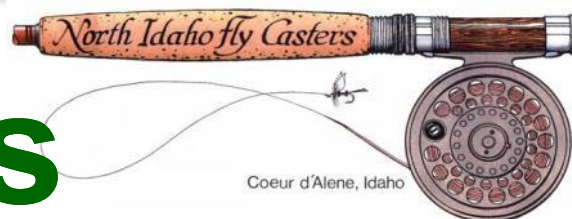


JULY 2026

Flies & Lies



North Idaho Fly Casters, P.O. Box 1698, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816 NorthIdahoFlyCasters.com

FUTURE FLY FISHERS IN THE FORECAST



—Photo by Mike McLean
A Lake City High School student proudly displays her first trout caught on her own fly. See [MORE ON PAGE 3](#).

Skies clear for Borley Camp fishout

24 fishers partake in first club outing of the summer

By **MEL WIMMER**

Saturday, June 27, began with uncertainty. It had rained steadily throughout Friday evening, and I wasn't sure the weather was going to cooperate.

When Saturday morning arrived, the sky was gray and gloomy. But by 10 a.m., the clouds began to thin, and things started looking more hopeful.

By noon, the clouds were breaking apart, and glimpses of sunshine filtered through the trees. The day was turning out to be a beautiful one for the Borley Camp Fishout.

We were especially pleased to welcome several new club members this year, including NIFC Vice President-elect Ron Smith and his wife Tammy.

Ron had never fly fished before, yet he is an avid fly tier who has tied more than 300 flies. He tried his luck

[See BORLEY, page 4](#)

We are the NIFC

Since 1977, the North Idaho Fly Casters Club has been dedicated to all facets of the sport of fly fishing by providing a wide range of educational, social, and conservation opportunities to the fly fishing enthusiast.

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Club reps to meet with TU regarding joint efforts

New NIFC leadership begins Oct. 1

Hopefully you have been on the water, enjoying some relaxing fly fishing this summer.

We just concluded our first Fishout last weekend and welcomed several new faces. Thanks to Mel and Robin Wimmer and Craig Baumann for heading up the event, and the Borley family for sharing their beautiful place on the North Fork. If you have never been here, you are really



President's Message

By RICHARD BIRKETT

missing out! I look forward to this date every year because it offers room for our group, several options for fishing locations, and a view of the wildlife. The fact that it is closer to Coeur d'Alene probably accounts for higher attendance, but it's also the kickoff for our summer activities, and we find new members like attending to get some time on the water learning new skills, or just simply having fun!

Our elections in May yielded a few new faces too.

Walking through the slate, we reelected the following: Dave Gillmor as Trustee-at-Large; Steve Sommer as Treasurer; and Craig Baumann as Secretary. All three agreed to remain in their roles and have been a tremendous help in running our club's business. Thank you guys! We elected Ron Smith as our new Vice President. Ron is new to the club and to fly fishing, yet he raised his hand and asked to help. Thank you Ron for standing up and offering your time and support! Ron will replace Pat Smith who will step down as V.P. but has agreed to become a

Trustee. That position became available when Wayne Hudlemeyer agreed to become our new President after a close election. All of these gentlemen will assume their duties Oct. 1, with the start of our fiscal year, and I will hand over the duties officially to Wayne at the September meeting. Thank you Pat for your time as V.P. and to Ron and Wayne for agreeing to become our new V.P. and President!

Additionally, Matt Valbusa is stepping down from his

role as Program Director. Matt has injected a lot of new energy into finding and bringing new and different speakers to our membership meetings for a few years now. Ron Smith

has agreed to accept this role too. Matt, thank you for all your time and work in seeking new speakers and bringing to us a variety of topics and waters for our membership. You have done a stellar job!

