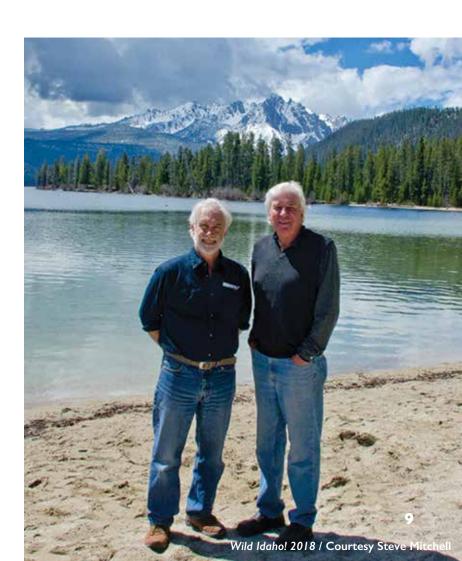
team and strong financial standing. So, while there is no perfect time to transition, it's also not a bad time. ICL posted the position, and the committee will screen and evaluate internal and external candidates. The board and ICL staff will interview finalists and we will select the best person for the job.







STEVE MITCHELL



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A special thank you to all ICL members and supporters! Listed below are those who donated \$250 or more, either through financial or in-kind support between October 1, 2017, and September 30, 2018.

Gifts toward pledges for the It's My ID campaign are listed separately on page 13.

*Members of ICL's Advocates for Idaho monthly giving club who made gifts totaling \$250 or more.

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The following ICL members made gifts toward their pledges made for the It's My ID campaign between October 1, 2017, and September 30, 2018.

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GRATITUDE ENDURES

With the passing of each year comes notice of the passing of ICL friends. We are a big family, so this is inevitable.

Over the years, it's been very common for me to know them, sometimes very well. Other times, I have not met them. Gloria Osberg was like a family member to me, so her passing was, well, like family. Don McCarter also passed recently, and while I didn't know him well, his dedicated support was very important to us, and his love of Idaho and support of ICL were noted in his memorial ceremony.

As I write this, we just received a \$10,000 bequest from a gentleman I'd never met, a long-time \$30-a-year member. It's all about a love of Idaho.

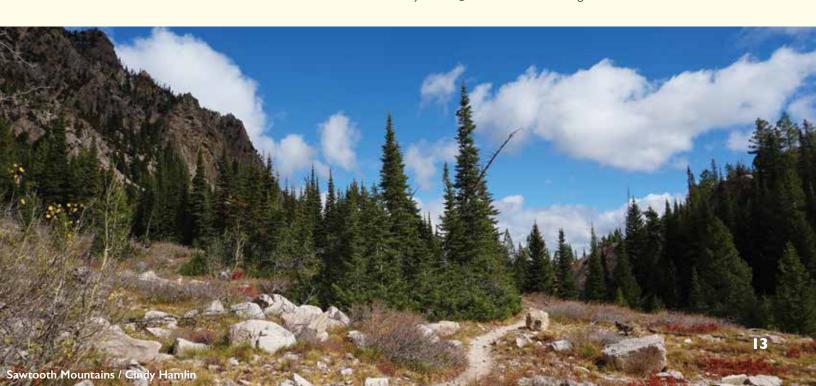
ICL is in my own estate plan, in part for what ICL has meant to me, but also because of what ICL's members have meant to me. I've joined many of you at tables in conversation, or in simply signing a letter in gratitude. We're all here for only a short time. The gratitude, however, endures.

Rick JohnsonExecutive Director rjohnson@idahoconservation.org

In Memoriam

The following beloved ICL members passed on this year. ICL honors their passion for Idaho. This listing is complete to the best of our knowledge. We sincerely apologize for any oversights.

RC Axtell Virginia Bailey Lindy Buchanan Chris Carlson Alicia Cline Ronald Coleman **Ernest Cook** Peggy Domit Carl Feeler Lewis Griffin Gary Grimm Priscilla Hearst T.I. Jones III lo Kitz Eleanor Lister Sally Livingston Donart Don McCarter Jody O'Donnell Michael O'Donnell Gloria Osberg Ottis Rechard Mavis Roberts Alice Roth Ace Spillane Karen Thomas Earth Thunder Paul Tilltson Darrell Wesenberg John Zimbelman



JOIN ICL'S LEGACY CLUB

Your commitment to the Idaho Conservation League is important. Consider strengthening that commitment by including ICL in your planned giving. Join our Legacy Club and make your love for Idaho last.

A planned gift is a lasting investment in ICL, enabling us to protect Idaho today and for future generations. Consider something simple like including ICL in your will. We can provide you with language or you can find it on our website (www.idahoconservation.org/legacygifts). You can choose to be acknowledged in our Legacy Club or keep your gift anonymous.

You can include ICL in your planned giving through other tools like trusts, gift annuities, bequests and more. If you have complex questions about how to include ICL in your planned giving, we are happy to refer you to a planning professional.

