

July 2026

Women of Fisheries

Fish Sisters Unite: Celebrating 8 Years!



Janice speaking at the women of fisheries impromptu luncheon at AFS (Tampa, 2017)

The Women of Fisheries story begins in 2017. At the AFS annual meeting in Tampa, [Janice Kerns](#) organized an impromptu lunch meeting for women in fisheries. The conversations that ensued were meaningful and supportive, and there was a realization that many women had shared experiences, which were especially valuable for those without women mentors or role models.

During the same meeting, Kerry Flaherty Walia was also running around as meeting co-chair with a 2 month old in a sling, as was [Chelsey Crandall](#), who served as the meeting coordinator for child care and a

dedicated mother's room. They would not have been able to perform their duties for AFS during that meeting without those services.

Following the meeting, Chelsey reached out to Kerry and Janice about starting a virtual discussion group for women in fisheries science. On July 28, 2018, they created a safe space (through a Facebook private group) for women to communicate with each other about topics and provide advice to each other. It started with sharing experiences that were common across geography and disciplines within fisheries and blossomed into a wonderful way for "fish sisters" to support each other. These virtual discussions were genuine and sometimes colorful but always respectful and productive!



Kerry (left) and Chelsey (right) with their sons at AFS (Tampa 2017)

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Check out the full [Women of Fisheries origin story](#)



www.womenoffisheries.org

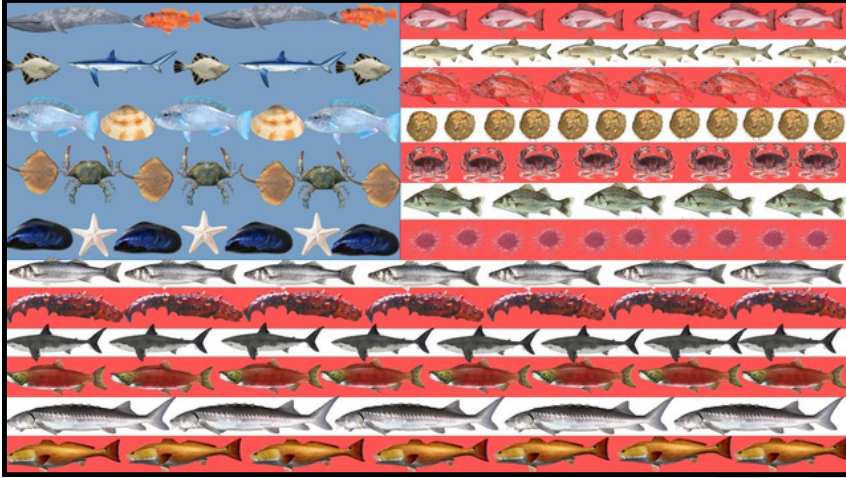


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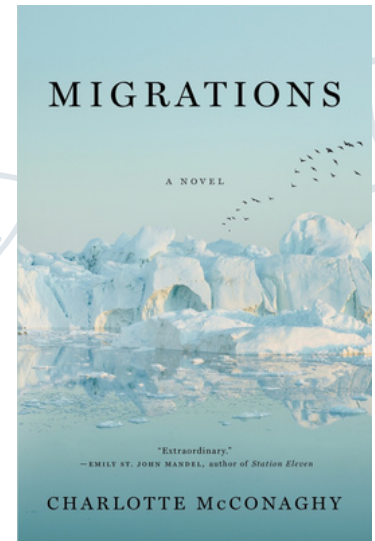
Contact us anonymously using the [WoF Anonymous Communication Form](#)

In July we...