The Board recently discussed and agreed to plan on a joint meeting with the Panhandle Chapter of Trout Unlimited in January. TU is based in Sandpoint, but has many members in the Coeur d'Alene area, several of which are also

One potential project is the rehabilitation of the Hudlow Meadows site with the initial work set to start in the next 30 days.

members of NIFC (and vice versa). While TU has a national focus on larger issues, two changes have helped provide more local direction for the chapter. First, about two to three years ago, Erin Plue became TU's Idaho Director. Erin has spoken at our club twice and talked about the Prichard Creek development and the Priest River situation. She moved from her position at Idaho Forest Group and brought with her a TU national focus on our local waters. This was important because she resides here and works with the local TU chapter.

Second, TU Panhandle elected some new leadership, which included Chip Corsi, the retired regional supervisor for IDFG Panhandle Region. Chip and our own Bob Holman were two new additions to TU's board and have started to provide direction to the chapter.

The result of these changes is an increased interest in North Idaho fly fishing and conservation. One program will be the aforementioned meeting in January with a special speaker, open to members of both organizations. More on this as we continue to work out the details. We also are discussing working together on conservation projects. One potential project is the rehabilitation of the Hudlow Meadows site with the initial work set to start in the next 30 days. Again, more on this as the schedule is rolled out.

The mission for connecting with TU locally is to increase the community's awareness of our waters through fly fishing. As you may have heard, the more people are involved with fly fishing, the more aware they are of conservation issues, which helps us all in the long run! I am sure that together we are stronger in working through some of the issues facing us all, some of which we could address

[See PRESIDENT, page 8](#)

NIFC spring program introduces 124 youths to fly fishing

Volunteer effort aims to ensure future of sport

By DAVE LONDEREE

The spring of 2026 has been a great time for fly tying and fishing with the students at Lake City, Timberlake, and Priest River high schools. A total of 124 students were introduced to fly fishing this spring.

I sincerely want to thank Chuck Leis, Terry Wallgren, Rich Birkett, Mike McLean, Mike Owen, Dave Gillmor, Howard Fennimore, Pat Smith, Skip Quade, Steve Sommer, Doug Fagerness, and Wayne Hudlemeyer for always showing up to instruct, both at the schools and at the pond.

I also want to acknowledge the teachers, Corey Owen (Lake City), Shawn Lawler (Timberlake) and Mike McHahon (Priest River). I look forward to working with you again in the fall.

—Photos courtesy Mike McLean and Dave Londeree



Priest River High School



Timberlake High School



Lake City High School 1



Lake City High School 2

BORLEY from page 1

—Photos by Craig Baumann
and Dale Harder

Above: Club members and guests enjoy the meal at the Borley Camp fishout. Left: Wildlife viewing opportunities abound when spending time on the river. Right Gary Owca casts a line. Below: Mel Wimmer, Larry Gatt, and Mike Lippman enjoy time for relaxation.



at the fishing hole next to camp using one of his own creations and caught his very first cutthroat trout. He was thrilled, and I was impressed!

If you have a chance to meet Ron at one of our dinner meetings, be sure to ask him how fly tying has changed his life.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to Craig Baumann for co-hosting this year's fish-out. Craig handled all of the grocery shopping and brought everything to camp, which was a tremendous help.

Craig and I spent much of our time at the grill cooking hamburgers, hot dogs, and sausages.

As always, there was an abundance of great food. Everyone brought delicious dishes to share, and no one went home hungry.



Dale Harder and his wife Deb arrived on Thursday. Dale fished upstream near the bridge and enjoyed excellent success, catching several beautiful cutthroat trout over 15 inches long.

Peter Brooks also reported good fishing on both Friday and Saturday.

Larry Gatt, Craig, and Rich Birkett all managed to get a fly in the water, and I'm confident they found success as well.

Attendance was impressive,

especially considering the threatening weather forecast.

Those who attended were Ron and Tammy Smith, Craig Baumann, Rich Birkett, Peter Brooks, Steve Calhoun, Rodney Fox and a friend, Larry Gatt, Dale and Deb Harder, Brad Kerr, Mike Lippman, Dave and Doris Londeree, Mick Nocera and his daughter, Gary and Carolyn Owca, Pat Smith, Fred Timms, Mel and Robin Wimmer, and Wayne Hudlemeyer.

In all, an impressive 24 club members and guests attended this year's Borley Camp Fish-Out.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped make the weekend another memorable success.