For more information, contact me at 208.345.6933 x 17 or the email below. Let me know if you've included ICL in your planned giving.

Jenny Estes

Development Director jestes@idahoconservation.org

LEGACY CLUB

ICL's Legacy Club members have made provisions to support our conservation efforts after their passing.

Anonymous (2)

Eileen Atkisson & Lawrence

Blakey Judy Baker

Tom Banducci

Larry & Dede Binder

Alida Bockino

Ed Cannady

Bill & Jeanne Cassell

Bill Clark

Paul & Heidi Cunningham

Barbara Dargatz

David & Mary Dudley

Bryan DuFosse

Joyce Fabre & Craig Randle

John & Daralene Finnell

Michael Flanagan

John & Elaine French

Lori Gibson Banducci

Susan Gilliland

Craig Groves

Amy Haak

Patrick Haas & Alison Beck Haas

Mike & Irene Healy

Dave Heep

June E. Heilman

Charles Herrington & Ilene Shell

Stephani & Paul Hilding

Antone Holmquist

Rick Johnson & Roberta Crockett

James J. Johnston

John & Diane Kahm

Polly & Don King

Malcolm & Pam Kinney

Trish Klahr & Lee Melly

Gregg Lewis

Tracy L'Herisson

Steve Lockwood & Molly O'Reilly

Gregory & Ann Lyle David Marshall

Paul Martin

Wayne Melquist

Walter Minnick & A.K. Lienhart

Minnick

Steve Mitchell & Louisa Moats

Suki & Bill Molina

Tom & Carol Mooney

Aimee Moran

Bill & Colleen Mullins

Carl H. & E. Jane Nellis

Jerry Nielsen

Rebecca Patton & Tom Goodrich

Gary Paul

Sue Petersen

Tom Pomeroy

Joel & Susannah Price

lima Rice

Iulia & Alan Richardson

Harriet Shaklee

Kim Skyelander

Diana & Walt Sledzieski

Bob Swandby

Robert Vestal & Jyl Hoyt Dr. Kenneth & Virginia Wright



HOW WE DID FINANCIALLY IN 2018

We are pleased to report that the Idaho Conservation League ended fiscal year 2018 (10/1/17 - 9/30/18) in the black thanks to your support. Individual donors were the single largest source of income to ICL, followed by grants from foundations.

Over the past three years, as the It's My Idaho campaign was underway, members showed they understood the importance of helping ICL grow while also maintaining day-to-day operations, and many gave to both the campaign and annual support. In fact, during the campaign, total giving by individuals was nearly double previous levels.

We are also pleased to report that in FY18, the first fiscal year following the campaign, individual giving did not fall to pre-campaign levels, but remained strong. We thank all who continue to support our ongoing program work, many of whom are fulfilling pledges made during the campaign as well.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES 2018

(for the year ending Sept. 30)

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Grants	\$622,213
Individuals	\$932,846
Events, book sales, other	\$87,204
Investment income	\$362,975
Total revenue	\$2,005,238

EXPENSES

Program services	\$1,628,013
Administration	\$193,627
Fundraising	\$169,212
Total expenses	\$1,990,852
Endowment fund value on 9/30/18	\$2,847,168

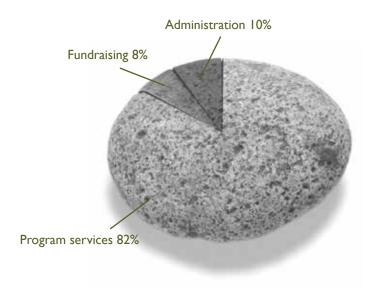
Julia Rundberg

Director of Finance and Administration irundberg@idahoconservation.org

REVENUE



EXPENSES

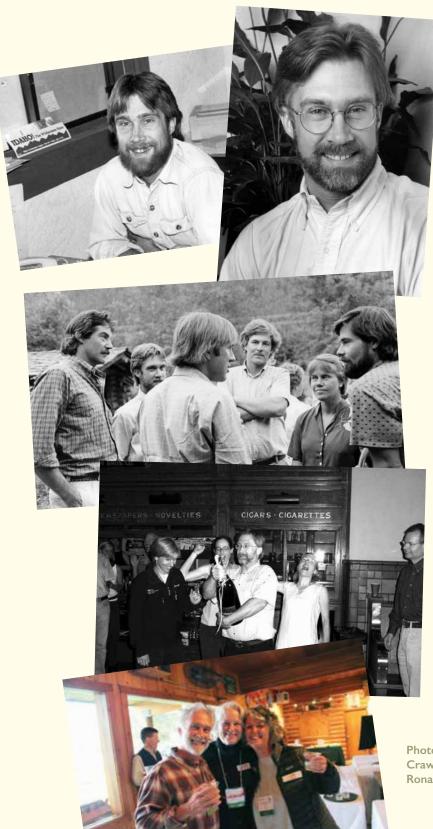


NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- The Idaho Conservation League is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- ICL's financial records and internal controls are examined and an audit report is prepared each year by the accounting firm Harris & Co., P.A.

