



Your Hosts: The 2022 Team!



Dennis & Sharon K: Dennis and Sharon have been coming to WPL since 2008. We are retired and live in Cocoa Beach Fl.. We have 3 boys, Ross 43, Ryan 41 and Robb 40. We enjoy traveling and new adventures. We are looking forward to another great season at WPL and getting to meet and work with all the returning and new guests and staff.



Devin R. - I am a student at the University of Alaska Southeast, I am studying diesel mechanics. My hobbies are fishing, hunting and photography. I grew up in a small, rural town in Southeast, Alaska. I enjoy spending my time in the beautiful Alaskan mountains with a rifle, hunting ducks off the grass flats, or fly fishing in the creeks around my island.

Dave W. - I am currently a full-time Professor of Culinary Arts at Daytona State College in Daytona Beach, FL. I have worked in the Hospitality industry for 40 years, including all levels in the kitchen from dishwasher to Executive Chef. My experience in the restaurant industry is varied and includes high volume, family style to ultra fine dining concepts. I have been an educator for the past 26 years and have worked for 4 different schools in both faculty and administrative positions.



Additionally, I opened my own business, Red Suspenders Wood Shop in 2020. I build a wide variety of wood projects including custom furniture, cutting boards and martial art weapons. I feature many projects made from reclaimed or up-cycled wood. I am also a part-time Martial Arts instructor. I'm originally from Philadelphia, PA and moved to Florida in 1985. I earned my Bachelors degree in business administration from the University of Florida, Associates degree in Culinary Arts from the Restaurant School in Philadelphia, and an MBA from Belhaven College.

My wife Paulette and I have been married for 20 years. We have 2 boys, Gabriel (17) and Owen (13). We currently live in Winter Springs, FL. Our dog, Bob, a rescued Heeler Hound rounds out the family.



Claire VP: Claire VP: My name is Claire and I am 21 years old. 2022 will be my fourth summer at WPL and I am so excited! I was born and raised in southeastern Idaho and moved to North Idaho to attend North Idaho College where I graduated with an Associate's Degree in Wildlife Biology and Management. In 2020 I moved to Palmer, Alaska with my parents and I currently reside in Anchorage where I am a student at Alaska Pacific University studying Marine and Fisheries Biology. I love to fly fish, hike, travel, and spend time with my family, friends, two dogs and my cat. Wilderness Place Lodge is my happy place and I love meeting new people from all over the world and ensuring they have a great time at WPL. Fish on!



Braeden N. - As a toddler, I often found the most enjoyment out of playing with fly reels compared to any other toy I had at the time. My father first taught me how to cast a fly rod at age 3, with his immense experience guiding me throughout my way for the entirety of my time fishing. I have been addicted to fishing for as long as I can remember and I have ventured with that mindset to every state I have lived. Whether I was trying to fool those rising browns sipping size #24 tricos off the

surface of the Missouri river or spending all day casting for that elusive steelhead on the Clearwater river in my current home state of Idaho, the joy I have found in fishing has never once dampened or given me any reason to not be back out there at daybreak that next morning, and I am hoping that it never will.

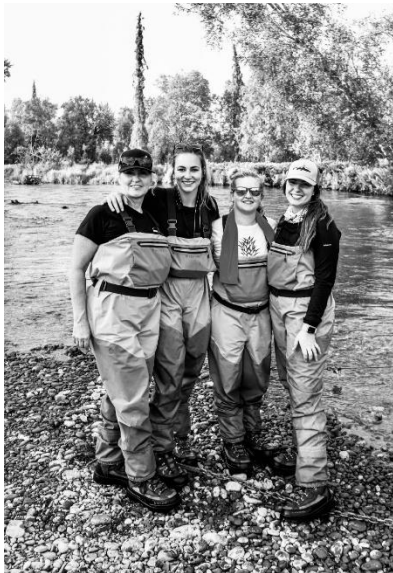


Jarod P. - Hello! I am 23 and returning for my 3rd season at Wilderness Place Lodge and could not be more excited to get back to the river! I have spent my whole life in the outdoors fishing, hunting, and exploring. I work as a seasonal hunting guide through the fall and have started getting into some tournament bass fishing in the spring. I am from Arlington, TX and love escaping the summer heat for Alaska. My family is originally from Springfield, MN and we have a cabin on a lake in Park Rapids, MN where I spent most of my younger

years learning how to fish, drive boats, and everything else that comes with the outdoors. I look forward to getting back on Lake Creek and catching some of the hardest fighting fish I have ever had the pleasure to pursue!



