



California-Nevada Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Executive Committee Meeting

Location: Zoom/CDFW office in West Sacramento: 1010 Riverside Parkway, West Sacramento, CA

Date: May 21, 2026

Time: 5:30-7:15 pm

1. Call to Order and Introductions (5:40)
2. Verification of Quorum (Marzia Fattori)
 - a. 3 Elected officers: Kim Luke, Matea Djokic, Christina Parker
 - b. 3 Standing committee chairs: Wayne Lifton, Zach Bess, Dave Lentz, Jim Hobbs
 - c. Sub-units: Elias Zamora, John
 - d. Other attendees:
 - e. Agenda Review (ExComm)
 - a. Introductions
 - b. Next year's conference dates and location
 - c. Continuing Education upcoming class pricing discussion

Officer Updates

- a. Secretary (Marzia Fattori)
 - i. Current membership - 292 members (up 15 from April; up from 290 in December)
 - ii. Follow up with Kelly to obtain membership data so ExComm can evaluate regional membership trends, both current and long-term, in relation to annual meeting locations. The goal is to better understand where members are concentrated and use that information to help guide future meeting location decisions. Once Kelly provides the spreadsheet, ExComm will review.

iii. Vote on meeting minutes for April ExComm Meeting.

1. Kim motions to pass meeting notes as written, Matea seconds.

iv. Elections open, running through 5/21/2026-closing today!(secretary role and president elect role)

v. Dennis followed up with Kelly Kotche about dues and tax reimbursement

b. Treasurer (Asha)

i. Account balances

1. Bank of America Checking Balance as of 5/18/2026: \$37,872.11
2. Bank of America Savings Balance as of 5/18/2026: \$ 58,803.48
3. Merrill Lynch Balance as of 5/18/2026: \$238,583.24
4. Total: \$335,258.83 (+ \$1,565.49 from 4/03/2026)
5. Investment account change (+\$2,589.79 from 4/03/2026)
6. Checking account change (-\$1,024.78 from 4/03/2026)

ii. Spent - For what checking account money was spent on see below:

Description	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Description			Income/Expense Type	General Category	Detailed Category	Amount	Receipt File	Annual Budget Category		
BNP AMERICA ATM 04/18/2026 DEPOSIT DAVIS CA C/D 4256700020838			Income	Regular		1250.00				
EXTRA SPACE 3525 04/18 PURCHASE 888-5883859 CA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	Storage	-49		Storage (physical and e-data)		
Check 1558			Expense	Regular	Annual Meeting Expense	-176.11		Annual Meeting Expense		
COYCONANT CONTRACT 04/24 PURCHASE 855-2285588 MA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	Software	-82		Constant Contact		
AMAZON DIGI B51C87M03 04/25 PURCHASE VVVV.AMAZON.CO VA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular		-8.99				
LYFT TRIDE SUN 04/19/2026 PURCHASE LYFT.COM CA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-40.16		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
JANTZEN BEACH BAR & GR 05/03 PURCHASE PORTLAND OR DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-24.5		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
JANTZEN BEACH BAR & GR 05/04 PURCHASE PORTLAND OR DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-23.48		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
LYFT AIRPORT 05/07 05/08 PURCHASE LYFT.COM CA DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-38.32		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
LYFT AIRPORT 05/07 05/08 PURCHASE LYFT.COM CA DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-25.17		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
TSTBLUE STAR DONUTS - 05/07 PURCHASE PORTLAND OR DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-11.05		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
HOLIDAY INN PORTLAND - 05/08 PURCHASE PORTLAND OR DEBIT CARD 1403			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-866		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
LYFT TRIDE FRI 04/18/2026 PURCHASE LYFT.COM CA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-27.58		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
LYFT TRIDE FRI 04/18/2026 PURCHASE LYFT.COM CA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	VO Attendance	-21.92		VO Travel - Kim Luke		VO Attendance
Check 1557			Expense	Regular	Annual Meeting Expense	-328.5		Annual Meeting Expense		
EXTRA SPACE 3525 05/06 PURCHASE 888-5883859 CA DEBIT CARD 1411			Expense	Regular	Storage	-49		Storage (physical and e-data)		

iii. Other updates:

1) Asha will need to follow up with the secondary form for the raffle before the end of the year (planning on doing this concurrently with taxes).

2) Asha will work on treasurer's guidance documents

3) The cost of storage has increased another \$16 dollars per month

4) There are a couple of items in the "Spent since last meeting_May2026" that I will need help identifying

- 4/16: Bank of America Deposit for \$1,250
- 4/27: Amazon digital purchase for \$8.99

iv. Other updates:

1. Asha and Matea are still working out the kinks in the finalized budget from the Annual Meeting. Kim looked into the budget, and noticed in the budget that it doesn't include all the workshops and the price, just showing people that signed up for the workshop separately and the prices, but it doesn't show the balance. A separate meeting should be held to discuss this matter.
 2. Asha will need to follow up with the secondary form for the raffle before the end of the year (planning on doing this concurrently with taxes).
 3. Asha will work on treasurer's guidance documents
 - 4.
- c. President (Kim Luke)
- i. Chapter
 - 1.
 - ii. Society
 - 1.
 - iii. WD
 - 1.
- d. Past President (Chris)
- i. No updates.
- e. President Elect (Matea)
- i. WDAFS attendance
 - ii. New ELMA fellow
3. Student Subunit Updates ([society subunits page](#))
- a. Sac/Davis (Alexandra Ginez/John Isla)
 - i. Opening nominations google form sent out (May 30th cutoff)
 - ii. Fish Craft Night (set for May 29th)
 - b. SCMBAS (Santa Cruz Monterey Bay Area Subunit) (Paige Gardner/Abbie Ward)
 - i. no updates
 - c. Humboldt Cal Poly (Emily/Lennox)
 - i. No updates
 - d. SLOC (Hayley)
 - i. No updates

e. UCI (Elias Zamora)

- i. Past general meetings included doing a fish-sona social, air dried clay social, and a presentation practice for members presenting their posters and oral presentations at the annual UCI UROP undergraduate symposium.