We look forward to seeing you again next year!

... There is nothing so provoking of curiosity as a fishing rod in a case.

—Roland Pertwee, *The River God* (1928).

CLUB NEWS

NEXT CLUB PROGRAM

NIFC holds dinner meetings on the third Thursday of each month from September through May.

The next meeting is:

Sept 17, 2026

Coeur d'Alene Inn

506 W. Appleway Avenue

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Wet Fly Hour at 5 p.m.

Dinner at 6 p.m.

Program at 7 p.m.

SUMMER FISHOUTS

JUNE 27: Borley Camp, North Fork Coeur d'Alene

JULY 11: Hidden Creek, North Fork Clearwater

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Club dues can be mailed to:

North Idaho Fly Casters

P.O. Box 1698

Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-1698

Annual Membership Dues:

\$65 — Family/Single/Senior

\$100 — Corporate/Business

The current membership year is

September 2025 through August 2026.

MERCHANDISE



To order items with the NIFC logo, contact:

Patrick Smith

480-374-0218 or email

smith.patrick075@gmail.com

Donate raffle items before meetings resume

The North Idaho Fly Casters monthly dinner meeting raffle is one of our club's main fundraisers. Thank you all who donated all season to the club raffle.

Now it's time to collect stuff for the next season's club-meeting raffles. To donate, contact Dave Gillmor at 208-920-9000, or email him at davegillmor@gmail.com.

ELECTION RESULTS



WAYNE HUDLEMEYER
President-elect



RON SMITH
Vice President-elect

Here are the results from the May 2026 elections.

President: Wayne Hudlemeyer

Vice President: Ron Smith

Secretary: Craig Baumann

Treasurer: Steve Sommer

Trustee-at-Large: Dave Gillmor

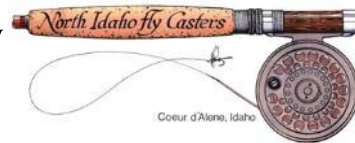
Terms for the positions will begin Oct. 1.



Club Name Badges Available

You may have noticed club members sporting name badges adorned with the club logo and the owner's name.

These badges are a real work of art. To order one of these badges, contact



Pat Smith at the next meeting.

The cost is \$15 for a badge with a magnetic fastener and \$12 for one with a pin back.

Payment is due at the time of order.



PROJECT HEALING WATERS
EST. 2005

VFW meeting room
406 N 4th Street,
Coeur d'Alene, ID

10:00 a.m. — 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

Open to all veterans.
You do not need to be a veteran
to volunteer your services.

Brian Saks, Program Lead 208-561-1375

July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	22	22
23 30	24 31	25	26	27	28	29

September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

CALENDAR**July 2026**

4th — *Independence Day*
 9th — *Board Meeting*
 11th — *NF Clearwater Fishout*

August 2026

12th — *World Youth Day*
 13th — *Board Meeting*
 26th — *National Dog Day*

**September 2026**

7th — *Labor Day*
 10th — *Board Meeting*
 14th — *RSVP for Dinner Meet*
 17th — *Dinner Meeting*

*Birthday Wishes***JULY****Howard Fennimore**

July 2

Rick Stanich

July 2

Scott Crawford

July 2

Doug Fraser

July 12

Nancy Whitt

July 13

Toni West

July 17

Rob Robinson

July 20

Berta Mowery

July 21

Spencer Eisenbarth

July 30

**AUGUST****Gary Wiester**

August 5

Steve Herndon

August 5

Randy Fridlund

August 6

Mary Fridlund

August 24

Scott Forssell

August 27

Michelle Darst

August 29

Gayle Wehlacz

August 30

Fly of the Month: Courtesy of Dave Londeree

KLINKHAMMER wet fly

HOOK: Klinkhammer Emerger Size 14-16

THREAD: Brown 8/0

BODY: 8/0 Brown Thread

WING: White EP Fibers

HACKLE: Brown

THORAX: Dubbing Black Rabbit

Tying steps:

1. Pinch the hook barb flat and mount the hook in the vise.
2. Start the thread a few hook eye lengths back from the eye.
3. Build a tapered thread body to halfway around the bend of the hook. The upper end of the body should be a bit larger than the hook eye. Twist your bobbin and thread counterclockwise to flatten the thread to make a smoother body.
4. Use a small bundle of the EP Fibers (about the size of the hook eye) Tie the Wing fibers to the top of the



- hook right where the body ends with a few figure 8 wraps. Hold the wing straight up and POST the wing a short way up.
5. Select a hackle feather that is equal to the hook gap. Strip a few barbules from the stem and tie the hackle to the wing.
6. Make a small dubbing noodle. Wrap the dubbing at the wing tie in point to form the Thorax, ending at the bottom of the wing.
7. Wrap the hackle around the wing six times (three times up, then three times down). Tie the hackle off with a few wraps of thread ending at the hook eye.
8. Form a small head at the hook eye and whip finish. Cut the thread loose and add a drop of head cement.
9. Trim the EP wing fibers to equal the body length.

FLY OF THE MONTH BOOKLET

A collection of five years of the Fly of the Month in booklet form is still available. The booklet is filled from cover to cover with flies from the vice of Jim Rogers and a few from Dave Londeree. It can be yours for \$25 plus postage, or you can pick them up at the next club meeting.

Contact: Dave Londeree at
dlonderee@roadrunner.com
 or 208-946-6631



**FLIES OF THE
MONTH
2015-2019**

PRESIDENT from page 2

in the near term, but most of which will take more time.

I would like to add that being President of NIFC was unexpected when Dave Londeree first approached me to consider it. That was five years ago, and it came at the perfect time as I was looking to fill my calendar after retiring. The club was welcoming and helpful, thank goodness! Several folks provided me with answers and suggestions along the way. I found out quickly that we had a great Board of Directors too. The camaraderie has always been super even though we dealt with challenging topics

and changed people through the years. It must be because fly fishers are the best!

So, thank you Dave for the consideration and support you have given to me, and thanks to the Directors and members for your comments and the fun we have had for the entire time I have enjoyed being President. I came to the right place!

I'll step down now and help Wayne, meanwhile becoming a Trustee and staying active within our club.

Now, let's get back out on the water and have some fun!

Streamkeepers wanted to help keep the good times flowing

**NIFC
NEEDS YOU**



NIFC is seeking someone, or a few people, to be our streamkeepers. Currently there are no fishouts scheduled for August and September.

Streamkeeper duties include selecting site and dates; providing details to members, including dates, camping options, and fishing options; providing the main meal entrée through the club (either lunch or dinner) to attendees as part of a the pot luck.

We are seeking your choice of a variety of day or weekend events at places like lakes streams and rivers.

Our goal is to provide more options for our members who enjoy learning about fly fishing in a social setting.

Past streamkeepers, including Mel Wimmer, Tom McLaughlin, and Mark Vehr can provide guidance.

You might want to get a buddy or two to share in the duties and have more fun.

Contact Richard Birkett if interested.

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COME WATCH THE BEST
COLLECTION OF FLY FISHING
FILMS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.



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Win fly rods, reels, fishing trips, and more!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT
THE MAYFLY PROJECT
Support youth in foster care
through fly fishing.

JULY 9, 2026

DOORS OPEN
AT 6PM

SHOW STARTS
AT 7PM

\$15
IN ADVANCE

\$20
AT THE DOOR



Join us for
Love Our Lake Week

July 13, 9-11 am
Coffee Talk, A Simple Look
at a Complicated Lake
at McEuen Pavilion

July 14, 6-8 pm
Watershed & Lake Trivia at
Vantage Point

July 15, 5-8 pm
Our Gem joins Music at McEuen

July 16, 11 am-1 pm
Cultural & Ecological Talks
at Cheamkewet Park
(NIC Beach/Dike Road)
Followed By Self Guided Paddle

