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# Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 2023 (56<sup>th</sup>) Annual Meeting

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Best Western Kelly Inn

St. Cloud Minnesota

January 31 through February 2, 2023

## *Reconnecting with the resource*

### President's Welcome

#### **Welcome to the 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society!**

First, I would like to say thank you to all that have helped me during my presidency over the past year. It has been a fun and rewarding experience and I hope to continue my service to the chapter over the coming decades. During my presidency I strived to make things easy for our students and made a substantial effort to get them more involved with the chapter. As result, you saw student/young professional highlights sent out regularly and at the past meeting, which was virtual, student registration was the least expensive I have seen during my time in MN. As result, student participation at the conference was substantially elevated, largely because of the cost and convenience. It is my opinion that the best use of chapter resources is to invest in the students and young professionals of MN. I strongly encourage future Presidents and Excom members of MNAFS to think about ramifications to students and young professionals in all decisions that influence the chapter resources. Finally, increasing student involvement at the chapter level is not just a job for the President and Excom, it will take all of us. If you supervised an intern over the summer, consider reaching out to help that student attend the conference. You could even use that internship interaction to develop a poster or talk related to the data they helped collect over the summer. University leaders should do everything they can to encourage student participation and this goal should be on their minds all year long. I encourage professional leaders to continue supporting meeting attendance and to help make that process as simple and efficient as possible. I have always considered the MNAFS chapter meeting as the most valuable and rewarding there is because the size and scale helps to develop strong collaborations and professional networks. Let's all do our part to increase student/young professional involvement, so the MN chapter remains one of the strongest in the country for the foreseeable future. Thank you all so much and look forward to working more with you in the future.



Andrew W. Hafs, Ph.D.

President MNAFS

Professor of Biology

Aquatic Biology Program

Bemidji State University

## **AFS Meetings Code of Conduct**

- **Treat all participants, attendees, AFS staff, and vendors with respect and consideration, valuing a diversity of views and opinions, and critiquing ideas rather than individuals.**
- **Refrain from demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech directed toward other attendees, participants, AFS staff, and suppliers/vendors.**
- **Be mindful of your surroundings and of your fellow participants. Alert AFS staff or venue event staff if you notice a dangerous situation or someone in distress.**
- **Respect the rules and policies of the meeting venue, hotels, AFS-contracted facility, or any other venue.**
- **To foster a welcoming environment, assist AFS members with impaired physical or cognitive abilities, if necessary.**

**A BIG thank you to our sponsor in  
making this event possible!**



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<b>2023 Annual Meeting Planning Committee</b>	
Andrew Hafs	President
Eric Altena	President - Elect
Calub Shavlik	Secretary/Treasurer
Keith Reeves	Past President/Elections
Kristan Maccaroni	Newsletter Editor
Jay Hatch	Scholarships Committee
Mark Hove	Scholarships Committee
Nick Peterson	Excom / Fund-Raising Committee
Michelle Krecklau	Volunteer Coordinator
Patrick Schmalz	Program
Katherine Bruesewitz	Program
Kristen Patterson	Program
Ryan Maki	Excom / Poster & Program
Jessie Koehle	Excom / Awards Committee
Mandy Erickson	Arrangements

## **To All our Volunteers**

### **Thank you!!!**

#### **Paper and Poster Judges**

Allen Brandt, Jon Hansen, Tom Heinrich, Mark Hove, Jim Levitt, Kristan Maccaroni, Jessica Massure, Wade Massure, Bill McKibbin, Dean Paron, Nick Rydell, Casey Schoenebeck, Nick Schlessler, Matt Skoog, Aaron Sundmark, Phil Talmage, Dan Wilfond

#### **Moderators**

Derek Bahr, John Frank, Kristen Patterson, Carl Pedersen, Nick Peterson, Will Varela

