ENERGY, SALMON, AGRICULTURE
AND COMMUNITY
Can We Come Together?

Tuesday, April 23, 2019
Boise State Student Union, Jordan Ballroom
2019 Andrus Center Conference

Energy, Salmon, Agriculture and Community: Can We Come Together?

The Pacific Northwest faces two crises that threaten the region, its 11 million people, the future of wild salmon, and the region’s critical public electrical system. Despite spending more than $16 million, wild salmon are once again on the edge of extinction in the Snake River. At the same time, a revolution in the electric industry has dramatically reduced the cost of power causing a major energy surplus and threatening the financial viability of the Bonneville Power Administration.

To save salmon and the public power system that has provided the Pacific Northwest with many benefits, including a stable power supply for the region, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana must come together to resolve the 25-year conflict over salmon, dams, agriculture and communities. It was in 1993 that then Gov. Cecil Andrus filed the first of many lawsuits challenging the operations of the federal dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers and despite many improvements in dams and salmon habitat only a handful of the large B run steelhead made it back to Idaho to spawn last year.

BPA will sign new contracts with its preferred customers in 2028 and it already has lost access to California markets for its hydroelectric power. With the market price of power nearly half of BPA contract price, many of its larger customers may begin to look elsewhere for power, leaving the agency that markets power from the federal dams unable to meet its costs - including spending for fish and wildlife, infrastructure and energy efficiency programs.

Andrus worked closely with the Northwest’s governors from both parties to support and defend the public power system and seek bipartisan solutions for salmon restoration. So, it is fitting that the Andrus Center for Public Policy convene a forum to support current regional discussions on solutions to address energy, salmon, water, agriculture and community needs.

The conference is designed to encourage action and discussion toward such resolution and to bring together the leaders and groups who can find and implement a long term plan that meets everyone’s needs.
Agenda

7:30 am  Registration & Breakfast

8:00 am  Welcome - John Freemuth, Andrus Center for Public Policy

8:20 am  Opening - Idaho Governor Brad Little

8:45 am  Salmon and Energy Panel One. Moderator: Marc Johnson
  Elliot Mainzer - Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration
  Jaime Pinkham - Director, Columbia River Inter - Tribal Fish Commission
  Darrel Anderson - President and CEO, Idaho Power Company
  Nancy Hirsh - Director, NW Energy Coalition
  J.T. Austin - Senior Policy Advisor on Natural Resources, Washington Governor Jay Inslee

10:00 am  Break

10:15 am  Salmon and Energy Panel Two. Moderator: Marc Johnson
  Giulia Good Stefani - Attorney, Natural Resource Defense Council
  Roger Gray - CEO, Pacific Northwest Generating Co-Op
  Bear Prairie - General Manager, Idaho Falls Power
  Chris Wood - President, Trout Unlimited
  Jason Miner - Natural Resources Policy Manager, Oregon Governor Kate Brown

11:30 am  Lunch procession

12:00 pm  Lunch Keynote - Congressman Mike Simpson (ID-R)

1:15 pm  Agriculture and Communities Panel One. Moderator: Amanda Peacher
  McCoy Oatman - Vice Chair, Nez Perce Tribe
  Sam White - Chief Operating Officer , PNW Farmers Co-Op Grain Division
  Steve Howser - President, Idaho Water Users Association
  Jeff Gordon - Gordon Wines, Pasco, Washington
  Sam Mace - Inland Northwest Director, Save Our Wild Salmon

2:30 pm  Break

2:45 pm  Agriculture and Communities Panel Two. Moderator: Amanda Peacher
  Stephanie Solien - Co-Chair, Governor Jay Inslee’s Southern Resident Orca Task Force
  Merrill Beyeler - Beyeler Ranches, Lemhi Valley, Idaho & Former Legislator
  Roy Akins - Chairman, Riggins Chapter, Idaho River Communities Alliance
  David Reeploeg - Vice President of Federal Programs, Tri-Cities Development Council
  Dustin Aherin - Lewiston resident, Businessman & Middle Fork Salmon River Outfitter

4:00 pm  Closing - Elliot Mainzer, Bonneville Power Administration

5:00 pm  Reception
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Idaho Governor
Brad Little

The people of Idaho elected Brad Little as the state’s 33rd Governor in November 2018. He became Governor on January 7, 2019.

