



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STANLEY, IDAHO—The Sawtooth Society presents a free screening of the film “Love Thy Nature” at the Community Library in Ketchum on Thursday, May 14, from 6 to 8 p.m. Following the screening, Bas Verheijen will give a short presentation on a key aspect of the film—Biomimicry. In addition, the Sawtooth Society will speak briefly on its Austin Kraal Memorial Volunteer Program.

Narrated by Liam Neeson, “Love Thy Nature” is a cinematic journey into the beauty and intimacy of our relationship with the natural world. With mesmerizing artistry and fascinating details, the film explores how nature nourishes us.

Neeson is the voice of Homo Sapiens — our collective humankind — who, in the past few thousand years, has come to believe that we are separate from nature. This mind-set is causing a mass extinction of species and threatening the survival of the human race.

“Love Thy Nature” shows that a new era of connectedness with the natural world is key to ensuring our species’ future. This era might just be dawning. A new science called Biomimicry taps into nature’s years of research and development to create cutting edge inventions, which work with nature rather than against it.

Bas Verheijen, Hailey’s resident Biomimicry expert, will elaborate on this concept after the film. Verheijen earned his Biomimicry Specialist certificate in 2013. In 2014, he started the Idaho chapter of the Biomimicry Network. Verheijen has also been developing and working on products based on Biomimicry.

“People are moving away from nature,” he said. “All concepts are found in nature. Biomimicry offers a framework allowing people to be connected to the universe. However, it’s not as easy as it sounds. Lots of research is needed from biologists, chemists, artists, storytellers and many others to deeply understand the principals of nature you can use.”

Verheijen said Biomimicry has been around for some time.

“It’s been popular in architecture and the building industry,” he said. “It helps people think in different ways and inspire solutions not always thought about.”

The Sawtooth Society, formed in 1997, is the only non-profit group dedicated exclusively to serving as an advocate for the Sawtooth National Recreation Area, preserving open space in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and enhancing its recreation facilities and services. The Sawtooth Society has funded over 160 recreational-related projects throughout the Sawtooth National Recreation Area.

To learn about the Sawtooth Society and it’s membership visit [www.sawtoothsociety.org](http://www.sawtoothsociety.org). For more details and information about the volunteer

program or to volunteer for a future project, contact Kelly Conde at [kelly@sawtoothsociety.org](mailto:kelly@sawtoothsociety.org).