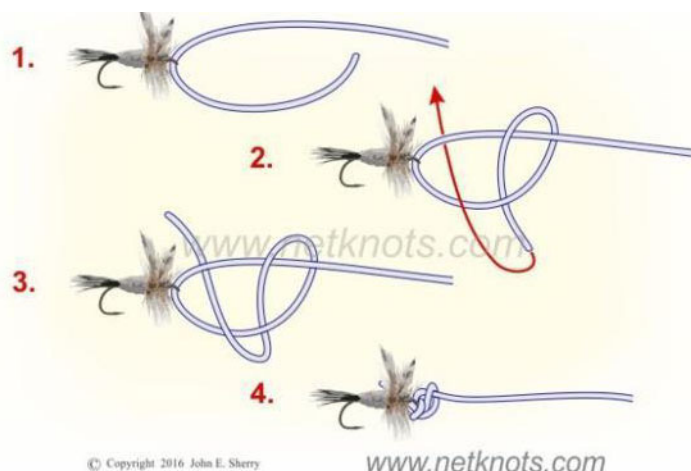
July 17, 9 am-noon
Love Our Lake Activities and
Grand Prize Drawing
at the U of I Coeur d'Alene

Win Prizes!

Additional
events &
details at
iwrri.uidaho.edu/ourgem

Knots to Know By DAVE LONDEREE

DAVY KNOT



The Davy Knot, a popular knot in fly fishing, was created by Davy Wotton in the 1950s.

He developed the knot during a fly fishing competition in Wales as a quick and efficient way to attach flies to his fishing line.

It is known for its speed, small size, and ability to conserve tippet material.

With a little practice you will use it with confidence.

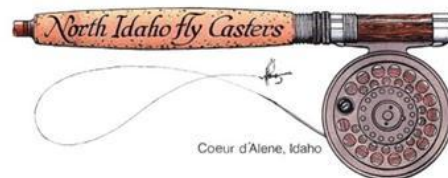
When tied correctly, the tag end will exit the knot at a 90-degree angle.

NIFC Board Minutes Submitted by RICHARD BIRKETT, President

Date: June 11, 2026

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Location: Elmer's, Coeur d'Alene



- I. Call to Order
- II. Social
 - A. Fishouts
 1. June 27 - Borley Camp, North Fork Coeur d'Alene
 2. July 11 - Hidden Creek, North Fork Clearwater
- III. Educational
 - A. Trout Spey Class by Steve Bird
 1. On hold at this time; several members attending class at Bird's place
- IV. Conservation
 - A. Prichard Day Use Area Project
 1. Small team (Ed, Mark & Rich) and others communicating monthly with USFS and IDFG
 2. Mark provided overview
 3. Bob Holman called Andy Dux (IDFG) for update
 - a. Andy to call Will at USFS to encourage him to let IDFG know what needs to be done
 - b. We agreed to arrange a meeting with USFS in near future (most likely at least a few weeks)
 4. Chip Corsi and Tom Whalen, of Panhandle TU (not in attendance), are involved too
- B. Hudlow Meadows Rehab Project w/TU (Cathy Gidley, North Idaho Program Manager)
 1. As of April 20: Construction set to start in July. Structures/planting set to start in Fall.
- V. Other
 - A. Finance
 1. Financial Reports Review
 - a. Motion to accept: Mark; Second, Pat
 - B. Joint meeting with Panhandle TU
 1. Jan. 21, 2027
 2. Bob to talk with TU board
 3. Additional thoughts:
 - a. Sell tickets in advance
 - b. Get top speaker
 - c. Seek venue
 - C. Memorial plaques
 1. Agreed to change to following:
 - a. Instead of bringing to December meeting, bring to May meeting and include a mention of any members who have passed in the prior year in the newsletter.
 - C. Next Board meeting: July 9
- VI. Adjourn

Water Resource Info

Suggestions from our readers

Regional Fly Shops:

Northwest Outfitters Orvis 208-667-2707

2171 N. Main St., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Castaway Fly Shop 208-765-3133

1114 N 4th St., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Castaway Outfitters 208-682-2929

1560 Coeur d'Alene River Rd., Kingston, Idaho

North 40 Fly Shop 208-666-0506

170 E Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

Silver Bow 509-924-9998

13210 E Indiana Ave., Spokane Valley, WA

Links to Fishing Reports:

<https://nwoutfitters.com/river-reports>

<https://www.silverbowflyshop.com/fishingreports/>

Weather:

National Weather Service/NOAA

<https://forecast.weather.gov/>

Information (Regs/Maps):

IDFG North Fork Coeur d'Alene River

<https://idfg.idaho.gov/ifwis/fishingplanner/water/1162568475573>

<https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/>

Associations:

North Idaho Fly Casters

<https://www.northidahoflycasters.com>

Fly Fishers International

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org>

River Flows:

USGS North Fork Coeur d'Alene River @ Prichard

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/id/nwis/uv/?site_no=12411000

North Fork Coeur d'Alene River @ Enaville

https://waterdata.usgs.gov/id/nwis/uv?site_no=12413000

Club Officers

President

Richard Birkett

(208) 660-1975

birkettstl@gmail.com

Vice-President

Patrick Smith

(480) 374-0218

smith.patrick075@gmail.com

Secretary

Craig Baumann

(858) 353-2300

craigpbaumann@gmail.com

Treasurer

Stephen Sommer

(805) 878-4613

stephen@sommerwholesalenursery.com

Trustees

Wayne Hudlemeyer

(208) 664-3611

vwhud@tds.net

Mark Vehr

(208) 449-8808

ma2ve2@gmail.com

Dave Londeree

(208) 946-6631

dlonderee@roadrunner.com

Trustee-at-Large

Dave Gillmor

(208) 920-9000

davegillmor@gmail.com

Committees

Membership

Craig Baumann

(858) 353-2300

craigpbaumann@gmail.com

Conservation

Matt Albaugh

(208) 680-6792

albaughhrodco@gmail.com

Youth

Dave Londeree

(208) 946-6631

dlonderee@roadrunner.com

Raffles

Dave Gillmor

(208) 920-9000

davegillmor@gmail.com

Programs

Matt Valbusa

(208) 916-7036

mvalbusa@msn.com

Merchandise

Patrick Smith

(480) 374-0218

smith.patrick075@gmail.com

Quartermaster

Dave Londeree

(208) 946-6631

dlonderee@roadrunner.com

Newsletter Editor

Mike McLean

(509) 842-6590

mclmik@hotmail.com

Newsletter Proofreader

Leslie Balsley

(425) 785-0511

RLBalsley@comcast.net

North Idaho Fly Casters club bylaws are available upon request to the Secretary.

The Board of Trustees meets the second Thursday of the month.

NIFC Corporate Memberships

Please support these businesses



Long Drift
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Guided fly fishing & float trips
Kootenai River, Idaho



Aaron Gordon
(303) 917-2822

longdriftoutfitters@gmail.com

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Idaho Outfitter # 17908

Michael Beard
Owner/Guide



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NORTHWEST OUTFITTERS
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Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 E-Mail: info@nwoutfitters.com

SAINT MARIES FLIES
Derek Darst
Fly Tyer

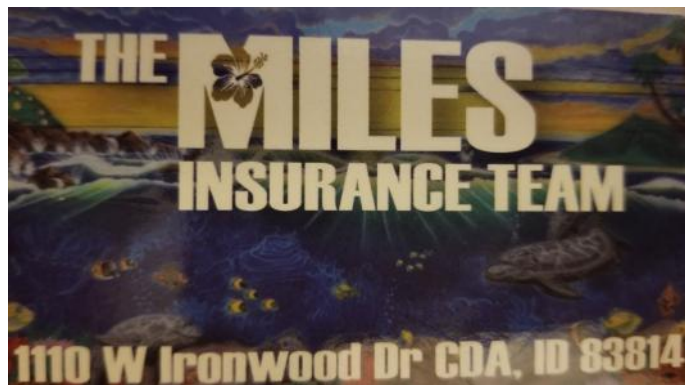
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Saint Maries, Idaho. 83861

208-568-0709
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NIFC Corporate Memberships

Please support these businesses



Jeff Smith

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www.fins1.com