Brad is an Emmett native who was raised on his family’s sheep and cattle ranching operation. He graduated from the University of Idaho in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness, and has worked in the ranching industry for his entire professional life. In 1978, Brad had good fortune and married Teresa Soulen of Weiser.

Teresa and Brad are the proud parents of two sons who have wonderful wives – Adam and Angela, and David and Kelsey. They have five beautiful grandchildren.

Brad has a heart for public service. He first served in public office in 2001 when he was selected to fill a Senate vacancy. He was then elected to four consecutive terms to the Idaho Senate. During his service as a Senator, Brad was elected by his Republican peers during his first full term to serve in Party leadership as Majority Caucus Chair. He then served as Idaho’s 37th Lt. Governor starting on January 6, 2009.

Brad is committed to making decisions through one lens: the lens of ensuring Idaho’s children and grandchildren have the best opportunities to stay in Idaho and for the ones who have left to return.

Brad has advocated his whole life for limited government. He works to ensure the lightest possible hand of government in the lives of Idaho’s citizens, and he seeks to build the public’s confidence in State government.
Congressman Mike Simpson

Michael (Mike) K. Simpson is serving his eleventh term in the House of Representatives for Idaho’s Second Congressional District. Mike serves on the House Appropriations Committee. He is the Ranking Member for the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. He also serves on the Interior and Environment Subcommittee. These committees have jurisdiction over funding for a number of programs critical to Idaho, including the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, our National Parks, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Smithsonian Institute.

Simpson is one of the House’s leading advocates for a new energy policy and a renewed commitment to research and development of improved nuclear energy technologies. Mike has also gained national attention for his bill to split the massive, overburdened 9th Circuit Court of Appeals as well as his Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Jerry Peak Wilderness Additions Act which addresses the concerns of economic growth and stability for rural Idaho and resolves long time wilderness debate over the Boulder-White Clouds and was signed into law in August of 2015. Simpson has long championed a fix to fire borrowing, having authored the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act. Simpson’s leadership led to the passage of the FY18 Omnibus Spending Bill that provided historic forest management reforms, most notably treating wildfires like other natural disasters.

His political career began in 1980, when he was elected to the Blackfoot City Council. In 1984, he was elected to the Idaho Legislature where he served until 1998, the last six years serving as Speaker. Simpson was born in Burley, Idaho and raised in Blackfoot. He graduated from Utah State University and earned his DMD from Washington University School of Dental Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. After graduation, he joined his father and uncle at the Simpson Family Dental Practice in Blackfoot.
Elliot Mainzer was named Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) in January 2014 but had served as Acting Administrator since July 2013. In that role, he is responsible for managing the nonprofit federal agency that markets carbon-free power from Columbia River hydroelectric dams and the region’s one nuclear plant. BPA also operates most of the high-voltage power grid across the Pacific Northwest, distributing wind and other energy to the region and beyond.

From February to July of 2013, Mainzer served as BPA’s acting deputy administrator, responsible for Finance, Strategy, Legal, Public Affairs, Risk Management, Compliance, Governance and Internal Audit functions. He also served as the principal policy and strategy adviser to the BPA administrator.

Mainzer, who joined BPA in 2002, has held a variety of management positions within the agency’s Power, Transmission and Corporate organizations, including trading floor manager and manager of Transmission Policy and Strategy. Most recently, as executive vice president of Corporate Strategy, he led the agency’s strategic planning process and provided policy leadership and cross-agency coordination on renewables integration, market design, climate change and integrated planning.

He has provided leadership and coordination of significant regional initiatives, including the Northwest Wind Integration Action Plan in 2007 and the Northwest Power Pool Members’ Market Assessment and Coordination Initiative. Prior to joining BPA, Mainzer established and managed Enron’s Renewable Power Desk out of its offices in Portland.