If you have questions or comments about finances, call Julia Rundberg, director of finance and administration, $208.345.6933 \times 18$.

A NEW CHAPTER



In June 2019, I will step down as the Idaho Conservation League's executive director. We've accomplished great things together and it's been a group effort all along. As a leader, stepping forward when thousands have your back is humbling. You have had my back for decades, and I am very grateful to you.

I joined ICL as a volunteer in my early 20s. I became ICL's public lands director in 1985, and I've been director for almost 24 years.

Together, we watched the president sign bills to create nine new Idaho wilderness areas and over 300 miles of wild and scenic rivers. We helped ensure the state of Idaho adopted a measure to protect roadless areas across our national forests. Together, we stopped the largest source of airborne mercury and expanded air quality protections for the entire country. We kept coal-fired power plants out of Idaho and created a professional team to review every single air and water permit in Idaho. Together, we created a credible Idaho voice to address global climate change as well as backyard measures from the Boise Foothills to the Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail. And a whole lot more.

Together, we completed a campaign in 1999 to firmly establish the ICL endowment and purchase ICL's home next

Photo credits: Alpine Press Productions, Pam Benham, Tim Crawford, Phil Hough, Rick Johnson, Aimee Moran, Lee Melly, Diane Ronayne, Pete Souza, jonathan stoke, MB Whitaker. to the statehouse. In 2017, we completed an effort to secure commitments of over \$5 million, an ambitious promise to the future of ICL.



ICL'S EMERGING LEADERS

Emerging Leaders for Idaho's Environment aims to engage the next generation of special people.

Last year, the executive director came to some of the ICL junior staff with a request: consider creating an emerging leaders program.

One of the amazing things about ICL is that there are people who've been with us since the very beginning (1973). I love sitting with colleagues and members who've been with ICL for several decades and listening to their stories about the people who got us here. Rick often says that he got into this work to protect special places, but stayed because of the special people. Emerging Leaders for Idaho's Environment (ELIE) aims to engage the next generation of special people and help them build community and comradery to carry ICL and conservation into the future.

This past year, ELIE participated in educational sessions with ICL staff about energy, water and public lands.

These young leaders created a "coal-free Idaho" campaign to educate communities about ICL's work to eliminate Idaho's dependency on coal. They hosted membership drives and brought in over 70 new dues-paying ICL members. They created materials for a "demystifying public advocacy" campaign and attended Legislature 101 talks. Many of them gathered at ICL's annual conference for a weekend of learning and community-building. New friendships were forged and creative new ideas were hatched.

One thing is certain: there are smart, young, creative members of our communities who are showing up for the environment, and that is a very good thing. Thank you to our inaugural ELIE team!

Jenny EstesDevelopment Director
jestes@idahoconservation.org



2018 ELIE MEMBERS

Brady Barkdull, Victor
Justin Buckley, Boise
Annie DeAngelo, Ketchum
Alison Dunbar, Sandpoint
Avery Lavoie, Moscow
Lindsay Lodis, Boise
Molly Meyers, Ketchum
Luke Nelson, Pocatello
Aliana O'Neal, Hailey

Eric Oliver, Boise
Sara Peyton, Boise
Matt Robinson, Ketchum
Elizabeth Urban, Boise
Randi Walters, Boise
Eric Wiladsen, Boise
Emily Williams, Ketchum
Matthew Wordell, Boise

METAPHOR FOR HOPE

Nothing in Idaho's outdoors inspires like salmon. Born in Idaho, they pass to the sea through countless obstacles and grow to maturity in the Pacific. Miraculously, adults return home to Idaho's wild rivers and produce the next generation. They die here, releasing nutrients of the sea hundreds of miles inland. Salmon are a metaphor for hope and a challenge to us all.

Dams on the lower Snake River in Washington are putting Idaho salmon and steelhead on a path to extinction. Extinction calls for renewed urgency. As most of Puget Sound's residents can tell you, science has linked the iconic and threatened orca whale to Idaho salmon. Broadening the ecologic crisis also changes the politics, especially when it comes to energy economics.

The Pacific Northwest has the cheapest power in the nation thanks to a public

power infrastructure dating back to the 1930s. However, it now faces deep financial troubles. Western energy markets have reshaped demand. Additionally, the system buffeted by markets pays annual costs of over \$600 million to address dam impacts on salmon. These measures don't work and costs will grow.

While I wish everyone cared about salmon, they don't. While people in big cities care about orcas, that's not enough either. But lots of people care about cheap electricity.

When conservation syncs with economics, big things can happen. A new conversation is beginning, and with your continued support, you will be part of it.

Rick JohnsonExecutive Director rjohnson@idahoconservation.org

A new conversation is beginning, and with your continued support, you will be part of it.





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