

Name: Andrea Schreier

Affiliation: Associate Adjunct Professor, University of California Davis

Position Nominated for: President

I'm excited about the possibility of serving you all again as NASPS President! For those of you who don't know me, I am a sturgeon geneticist and polyploidy enthusiast in the Department of Animal Science at UC Davis. A member of the IUCN Sturgeon Specialist Group and California's Sturgeon Project Work Team, I joined NASPS at the society's inception and have served two terms as Treasurer, two as Vice President, one term as President, and one as Past President. As Treasurer, I streamlined our accounting, helped the Society attain 501c3 status, found a non-profit tax accountant to manage our taxes, and worked with the Governing Board to plan three (in person) annual meetings. As Vice President, I drafted member communications and helped organize two virtual meetings and our in person meeting in Folsom, California (2022). As President, I continued to draft member communications and helped organize a webinar on sturgeon mass mortality events, which later led to an annual meeting workshop with proceedings currently being prepared for publication.

If re-elected as President, I aim to continue our society's forward momentum, growing and stabilizing our professional and student/early career professional membership. I will work with the Board to update our constitution and bylaws to better reflect the post-covid realities experienced by our membership. I also look forward to working with the World Sturgeon Conservation Society to plan a joint meeting in 2027. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Name: Tim Haxton

Affiliation: Retired, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Position Nominated for: Vice President

I was fortunate to spend the majority of my career working on sturgeon, first at a local level then provincial, national and international. I was able to attend and fully participate in many sturgeon meetings as a member of their scientific advisory committee and editorial board for proceedings. I have been a member of WSCS since its inception in 2004, was a founding member and co-chair of NAC which further developed into its current society, NASPS. I volunteered as an editorial board member for the Journal of Applied Ichthyology for about 10 years and was their sturgeon subject for about 5 years until the journal was taken over. I have published sturgeon papers in scientific literature and have peer-reviewed many more. My specialty is population dynamics and assessment but have dabbled in quantitative genetic analyses. I recently retired from my government position after 37 years, now teach Fisheries Assessment and Management at Trent University among other adventures. I am on the Board of Directors for Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resources and the current vice-president for NASPS. I would like to continue to promote sturgeon and encourage increased involvement with NASPS.

Name: Steven J. Rider

Affiliation: Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

Position Nominated for: Vice President

Steve serves as River and Stream Fisheries Program Supervisor for the Fisheries Section of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. His work focuses on conservation and management of native freshwater fishes such as Paddlefish, Gulf Sturgeon, Alabama Sturgeon, Alabama Shad, Bowfin, and Southern Walleye across Alabama's river basins. His current work includes assessing the status of Alabama and Gulf Sturgeon in the Mobile River basin and studying Gulf Sturgeon movement and habitat use in the Conecuh, Pea, and Choctawhatchee rivers. Previously, he developed a proactive commercial Paddlefish management plan and managed the commercial fishery.

He collaborates with state fisheries managers, university researchers, and graduate students on a range of fisheries projects. As a life member since NASPS was founded, Steve served as member-at-large from 2023 to 2025 and, if elected Vice President, looks forward to working with all NASPS members to advance the conservation and management of Paddlefish and sturgeon.

Name: Molly Webb

Affiliation: USFWS, Bozeman Fish Technology Center

Position Nominated for: Treasurer

Dr. Molly Webb is a fish biologist with the USFWS working in the field of conservation physiology. Her research program focuses on development and application of non-invasive and less invasive methods to determine reproductive indices and spawning readiness in sturgeons and paddlefish to assess key demographic indicators such as spawning stock biomass and rates of follicular atresia. She also studies the effects of environmental factors, stress, and contaminants on sturgeon and paddlefish developmental biology and reproductive potential in conservation propagation programs and the wild. She is a founding member of the NASPS and has served on the Governing Board since 2012 (President and Treasurer). She is currently the Secretary General for the World Sturgeon Conservation Society and a member of the IUCN Sturgeon Specialist Group. She has played an integral role in attaining the society's nonprofit status, developing the Student and Early Career Professional Subunit, developing and maintaining the society's website, planning and organizing the society's annual meetings and workshops, as well as maintaining the financial records and preparing tax reports for the society. The opportunities that the NASPS provides for dissemination of information, education, and professional development for sturgeon and paddlefish biologists, managers, and enthusiasts are extraordinary. She is proud to be a part of the NASPS community and would like to continue contributing to the society as the Treasurer.

Name: Jason Kahn

Affiliation: National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources

Position Nominated for: Secretary

Jason Kahn works for the National Marine Fisheries Service Office of Protected Resources. There, he wears a number of hats, including National Endangered Species Act section 7 training coordinator, member of the team that writes ESA regulations, and he is designated as the agency's sturgeon expert. He has been doing field research on Atlantic sturgeon in Virginia since 2012, focused primarily on understanding population demography and reproduction. He has been actively involved in the North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society since 2010 when it was the North American Chapter of the World Sturgeon Conservation Society.