Mainzer earned his bachelor’s degree in geography from the University of California, Berkeley. He has an MBA and Master of Environmental Studies degree from Yale University.

An avid hiker and amateur jazz saxophonist, he lives in Portland with his wife and twin sons.

Jason Miner serves as the Natural Resources Policy Director for Oregon Governor Kate Brown’s Office of Natural Resources. He holds a Bachelor’s in Biology from Amherst College, a Masters of Environmental Management, and a law degree from Duke University. Mr. Miner has previously served as Executive Director of 1000 Friends of Oregon, a Landscape Director for The Nature Conservancy, Conservation Director for Oregon Trout, and as an environmental attorney at Ball Janik LLP.

J.T. Austin is a Senior policy advisor on natural resources to Washington Governor Jay Inslee.
Dustin Aherin

Dustin was born and raised in the Lewiston area and is the 5th generation of the Aherin family born in Idaho. He attended Genesee High School graduating in 1991. College was at LCSC where he studied history and theater along with being a member of the Warrior baseball team for parts of 3 years.

After baseball Dustin started working summers on the rivers of Idaho and once school wrapped up guiding became as full time as possible with the Spring spent on the Bruneau and Owyhee rivers, summer on the Middle Fork, Hells Canyon and the Lower Salmon, and the Fall and early Winter as a hunting guide.

In the early part of 2011 Idaho River Adventures was born and in the Spring of 2012 the permits for the the Middle Fork Salmon, Main Salmon and Lower Salmon were transferred. After the sale of the Main Salmon portion of the business, Idaho River Adventures operates summer and early Fall rafting and fly fishing trips on the Middle Fork and Fall cast and blast trips on the Lower Salmon.

Dustin lives full time in the Craig Mountains south of Lewiston with his dog Clarabell and in the river season in Salmon City, ID.

Roy Akins

Roy Akins is a drift boat fishing outfitter on the Salmon River. He operates his small family business, Rapid River Outfitters, in Riggins, Idaho. Roy is deeply involved in his community on many levels and his service includes: Riggins City Council (he is currently serving his third elected term), Salmon River Dive Team Captain past twelve years, Board member for the Riggins Seniors past four years, Idaho County Recycling Riggins Chapter President past five years.

Roy was raised in Jerome, Idaho and like many others before him, was drawn to the Salmon River Mountains in pursuit of adventure and sport. He made his way to Riggins in 1995 and his deep connection and love of Idaho’s rivers and their fish made Riggins an ideal place to pursue his dream of raising a family along the banks of the Salmon River.

The most recent effort Roy has been undertaking is helping with the creation of the Idaho River Community Alliance this past Fall. This is a non-profit organization designed to support and protect small business in the central part of our state that rely on sport fishing as a major source of their economic viability. The IRCA promotes sustainable and accessible fisheries in the Salmon and Clearwater river systems. There are currently two chapters and Roy is the Chairman of the Lower Salmon Chapter.
Darrel Anderson

President and Chief Executive Officer, IDACORP, Inc. and Idaho Power

Darrel Anderson assumed the roles of President and Chief Executive Officer of IDACORP and Idaho Power in May 2014 and January 2014, respectively. He was appointed to the IDACORP and Idaho Power boards of directors in September 2013. In connection with these appointments, he refocused a portion of his time and attention on a number of Idaho Power’s operational matters and strategic, policy and governance elements.

Anderson began working for Idaho Power in 1996 and has worked for IDACORP since its inception in 1998. His positions with the company have included controller, vice president of Finance, treasurer, chief financial officer, senior vice president and executive vice president of Administration.

Anderson graduated from Oregon State University with a Bachelor of Science in accounting and finance and completed the Harvard Graduate School of Business Advanced Management Program. He is a licensed certified public accountant in Oregon (retired).

Anderson serves on the boards of the Edison Electric Institute and St. Alphonsus Health System.

