

## President's Blog

October 2020

### *Rock the Vote*

If you grew up as a kid of the 90s like I did, you certainly remember the [Rock the Vote](#) (*click for Madonna video*) campaign from MTV. This campaign—which, as it turns out, just turned 30—sought to engage an abundant, underrepresented group (youth) in the political process, imploring them to “Choose or Lose”.

I write just a couple days from the next Presidential election for those of us in the U.S.A. and remind Americans to do the same: Choose or Lose. Remember those down-ballot choices, too, whether senatorial, state governor, or local levies; your choices on Tuesday, November 3 (or earlier if you vote by mail or with early in-person voting) will determine the course for your community, state, and the national government.



*Sampling on the Ohio River in October*

But I also write to remind all NCD members to play a part in our Society. We currently have an open call for nominees to serve as the next Vice President of the Division, eventually serving as Division President. Do you know someone willing to serve in this role? Are you willing to serve in this role? If so, please contact Past-President Jeff Kopaska ([jeff.kopaska@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:jeff.kopaska@dnr.iowa.gov)) to provide a nomination. Self-nominations are always welcome!

The North Central Division also seeks to fill two additional roles for the American Fisheries Society.

The first position will serve as the NCD representative to the AFS National Fundraising Committee. This position will help bring a Society-wide perspective to the fundraising committee for each annual meeting. Although the work during most of the year will be minimal, there will be periods of ramped-up effort. This is a great opportunity to work with AFS members from other Divisions and also the Society staff.

The second opportunity is to become one of the first [AFS Climate Ambassadors](#) (*click link for details*). This program seeks to build a community of communicators who can discuss the regional impacts of climate change on fisheries, fish, and habitat. This opportunity requires the completion of an application which is due by November 13, 2020.

To volunteer for either of these positions, or to ask more questions, please contact me directly at [joseph.conroy@dnr.ohio.gov](mailto:joseph.conroy@dnr.ohio.gov)