

The Amazing Nettleaf Hackberry:

A Mixed-Method Approach to Understanding Changes in *Celtis reticulata* Populations on the Lower Salmon River, Idaho

Richie Thaxton, Idaho Tree Ring Lab, University of Idaho

Presentation | Recent observations indicate netleaf hackberry (*Celtis reticulata*) in Idaho is expanding into riparian areas at the same time abundance decreases in the uplands. To better understand the extent and magnitude of these changes on the lower Salmon River, we revisit netleaf hackberry sites first studied 30 years ago. We employ a mixed method approach – vegetation transects, repeat photography, and dendrochronology – to identify how hackberry populations on the Lower Salmon have changed over the last 30 years and identify if changes are driven by changes in moisture availability.



Richie Thaxton is a fourth-year PhD student at the University of Idaho Tree Ring Lab. His previous work has used dendrochronology to understand changes to riparian cottonwood forests in the Western US affected by human-caused changes in streamflow. For his PhD he is working with Grant Harley to better understand drivers and changes in southeast US streamflow using tree rings.

7:00 pm PST, Tuesday January 20, 2026

LeCompte Auditorium, 1912 Center, Moscow, ID

Zoom option: <https://uidaho.zoom.us/j/87979019611>

Sponsored by the Idaho Native Plant Society White Pine Chapter