Merrill Beyeler

Merrill, a graduate of Boise State, taught, coached and ranched in one of Idaho’s most wild landscapes, the Lemhis. This is where Merrill and Sharal raised their family.

Merrill is a founding member of the Central Idaho Rangeland Network, Chairman of the Board for the Lemhi Regional Land Trust, Advisory member for the University of Idaho’s Rangeland Center and Rinker Rock Creek project.

In 2013 Beyeler Ranches received the Bureau of Land Management’s National Rangeland Environmental Stewardship Award, and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission’s award for Significant Contribution in Support of the Pacific Coast Marine Fisheries Resources.

In 2015 Merrill received the Idaho Governor’s award for Excellence in Agriculture for Environmental Stewardship.
Jeff Gordon

In 1980, Jeff Gordon along with his wife Vicki and brother Bill decided to plant wine grapes on a sagebrush-covered slope overlooking the Snake River in southeastern Washington’s Columbia Valley. In 1985, he released his first small lot of Chardonnay wine produced from their estate vines, and today the Gordon Estate brand is growing in both production and acclaim. Before planting the vineyard, Jeff sought out the expertise of Dr. Walter Clore, the “Father of Washington Wine.” Together the two inspected a 200-acre parcel of sagebrush-covered land near the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Dr. Clore strongly approved of the land that would soon become Gordon Brothers.

At the time the vineyard was planted, there were 19 wineries in Washington and less than 5,000 acres of wine grapes in production. Now, the Washington wine industry has grown to over 900 wineries and 50,000+ acres of wine grapes. Along the way, there have been a few changes. In 1998 Jeff’s brother Bill retired. That same year a new wine production facility was built on the vineyard that greatly centralized all aspects of the winemaking process.

In 2001, Jeff’s daughter and son-in-law Katie and Marc Nelson, joined the family business. Marc manages the vineyard along with the organic cherries, corn and alfalfa. He works closely with the winemaking team on new varieties and management practices to constantly innovate and elevate the quality of Gordon Estate wines. Katie assists with farm and winery management.

Roger Gray

Roger serves as CEO of Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative. PNGC consists of 15 Electric Cooperatives in seven states that rely upon the Bonneville Power Administration and PNGC for their power supply. Although PNGC members are individually small and medium size utilities, they represent together one of BPA’s largest customers.

PNGC helps its members acquire and manage electrical power supply and transmission services.

Roger has worked in the electric, water and telecommunications industry for 36 years. His most recent experience was CEO at Northwest Requirements Utilities. Past experience includes: General Manager/CEO at Eugene Water and Electric Board, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Southern California Edison Company, Bechtel, IP Networks and his own consulting business. His work background includes: executive management, utility operations, power resource planning and risk management, finance & rates, regulatory and strategic planning.

He has served on a variety of boards and committees in the Northwest including: PPC, Northwest RiverPartners, PNUCC and the Oregon Governor’s 10 year Energy Plan taskforce.

Roger has degrees in Electrical Engineering-Power Systems and Computer Science from the University of California at Berkeley.
SPEAKERS

Nancy Hirsh
Executive Director
NW Energy Coalition

Nancy Hirsh is Executive Director for the NW Energy Coalition. Nancy directs the Coalition’s efforts to enhance investments in energy efficiency, renewable resources, and energy services for people of lower-income through work with utilities, commissioners, regulators, and policy-makers. She serves on the board of Renewable Northwest. From 1996 through 2014 she served as the Coalition’s policy director. Before joining the Coalition, she spent twelve years in Washington, DC working on national energy policy issues for the Environmental Action Foundation and the National Wildlife Federation. She lives in Seattle with her husband, children and dog. When not advocating clean energy solutions, she is an avid backpacker and hiker.

Marc Johnson

Marc C. Johnson has worked as a broadcast journalist and communication and crisis management consultant and served as a top aide to Idaho’s longest-serving governor, Cecil D. Andrus. His writing on politics and history has been published in the New York Times, California Journal of Politics and Policy, and Montana the Magazine of Western History and appears regularly on the blog and podcast Many Things Considered. Marc writes a weekly column on politics for the Lewiston (Idaho) Tribune.

