

SHORE UP PARTNERSHIPS WITH FUTURE ANGLER FOUNDATION

Description: Brief history of the Future Angler Foundation (FAF), its growth since 2012 creation, and relationship with the National Professional Anglers Association and the recreational fishing industry. The FAF works with individuals and organizations throughout the United States to expose potential new anglers of all ages to the sport of fishing and educate them on how to catch fish and protect the resource. The educational component of what the FAF does is critical to the future of the sport because equipment alone will not catch fish, each angler must have the knowledge needed to use the equipment effectively. Both urban and rural clinics and events are supported by our foundation. Additionally, with the introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in the U.S, anglers must know the part they must play in slowing the spread of AIS if we are to protect our lakes and streams for future generations. Expansion of education and outreach via the *Gettin' Families Fishin'* Coalition is a recent partnership.

Location: Diamond Peak Room

Session Time: Wed., 8:30 AM

Presenter: Robert "Nick" Schmal, Executive Director, Future Angler Foundation

Dr. Robert "Nick" Schmal

Nick uses the R3 skills he gained in his 36-year career with USDA Forest Service where he served as a Ranger District, Forest level and Regional Office fishery biologist and program manager. He also served in six national details in the Forest Service headquarters in Washington D.C.

Nick now directs diverse recruitment of future anglers as the Executive Director of the Future Angler Foundation and serves on the Board of Directors for Wildlife Forever. Through his affiliations with Trout Unlimited, the American Fisheries Society, AREA, Boy Scouts of America, and other sectors of today's R3 community angling movement in agencies and organizations, Nick brings together partnerships that promote fishing in local, regional and national programs.

As a Certified Angling Instructor with the Wisconsin DNR, a BSA Angling Educator and an Angling Educator with the National Professional Anglers Association, Nick is extremely qualified at making angling related partnership programs successful in both R3 content and national distribution.