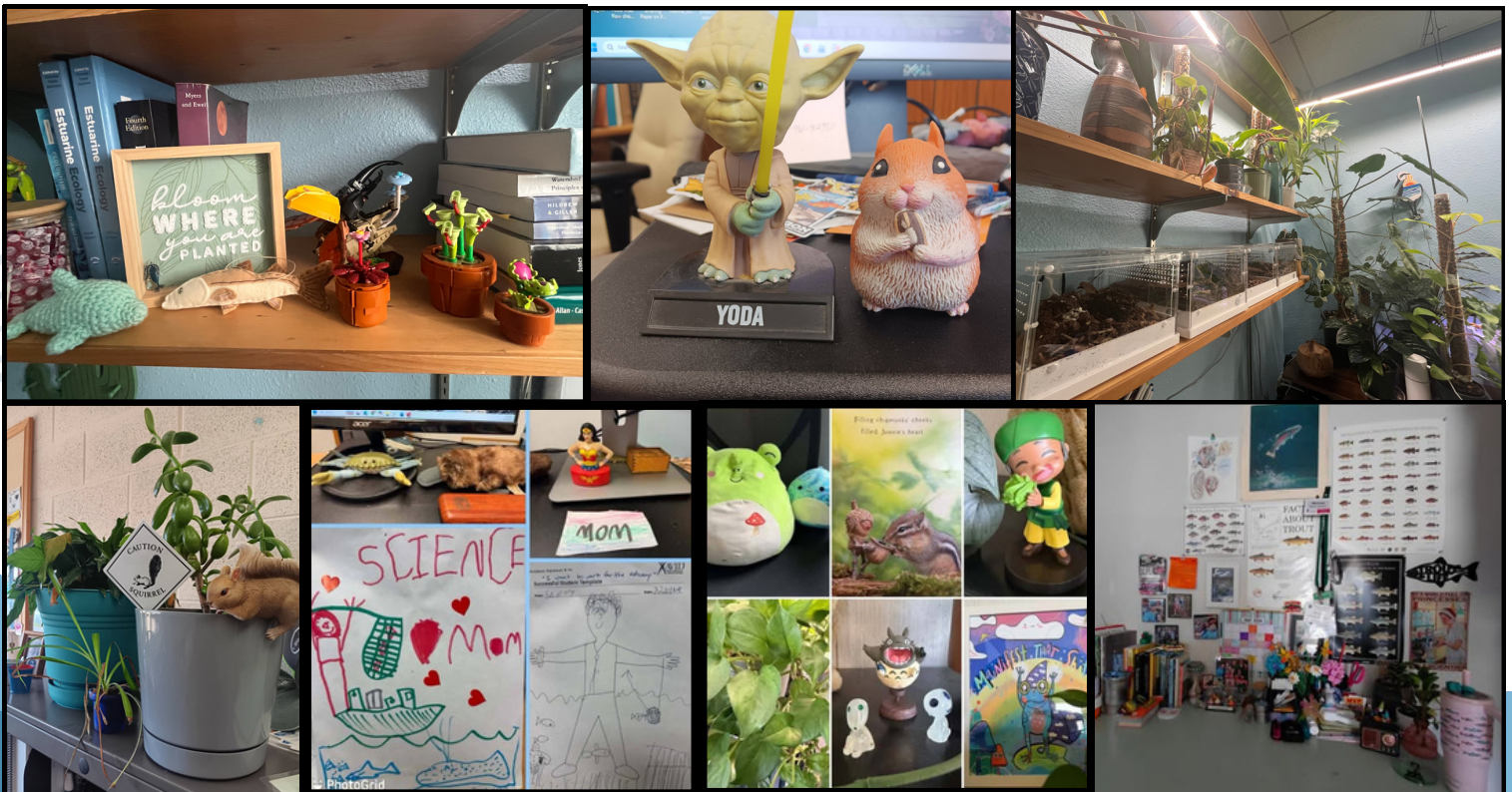
Celebrated Independence Day



Discussed our summer fiction book club selection



And shared the little things that bring us joy during those long days in the office



Fishing for Opportunities



Student Opportunities

Position: [MS or PhD Human Dimensions](#)

Organization: University of Vermont

Deadline: 09/30/26

Position: [MS Assistantship \(Carp & Crayfish\)](#)

Organization: Nicholls State University

Deadline: 10/01/26

Position: [PhD Marine Disease Ecology](#)

Organization: University of Colorado Boulder

Deadline: 10/04/26

Job Opportunities

Position: [Instructor - Fishing Gear and Environmental Sampling](#)

Organization: Cape Fear Community College

Deadline: 08/09/26

Position: [Fisheries Biologist 1](#)

Organization: PA Fish & Boat Commission

Deadline: 08/12/26

Position: [Oceans Program Manager](#)

Organization: FWI

Deadline: open until filled

Position: [Pacific Halibut & Groundfish Project Leader](#)

Organization: Oregon Fish & Wildlife

Deadline: 08/17/26

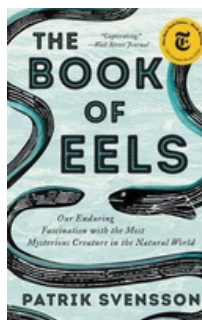
Do you know someone who should be featured in a Fish Sister Profile or Research Highlight?

Nominate them now! Self nominations are also encouraged

[Nominate Today!](#)



Join the [WoF Book Club!](#)



Help Support our Mission

Click the button below to make a quick one-time or monthly contribution to the Women of Fisheries, Inc. Funds will be used solely to fund our many initiatives for supporting women in fisheries. We are a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, so your contribution is tax deductible. Thank you!



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