The University of Oklahoma Press will release Marc’s biography of Montana’s influential and controversial United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler on March 21, 2019. The book – Political Hell-Raiser: The Life and Times of Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana – is the first full treatment of Wheeler’s 24-year Senate career. Wheeler’s colorful career found him leading a sensational investigation of the U.S. Justice Department, a run for vice president on the Progressive Party ticket in 1924, involvement in major New Deal-era legislation, opposition to Franklin Roosevelt’s efforts to “pack” the U.S. Supreme Court and most controversially opposition to U.S. foreign policy prior to World War II.

Passionate about history and literature Marc is a book collector, a film buff and has been a long-time advocate for the humanities and civic education. He served as chair of the Idaho Humanities Council and the Federation of State Humanities Councils and has served as a National Endowment for the Humanities site visitor to several state humanities councils. He chaired the board of the Boise Public Library and currently serves as president of the North Tillamook Library Friends. He also chairs the board of the Nehalem Bay Health District.

Marc is currently working on another book on U.S. Senate history.
Sam Mace
Sam learned to love rivers and salmon growing up in the Oregon Coast Range. She first got involved in Snake River salmon recovery working with sportsmen for Idaho Wildlife Federation. She has been the Inland Northwest Director for Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition since 2004 and lives in Spokane, WA. She had a B.A. in History from Reed College.

McCoy Oatman
Vice-Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee
Nez Perce Tribe
McCoy Oatman is the current Vice-Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC), the governing body of the Nez Perce Tribe. Vice-Chairman Oatman has served on the NPTEC for over a decade. During his tenure on the NPTEC, he has served in several different officer positions including as Chairman, Secretary, Vice-Chairman, Chaplain, Treasurer, Natural Resources Subcommittee Chairman, and Budget & Finance Subcommittee Chairman. In addition to his current role as Vice-Chairman, he is also the Chair of Land Enterprise Subcommittee for the NPTEC. As an elected member of the NPTEC, he is responsible for oversight of Tribal government and its departments/programs, and the tribal fiscal budgets.

Vice-Chairman Oatman also serves on several regional and national committees on behalf of the Tribe. Since 2011, he has served as the Nez Perce Tribe representative to the Policy Committee. The Committee is responsible for the administration and oversight of the implementation of the United States v. Oregon 2018-2027 Management Agreement. The purpose of the Policy Committee is to facilitate cooperative action by the involved parties with regard to fishing regulations, policy issues or disputes, and the coordination of the management of fisheries on Columbia River runs and production and harvest measures.

Since 2012, he has served as an Alternate Tribal Commissioner on the U.S. Pacific Salmon Commission and now serves as the Tribal Commissioner. The Pacific Salmon Commission is a body comprised of representatives from both the U.S. and Canada charged with implementing the provisions of the Pacific Salmon Treaty between the U.S. and Canada. The fundamental role of the Pacific Salmon Commission is two-fold: 1) it is to conserve salmon to achieve optimum production, and 2) to divide harvests such that each country receives benefits of its investments in salmon management.

Since 2011, he has represented the Nez Perce Tribe on the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP) as a Tribal Delegate. The IBMP is a cooperative, multi-agency effort that guides the management of bison and brucellosis in and around Yellowstone National Park. The IBMP was developed by the National Park Service, USDA-Forest Service, USDA-Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Montana Department of Livestock and Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks.

From 2011 to 2013, Vice-Chairman Oatman served on the State & Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG) in the Department of Energy (DOE). STGWG is composed of policy-level representatives of states and tribes that host DOE facilities or are otherwise impacted by activities at DOE facilities. Its composition offers a unique perspective on issues such as long-term stewardship, tribal issues, transportation planning, nuclear waste and materials disposition, and deactivation and decommissioning activities.
Amanda Peacher

Amanda Peacher works for the Mountain West News Bureau out of Boise State Public Radio. She’s an Idaho native who returned home after a decade of living and reporting in Oregon. She’s an award-winning reporter with a background in community engagement and investigative journalism.