***Without you, this would not be possible***



## Schedule at a Glance

Date	Time	Event	Location
31-Jan	12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Fish Identification Workshop	University-B
	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Registration Open	Main Hall
	6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Welcome Reception	Main Ballroom/Husky Room
1-Feb	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration Open	Main Hall
	8:00 AM - 8:20 AM	Morning coffee	Poolside
	8:20 AM - 8:30 AM	President welcome	Main Ballroom
	8:20 AM - 10:20 AM	Plenary Session	Main Ballroom
	8:30 AM	Jimmy Bell	
	8:40 AM	Matt Johnson	
	8:50 AM	Mike Hehner	
	9:00 AM	Matt Klug	
	9:10 AM	Jeremy Smith	
	9:20 AM	Jason Westre	
	9:30 AM- 10:20 AM	Panel Discussion, Q and A	
	10:20 AM - 10:40 AM	Break	Germain West
	10:40 AM - 12:00 PM	MNAFS Business Meeting	East/West Ballroom
	12:00 PM - 1:20 PM	Lunch Break	On your own
	1:20 PM - 3:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions 1-2 - Student	East/West Ballroom
	3:00 PM - 3:20 PM	Break	Poolside
	3:20 PM - 4:20 PM	Concurrent Sessions 3-4 - Student/Professional	East/West Ballroom
	4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Poster Session and Social	Poolside
	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Conference Banquet and Awards	Main Ballroom

### ***AFS Meeting Program Schedule At-A-Glance***

Date	Time	Event	Location (Courtyard)
2-Feb	7:50 AM - 10:00 AM	Registration Open	Main Hall
	8:00 AM - 8:20 AM	Morning coffee	Poolside
	8:20 AM - 10:00 AM	Concurrent Sessions 4 - Professional	East/West Ballroom
	10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Break	Poolside
	10:20 AM - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions 5 - Professional	East/West Ballroom
	12:00 PM	Conference Concludes	

# Plenary Session

Reconnecting with the Resource. Are we loving our lakes, rivers and streams? Or are we loving them to death?

## Presenter Biographies

### Jimmy Bell



Jimmy Bell is President of the Student Angler Organization and Lund Virtual Fishing League. The 501.c.3 nonprofit organization is responsible for starting two of the largest Student Fishing organizations in MN, and the country. Both the Lund Virtual Fishing League and the Student Angler Tournament Trail are 100% Catch Record Release utilizing the Reel LiveWell app that is now available on the Apple and Google Play Stores.

He comes from a family that loved the outdoors, and has instilled that in his two daughters. He has been married to his wife Allie for 36 years. Jimmy fished the National Professional Walleye trails for approximately 18 years before leaving to start up the Student Angler Organization where his passion for teaching and students could come together.

Jimmy is also a Board Member on MN-FISH, a lobbying organization for anglers in MN, sits on the MN DNR Bass workgroup, and is past president of the National Professional Anglers Assoc.

### Matt Johnson

Matt Johnson has been a fishing guide in the Metro Area, MN and surrounding area lakes since 2001, where he cut his teeth learning about the sport of fishing and embracing the promotional/educational side of the business. Throughout the past 2+ decades, Matt has worked/partnered with fishing retail stores, media companies and promotional companies, and eventually found a place at Clam Outdoors in 2012. Now, Matt manages over 700 promotional anglers across USA and Canada as the Pro Staff Director for Clam Outdoors, Blackfish Gear and All-Terrain Tackle. Still guiding over 100 trips a year and promoting as much as possible, Matt makes sure to still enjoy the sport we all love!



## Mike Hehner



Mike Hehner currently works at Lindner Media Productions in Baxter Mn. as a videographer and field producer of Lund's Ultimate Fishing Experience tv show, manages their stock photo library, and has worked in the fishing industry for 35 years. He was born and raised in Forest Lake, Mn., went to the University of Minnesota and received a BS in Fisheries. He and his wife Betsy have one daughter, Abigail, and live in Brainerd, Mn.

## Matt Klug

Matt Klug is a full time, multi species fishing guide that services the St. Cloud, Mille Lacs, and Alexandria areas. His knowledge of these areas and abilities as an angler are well known throughout Minnesota. Matt guides both open water and on the ice for a variety of species including, but not limited to, Walleye, both Largemouth & Smallmouth Bass, Crappies, Bluegills, and Catfish.

