

President: My name is Aviva Fiske and I'm a PhD candidate at the University of California, Davis. My dissertation focuses on developing molecular genetic techniques for conservation of



white sturgeon. My current work is aimed at using single-nucleotide polymorphisms to optimize parentage-based genetic tagging (PBT) for the endangered Kootenai River white sturgeon population. PBT will allow researchers to determine the exact parents of hatchery spawned and released juveniles through the genotyping of their broodstock parents. When hatchery fish are recaptured in the river after their release, they can be matched to their parents using their unique genetic profile. This technique will improve our understanding of growth, population age structure and year class success. Our goal is to make PBT more reliable than physical tagging, which can be prone to tag loss. I also have an ongoing project using genetics to estimate the number of spawning adults in

the Hells Canyon reach of the Snake River, and I previously worked on developing best practices for determining ploidy in white sturgeon. In my free time I enjoy gardening, mountain biking, cooking, running with my dog, and rock climbing!