

Kathryn Fox, National Program Director

Casting for Recovery

Background:

I first became involved in the fly-fishing industry in 1992 when I came to work for *American Angler* magazine. I worked first as Advertising Director and then Group Publisher for the group of magazines that included *American Angler*, *Fly Tyer*, *Saltwater Fly Fishing*, and *Warmwater Fly Fishing*. During this time and until I left the magazine group just after the IFTD show in 2002, I was lucky to get to know many industry friends and AFFTA members. I was also present as a representative of the magazine group at several AFFTA board meetings, and got to know many of the issues facing members.

Although I left the fly-fishing trade in 2002 to pursue another opportunity in magazine publishing, I remained involved in the fly-fishing world through my service as a volunteer with, and board of trustees member of, the national non-profit organization Casting for Recovery (CFR), which provides support and education to breast cancer survivors through a program that combines counseling, medical education, and fly-fishing to build a focus on wellness instead of illness. I was hired by Casting for Recovery in 2007 to work in Communications and Development, and have been very happy to renew relationships with many members of the industry who are such wonderful supporters of the CFR mission. I currently work with our volunteer programs across the country as National Program Director.

Summary:

As part of an organization incredibly blessed by the support of so many in the fly-fishing world, I have seen the positive impact of special relationships with so many manufacturers and retailers who support us locally and nationally through financial contributions, in-kind donations, and in many other ways. I also value the essential volunteer services that so many retail store employees, fly-fishing product and service manufacturers, and fly-fishing clubs provide. I have personally seen the belief in service "above and beyond" the normal boundaries of the work-a-day world in action among AFFTA members, and it would be my honor to assist on a board that is charting the course for this very special industry.