- ii. Membership has increased, including some returning members. The subunit has also reached out to members interested in serving on next year's committee and will send out an updated list later this summer.
- iii. Upcoming events include an end of the year whale-watching trip for May 30th, and tbd final general meeting social.

4. Committee Updates

a. Next year's annual meeting

- i. The 2027 Annual Meeting will be held at Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom, California, from February 16-19, 2027 (Tuesday-Friday). Erin prepared the venue contract, and the goal is to have registration open by late September or early October and announce the meeting dates to the membership as soon as possible. Lake Natoma Inn has reserved a block of 50 rooms for conference attendees.
- ii. It is important to establish consistent annual meeting dates and locations, and ensure meetings are held in easily accessible, non-remote venues.

- iii. Kim shared the contract with Christina for review and approval of the deposit.
- b. Student subunit end of year requirements (report of year's activities and tax documents)
 - i. Annual reports and required documents are due by June 1, 2026. Tax documents will be due later in the year, with a September deadline.
 - ii. Elias noted that the UCI subunit has a fundraising whale-watching trip scheduled for May 30. Submission of tax documents may be delayed by a few days, and he will coordinate with Kim and Asha as needed.
 - iii. AFS is required to submit an annual chapter report that incorporates reports and tax documentation from all student subunits.
- c. Open position
 - i. The student social media internship position is still vacant. The position is a one-year paid internship with quarterly payments tied to completion of deliverables. Subunits are encouraged to share the job opportunity with their members.
- d. Continuing Education (Jesse)
 - i. Jessie will conduct a Continuing Education workshop on eDNA and introductory population genetics with colleagues at Cramer Fish Sciences. The workshop is scheduled for October 14, 2026, and will be offered in a hybrid format. Virtual attendees will participate in a half-day session, while in-person attendees will participate in a full-day workshop that includes a hands-on component at the Sacramento office. Lunch will be provided for in-person attendees, with attendance capped at 20 participants.

Registrations fees:

 - free for students, \$25 for AFS members, and \$50 for non-members attending in person;

- virtual attendance will be free for students and members and \$25 for non-members. Participants will receive a Continuing Education certificate upon completion.
 - ii. Workshop advertisements will include information on course completion and continuing education hours. Jessie will create a certificate template and a flyer to promote the workshop, including a simplified flyer for printing.
 - iii. The AFS Zoom account will be used to host the virtual portion of the workshop.
 - iv. Registration platform needed. Matea will look into options.
- e. Awards (Zach)
- i. ExComm discussed adding a student spotlight section to the newsletter. Nathan was suggested as a possible first feature. The spotlight could include information about the student's involvement with AFS, career goals, accomplishments, and any grants or awards received. To make participation easy, students could answer a few standard questions and provide photos. Subunits will also be asked to nominate students and projects that could be highlighted in future newsletters. The group discussed creating a rotation among subunits and building a backlog of spotlight content for future issues.
 - ii. Zach would like to send out the newsletter on the first of each month.
- f. Communications (Zach)
- i. Constant Contact is increasing its monthly fee from \$62 to \$75. An annual plan will save money. ExComm will revisit the topic and look into alternative platforms, including the pros and cons of each option.
 - ii. ExComm also discussed the chapter's two Facebook platforms. The member group is currently more active and allows members to post, while the public page is primarily used for announcements. We should evaluate how both platforms will be used moving forward.

- iii. Christina offered to help manage the Cal-Neva AFS social media presence by sharing fisheries-related content and promoting chapter activities. Having additional contributors help keep the page active and increase engagement is a good idea!

- g. Policy and Resolutions (Karina)
 - i. No updates
- h. Conservation (Dave)
 - i. Spring meeting of WDAFS RPECC committee was held Tue. 5/19. WD meeting in Portland was reviewed. Upcoming possible issue for the RPECC to alert WD excom included USFS release of draft revision of the Tongass Forest Plan, which could be reviewed and commented on by WDAFS or possibly Society. Also the Forest 2001 Roadless Rule repeal is expected to have a draft EIS released this spring likely with a very short comment period; associated with this legislation has been introduced (HR 3930/SB 2043) that would codify the 2021 Rule into law, requiring congressional approval to change management under the Rule.
 - ii. RPECC Chair Paul Kusnierz has been elected WD Vice President, a new Chair will need to surface later this year.
- i. Bylaws & Nominations (Abigale Deen)
 - i. No updates
- j. Grants and Travel Awards (Matea)
 - i. Touched base with Shawn - not ready to return to chair position
 - ii. Will release small grant award announcement in late June, to close the end of August.
- k. Historian (Jim)
 - i. Nothing new to report at this time.
- l. Outreach & Diversity (Open)
 - i. No updates
- m. Merchandise (Kim & Matea)
 - i. No update
- n. Exhibits/Fundraising (Andrew)
 - i. No updates
- o. Finance (Wayne)
 - i. No updates
- p. Native Fishes (Dylan)
 - i. No updated
- q. Student Liaison (Matt Young and Matea)
 - i. Paige Gardner to start in role in Fall 2026

- r. Targeted discussion agenda
 - i. From April notes: subunit migration costs from SCMBAS website to the new Society WordPress website. Kim to follow up with Jeff about waiving fees; Abbie to follow up with her subunit.
- s. Other?
 - i.
- t. Next meeting: June 18, 2026, 5:30-7:30

ADJOURN