On top of being a full time guide, Matt also is an active sitting board member with Fishing With Vets, a non-profit organization dedicated to giving back to our great nation's veterans. Matt volunteers his time taking veterans out for a relaxing weekend of fishing and comradery. He also is on staff with a handful of fishing companies. He spends time in the off season working sports shows, helping out with youth events in store and on the water, and educating anglers on how to hone their skills.





## Jeremy Smith



Jeremy has been fishing since he was old enough to hold a rod and reel. From an early age his passion for fishing as never stopped growing. He has an education from Gustavus Adolphus College (Biology/Business) and Bemidji State University (Education). Throughout the summers of his college years, Jeremy was a fishing guide in northern Minnesota, specializing in musky fishing. Upon graduating from college he bypassed using his education to become an educator and dove head first into the fishing business.

Since then Jeremy has worked in almost every element of the business: magazine sales, television sales, magazine writing and editing, television editing and producing, tournament organization, still photography, videography and on camera talent to name a few of the hats he has worn.

Jeremy loves to catch anything that swims and tries to take full advantage of the best bite going. Given the time he is going searching for new water off the beaten path. Whether it is for largemouth, smallmouth, muskies, cats, sturgeon, lake trout, whitefish or carp, anything is fair game.

At Lindner Media, Jeremy serves as Sales and Media Director and co-hosts Angling Edge and Fishing Edge.

## Jason Westre

Jason Westre is the Owner/President of Westre's Marine & Sport with 26 years' experience helping boat and pontoon owners select the perfect watercraft for their specific needs and providing service after the sale.

By focusing on providing value and customer satisfaction, Jason has been able to put his passion for boating to good use. Over the years, Jason's strengths championing Westre's Marine & Sport has garnered him national recognition for consistently high levels of customer satisfaction. Westre's Marine is honored to be a 5 Star Certified Dealer with the National Marine Manufacturers Association. While Jason may spend his days at the dealership and his new Nordic Lodge RV manufacturing facility, it's the passion of helping customers to get on the water and enjoy their boating and fishing experiences that gets him up in the morning.



When not working, Jason an avid boater, hunter, ATV/snowmobile enthusiast, and pilot. He enjoys spending time with his wife Kelly, co-owner of Westre's Marine & Sport, and his two daughters, Morgan (21) and Katelyn (19).

# Conference Schedule

## Concurrent Presentations (Students) - Wednesday, February 1

	<i>Room: Ballroom East Moderator: Derek Bahr</i>	<i>Room: Ballroom West Moderator: Kristen Patterson</i>
<b>1:20 PM</b>	Large-Scale Common Carp Removal Impacts on Native Fish Abundance in Lake Allegan, MI. <b>Rebecca Bullers</b>	Patterns of Isotopic Niche Size in Fish Communities Across Minnesota Lakes. <b>David Gallagher</b>
<b>1:40 PM</b>	Can Mechanical Removal of Invasive Cattail Benefit Fish Communities in Minnesota Lakes? <b>Brendan Nee</b>	Fish Communities Exhibit Predictable Multispecies Shifts in Trophic Position, Littoral Carbon Use, and Habitat Coupling Across Minnesota Lakes. <b>Sara Kangas</b>
<b>2:00 PM</b>	Aquatic Invasive Species: Is an Ounce of Prevention Worth a Pound of Cure? <b>Nichole Angell</b>	Trophic Niche Overlap of Lake Superior Nearshore Fishes. <b>Jessie Hanson</b>
<b>2:20 PM</b>	Optimizing eDNA for Multiple AIS. <b>Christopher Rounds</b>	Prey-Resource Partitioning Among Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, and Coho Salmon in the Bois Brule River, Wisconsin. <b>Danny McCann</b>
<b>2:40 PM</b>	Zebra Mussel Induced Food Web Shifts and Increased Mercury Concentrations in Walleye and Yellow Perch. <b>Denver Link</b>	Environmental Influences on The Growth Of Inland Cisco Populations in Three Minnesota Sentinel Lakes. <b>Edward Carlson</b>
	<i>Room: Ballroom East Moderator: John Frank</i>	<i>Room: Ballroom West Moderator: Nick Peterson</i>
<b>3:20 PM</b>	Does Walleye Spatial Segregation During Spawning Persist Throughout Other Seasons? <b>Claire Rude</b>	The Trials and Tribulations of Acoustic Conditioning in Common Carp. <b>Rebecca Bullers</b>
<b>3:40 PM</b>	Mussel Shell Use by Crevice Spawning Fishes: Reflections from Citizen and University Scientists on a Cooperative Study. <b>Molly Fuentes</b>	Effects of Channelization on Fish Communities in NW Minnesota Red River Basin Streams. <b>Amanda Craft</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	Dietary Habits of an Underperforming Walleye Population in a Northern Minnesota Reservoir. <b>Katherine Bruesewitz</b>	