Name: Mike Andres

Affiliation: University of Southern Mississippi

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

Dr. Mike Andres is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Coastal Sciences at the University of Southern Mississippi. His research is largely focused around migratory fish management, conservation, ecology, and their parasites. Mike received his B.S. in Marine Biology from Texas A&M University at Galveston and his PhD from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2015. His current research focusses on addressing data gaps in Gulf Sturgeon conservation and management, understanding Paddlefish populations in Mississippi's coastal rivers, and the ecology of coastal fish species in relation to habitat restoration projects (e.g., living shorelines and oyster reefs). He is currently a NASPS Governing Board Member-at-Large and will be helping co-chair the upcoming Paddlefish Symposium at 2027 Southern Division AFS in Mobile, AL (a shameless plug for the symposium).

Name: Madison Earhart

Affiliation: Liber Ero

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

I've been a member of NASPS since 2016, and was the student VP and President from 2021-2024. I've been deeply embedded within the NASPS community for over a decade, and have worked with many people on both the student board and governing board for years. I'm now a Liber Ero Postdoctoral fellow, and have worked with lake and white sturgeon since 2015. My current research focuses on identifying drivers of current population declines that may be causing low juvenile recruitment and recent adult sturgeon mortality events by assessing the effects of stressors such as food availability and climate warming. I've developed novel molecular tools that assess population health using minimally-invasive sampling techniques in wild sturgeon. By pairing ecophysiology with acoustic telemetry, Indigenous traditional knowledge, and eDNA sampling, I'm able to identify critical white sturgeon habitats for protection. I also work closely with the recreational guides and anglers on the Lower Fraser River, together we are assessing the impacts of the catch and release recreational fishery on white sturgeon health, and creating recommendations to improve the fishery regulations.

Name: Adam Fox

Affiliation: University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

Dr. Adam Fox is an Associate Professor of Fisheries at the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. At UGA, Adam teaches and mentors undergraduate and graduate students. His research program focuses on the population dynamics, life history, and ecology of coastal and estuarine fishes - especially diadromous sturgeons. His lab currently studies the federally endangered Atlantic and Shortnose sturgeons in Georgia and the threatened Gulf Sturgeon in Florida. He works closely with state and federal species managers to ensure that his research helps inform conservation and recovery efforts. Adam has been a member of NASPS since 2015.

Name: Amanda Higgs

Affiliation: NY State Department of Environmental Conservation

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

Amanda has worked with the sturgeons of the Hudson River Estuary since 1999 working with the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation. She represents NY in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission process. Her work includes collaborations on telemetry, annual surveys to track annual abundance, habitat mapping, development of a sturgeon population estimates and genetic techniques. She is currently an at large member of the NASPS governing board.

Name: Kim Scribner

Affiliation: Dept Fisheries and Wildlife Michigan State University

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

I am an evolutionary ecologist with academic training and research interests in population ecology and genetics, with emphasis on aquatic vertebrates, including sturgeon. I am a Professor (Emeritus) in the Departments of Fisheries and Wildlife at Michigan State University. I have also worked as a research biologist for the US government. I am the retired co-director of a 22 year lake sturgeon research and restoration hatchery program on the Black River in northern Michigan. I have published 328 peer reviewed papers including 74 papers on sturgeon. I have supervised 37 graduate students, including 7 Masters and 6 PhD students working on sturgeon.

Many students are currently in senior positions with resource management agencies, NGOs, industry, and in academia. I have engaged extensively with citizen groups and agency personnel concerning our research findings about sturgeon. I have developed Citizen Science place-based and virtual K-12 curricula for students and workshops for teachers based on our lake sturgeon research.

Name: Anna Steel

Affiliation: Associate Project Scientist, University of California, Davis

Position Nominated for: Member at Large

I'm honored and excited to be considered for the Member at Large position on the NASPS governing board. I am a researcher at UC Davis within the Fish Conservation Physiology Lab, focusing on physiology and swimming of Green and White Sturgeon, and their interactions with water infrastructure. I'm also active in California's research and management community, participating in the California Sturgeon Project Work Team and the sturgeon subgroup of the CVPIA Science Integration Team, which advises on regional federal conservation investment.

My connection to NASPS began at the Folsom, CA meeting in 2022 and continued at Nelson, BC in 2025. Both were wonderful opportunities to build relationships, and they left me eager to become more involved. Through my professional work spanning basic research to applied management, along with experience on non-profit leadership boards, I've developed a strong ability to lead teams, represent diverse perspectives, and find common ground. If elected, I'd assist with a 2027 joint meeting with the World Sturgeon Conservation Society, and further ongoing initiatives within NASPS as needed. I'd especially like to expand opportunities for inter-lab exchanges to foster more cross-species and cross-watershed collaboration. Thank you for your consideration!