Jamie Pinkham

Jaime A. Pinkham (Nez Perce) has spent most of his career advocating for tribal sovereignty, self-determination and treaty rights. In April 2017 he returned to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission as its Executive Director. The Commission was established by four treaty tribes: Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla and Nez Perce. Combined, their ancestral homelands cover roughly 25% of the entire Columbia River Basin. The Commission supports the tribes with science, management, enforcement, litigation, policy and advocacy. He also worked for the Commission from 2004 to 2009 assisting with regional coordination and Congressional affairs.

Before returning to CRITFC, he was Vice President of the Bush Foundation, a private foundation in St. Paul, MN. He led Bush’s program partnering with tribes across North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota as they redesigned their governing systems. His work led to the creation of the Native Governance Center, a native non-profit delivering technical support to tribes in government redesign. In early 2016 he became a loaned executive to NGC to assist in their startup.

He was at home with the Nez Perce Tribe from 1990 to 2002 where he was elected twice to the Tribe’s governing body successfully retaining the position of Treasurer as the tribe was launching into gaming. He also led the tribe’s natural resource programs and was involved in salmon restoration, water rights negotiations, wolf recovery and land acquisition.

Jaime’s passion for “wildness” started as a child hunting in the backcountry with his father and grandfather. That love has landed him on various conservation boards and he currently serves on the Governing Council of The Wilderness Society and the American Rivers Board of Directors.

He has a forestry degree from Oregon State University and is a graduate of the Washington State Agriculture and Forestry Leadership Foundation’s leadership program. In 2007 he was honored as an OSU Alumni Fellow and received an Outstanding Alumnus Award from OSU’s College of Forestry. He is a recipient of national awards from the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society and the Intertribal Timber Council for his service to tribal communities.
Bear Prairie
General Manager
Idaho Falls Power

Bear Prairie is the General Manager of Idaho Falls Power and Idaho Falls Fiber. Prior to assuming this role in 2018 he was the Assistant General Manager for eight years. Bear has over 20 years of experience in the energy industry.

Starting his career at Idaho Power Company in Boise Idaho holding numerous roles in commodity trading and power supply management.

Bear left Idaho Power to develop and staff a West Coast based electric and natural gas trading business for Integrys Energy; a Fortune 100 corporation, which he based out of Boise Idaho. He has experience in utility executive management, commodity trading and asset development.


He earned an MBA from Northwest Nazarene University and a BA in Business Administration from The College of Idaho. Bear and his wife have two children whom all enjoy skiing, golfing and fishing along with most other outdoor activities.

David Reeploeg

David Reeploeg assumed the duties as Vice President for Federal Programs of the Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC) on March 27, 2017.

David comes to TRIDEC from the office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, where he served as Central Washington Director from 2008-2017.

Prior to accepting the position with Senator Cantwell, David served as the State Administrative Director/Scheduler for U.S. Senator Patty Murray from 2005-2008.

David is a native of the Tri-Cities and is a graduate of Hanford High School. His educational background includes a double bachelor of arts in political science and history from the University of Washington. During his time at the University, David was appointed by Governor Gary Locke and confirmed by the Washington State Senate to serve as the student member of the University of Washington Board of Regents from 2002-2003.

David is married to his high school sweetheart, Gretchen, and they have two children.
Stephanie Solien has worked in politics, government, and the nonprofit arena for more than 25 years in Washington, D.C., and Washington State. Her passion is working with diverse communities and the political process to solve problems and create positive change. She served as national director of the bi-partisan Women’s Campaign Fund and worked as staff in the US House of Representatives, and the US Senate. She also ran the DC office for WA Governor Booth Gardner.

She served as national political director for the Clinton presidential campaign in 1992 and as a lead strategist of President Clinton’s successful 1993 Pacific Northwest Forest Summit in Portland, Oregon while at the U.S. Department of Interior. She is a member of Social Venture Partners and has served on their environmental advocacy committee. She has also served on the boards of Farming the Environment, the Washington Environmental Council, Washington Conservation Voters, Climate Solutions and Town Hall Seattle. She currently serves as vice chair of the Leadership Council of the Puget Sound Partnership, is an advisory board member of Western Washington University’s Salish Sea Institute and is working to recover Orca whales as co-chair of the State of Washington’s Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force.