Mason G. - Mason was born and raised in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. He has been on staff at Wilderness Place Lodge since 2020. When he is not whipping a jon boat on Alaska's wild and wonderful wilderness waterways, he can be found taking classes at Temple University. Aside from fly fishing and tying, Mason enjoys skiing, basketball, Mexican food, and long walks on the beach. He is very excited for his second season on Lake Creek.



Colleen H. - Colleen was born in Upstate Ny. Shortly after, moved with her family to Fairbanks Alaska. Colleen's father started his young career as an Alaskan Smokejumper. A wonderful childhood and teachings of her dad taught Colleen the many joys of the outdoors. Having her home on the banks of the Chena River, Colleen developed a passion for clear water and fishing. Colleen now resides in Western Idaho near the banks of the Snake River. She has three beautiful daughters and will be welcoming her first grandchild in May of 2021. Colleen loves working in the service industry and enjoys seeing WPL guests share in the love of all our lodge has to offer. Wilderness Place Lodge is heaven on Earth...and the fishing ain't bad either! When not at WPL, Colleen spends her time teaching 6th grade and will begin her 28th year Fall of 2021.



Joelle G. - Hello! I'm Joelle, but some call me Tree Troll because I'm always in the trees. When I'm not chopping wood at WPL, I'll be swimming, mountain biking, reading, and drinking tea. Winter is my favorite season, where I'm found surfing on Lake Superior, cross country skiing, snow biking, or making snow angels. I'm currently a senior at Northern Michigan University studying Ecology and Native American Studies. I am very interested in forest fire ecology, hoping for a long term position in that

area. I grew up on a tree farm, and I've always been very connected with all of the relations around me. I find a strong pull toward spiders and insects and want to show people that they're really not that scary. I'm still working on trying to be friends with mosquitoes though! I recently self published a regional field guide of the flora and fauna of the Midwest. I can't wait to learn more about the plants and little creatures in the Alaskan terrain!



Wyatt D. - Hello, my name is Wyatt DeForest. I am 21 years old and grew up in central Oregon where I spent my time hunting and fishing across the state. I started my hunting/fishing addiction at very young age as my father always brought me along on his trips. This is my second season guiding for Wilderness Place Lodge and there is no other place I would rather be to spend the summer. Away from guiding and fishing, I currently play baseball for Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Oregon. I plan to extend my baseball career and education at

Eastern Oregon University where I will continue studying Natural Resources.

Brandon C. - I am 23 years old from Midlothian, Texas. This past year I graduated from Tarleton State University with a B.S. in Wildlife, Sustainability, and Ecosystem Sciences. My dad and grandad have taken me hunting and fishing from a young age, and since then my passion to hunt and fish has grown. Growing up in Texas I have competed in bass fishing tournaments and spent the fall chasing whitetail deer. I am returning for my second season at Wilderness Place Lodge, and could not be more excited to escape the Texas heat and chase these awesome fish.





Jayden F. - My name is Jayden. I'm from Arlington Texas. I attend school at Blinn college in College Station where I am studying construction science and hope to transfer to Texas A&M in the next year. I was on my high school bass fishing team for all four years and participated in statewide tournaments. I love fishing, hunting and the outdoors in general. This is my first year as a guide at Wilderness Place Lodge and I am excited and blessed to be a part of the WPL family.

James M. - Being in Alaska for the first time is exciting and I am looking forward to it! For me being born and raised in Daytona Beach, Florida I am interested to see how things are on the last frontier. I have a few hobbies but the main things I like to do is fish, cook, exercise, spend time with my family and my dog while striving to read more books and be the best version of myself that I can be. I am currently attending Daytona State College for Hospitality Beverage Science Degree and I am also working as a chef at 31 supper club in Ormond Beach, Florida.