## Concurrent Presentations – Thursday, February 2

	<b><i>Room: Ballroom</i></b> <b><i>Moderator: Will Varela</i></b>
<b>8:20 AM</b>	Updates from City of Eagan Neighborhood Fishing Program. <b>Jessie Koehle</b>
<b>8:40 AM</b>	Leveraging Approaches for Early Detection Monitoring of Invasive Fish Introductions to The Great Lakes. <b>Joel Hoffman</b>
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Steroidal Sex Pheromones Likely Determine When and Where Invasive Carps Spawn. <b>Peter Sorensen</b>
<b>9:20 AM</b>	Piscivore Diets in Minnesota Lakes. <b>Kamden Glade</b>
<b>9:40 AM</b>	Influence of Conditions in Lake Superior and Bois Brule River on Returning Migratory Rainbow Trout. <b>Thomas Hrabik</b>
	<b><i>Room: Ballroom</i></b> <b><i>Moderator: Carl Pedersen</i></b>
<b>10:20 AM</b>	Parallel Trophic Responses in Predators Across Lakes: Support For The Ecosystem Size And Accessibility Hypotheses. <b>Kyle Zimmer</b>
<b>10:40 AM</b>	Trout Community Response to Dam Removal in a Small Forested Watershed. <b>Amy Schrank</b>
<b>10:50 AM</b>	Are Minnesota Lakes Warming? When, Where and What Does it Mean for Lake Processes and Aquatic Community Composition? <b>Casey Schoenebeck</b>

## Poster Presentations

<i>Number</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Title</i>
1	Frank Savage	Assessing Bubbled CO2 as a Fish Repellent.
2	Dylan McNulty	Factors Driving Isotopic Niche Size and Niche Overlap in Yellow Perch.
3	Marissa Pribyl	The Effect of the Initial Infestation of Zebra Mussels in Red Lake, MN, on Freshwater Drum Diets.
4	Megan Boche	Genetic Structure of Yellow Perch in Minnesota.
5	Briana Davis	Establishing Baited Remote Underwater Video Survey (BRUVS) Watching Program to Aid in Conservation of Sharks in The Bahamas
6	Tanner Fossum	Influence of Relative Predator Size on Schooling Behavior
7	Matthew D. Kvam	An Analysis and Description of Walleye Dentition
8	Bryan Larson	Larval Fish Densities in Near Shore Habitats
9	Kendra Fink	Interactions Between Rusty Crayfish Invasion and Yellow Perch Population Dynamics
10	Peter Sorensen	A Fish Tracking Study Shows That Few Fish Pass Lock and Dam 5 Except Via its Lock Suggesting That it is a Suitable Location to Stop Invasive Carp by Installing a Lock Carp Deterrent
11	Chelsea Hatzenbuhler	Using eDNA for Comprehensive Fish Community Assessments in Broadscale Inland lakes
12	Paul Radomski	Watershed Health Assessment Framework for Lakes

## Conference Center information

### **Best Western Plus Kelly Inn**

100 4th Ave. S, St Cloud, MN, US

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Check In: 3PM

Check Out: 11AM

## Notes