Giulia Good Stefani works to protect wildlife, wild places, and communities from environmental injustices. Prior to joining NRDC, she taught and supervised a law clinic at Yale Law School as a Robert M. Cover Fellow and clerked for the Honorable Richard A. Paez of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from Dartmouth College and a J.D. from Yale Law School. Stefani is based in Mosier, Oregon.
Sam White

Sam was raised on a dry land wheat farm in Palouse WA. The “Palouse” area which encompasses parts of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho has some of the most productive soil in the world. Sam attended and graduated from Washington State University with a bachelors of science degree in Agriculture. He started his career in 1984 with Johnson Union Warehouse Co., a grain and pulse crop cooperative. In 1996 Sam took a job with Genesee Union Warehouse Co in Genesee ID as the grain department manager. In 2008 Genesee Union Warehouse and Whitman County Growers merged their two companies to form Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperatives where he is currently the Chief Operations Officer. Today, Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative has grain and pulse storage in over 35 locations on the Palouse along with 5 Pulse processing plants and 5 seed cleaning plants. Sam currently sits on the Board of directors of Lewis-Clark Terminal in Lewiston ID, He is the past President of the Pacific Northwest Grain and Feed Association and he also is a member of the Idaho Commodity Indemnity Fund Advisory Board. In his spare time Sam enjoys spending time golfing or just being outside.

Chris Wood

President & Chief Executive Officer, Trout Unlimited

Before coming to Trout Unlimited in September 2001, Chris Wood served as the senior policy and communications advisor to the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service where he helped protect 58 million acres of publicly owned land. Chris began his career as a temporary employee with the Forest Service in Idaho and also worked for the Fish and Wildlife program of the Bureau of Land Management. He is the author and co-author of numerous papers and articles and three books including, Watershed Restoration: Principles and Practices (AFS 1997), From Conquest to Conservation: Our Public Land Legacy (Island Press, 2003), and My Healthy Stream: A handbook for streamside owners (TU and Aldo Leopold Foundation, 2013).
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Jenna Whitlock
Retired, Bureau of Land Management
The Andrus Center wishes to thank our amazing Environmental Steering Committee:

Rocky Barker
Andy Brunelle
Pat Ford
Rick Johnson
Tom Stuart
Jenna Whitlock
“It is at White Bird Hill that I can get steamed up over my greatest frustration in politics. The Salmon River gets its name from the hundreds of thousands of fish that once spawned in its pools, eddies and side streams. Meriwether Lewis was fed one of them by friendly Indians after staggering over the Continental Divide at Lemhi Pass into the valley of the upper Salmon.

“In the mid-1950s, about four hundred thousand salmon returned up the Snake River system each year, most heading for such unspoiled tributaries as the Salmon, Clearwater, and Imnaha Rivers. I would picnic with my young family at Bruce’s Eddy on the Clearwater and wade into the river with hopes of hooking a chinook salmon or steelhead, the Northwest’s fighting and famously tasty species of seagoing trout.

No more. The fish are disappearing from the river system.”

Governor Cecil D. Andrus - from Politics Western Style
The Andrus Center for Public Policy advances the legacy issues of former Idaho Governor and Secretary of the Interior, Cecil D. Andrus — wise use of our environmental resources and public lands, proper funding of education for our children and the cultivation of leadership from all segments of our society.

Executive Director John Freemuth, PhD, teaches in the Boise State University Master of Public Administration and Political Science programs. Freemuth’s research and teaching emphasis is in natural resource and public land policy and administration. He is the author of an award-winning book, *Islands Under Siege: National Praks and the Politics of External Threats*, numerous articles on aspects of natural resource policy, and eight Andrus Center white papers, all of which can be found at andruscenter.org.

andruscenter.org