

# Under the Dock

January/February 2023



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society



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## **Mark Your Calendar**

- **January 20**
  - GAAFS 2023 annual meeting abstracts due
- **January 20**
  - Nominations due for GAAFS Awards (COA, DSA, Career Contribution, Unsung Hero)
- **February 1-5**
  - SDAFS (Norfolk, VA)
- **February 10**
  - NOAA IN FISH application due
- **February 15-17, 2023 (Wed-Fri)**
  - GAAFS Annual Meeting (Epworth by the Sea)
- **February 16**
  - Knauss Fellowship application due
- **March 1**
  - Hutton Mentor application due
- **April 22**
  - GA DNR CRD CoastFest, Brunswick
- **August 20 - 24**
  - AFS 153rd annual meeting

## **OUR MISSION**

The mission of the American Fisheries Society and the Georgia Chapter is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

You can help support our mission by becoming a member of Georgia AFS, joining the American Fisheries Society, becoming a Georgia AFS Sponsor, donating to our annual fundraiser, or participating in our annual meeting. Visit our website for more info.

<https://gaafs.org/>

***The newsletter is interactive - if the font is blue you can click on it for more information. Click on a laptop image for a video***



We are looking for high-quality photos to use for the newsletter cover page. We are in need of pictures showing fisheries professionals and students working (lab, fieldwork, etc.).



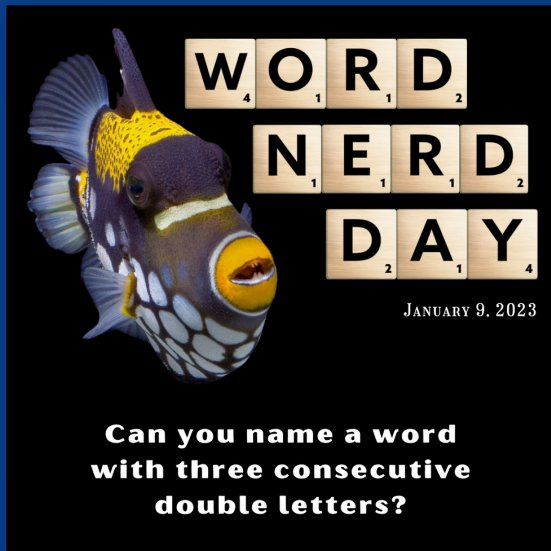
**Do you have an idea for an article?**

We welcome a broad range of submissions that address research and ideas relevant to marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their respective fisheries and environments. Submissions are due on the 21st of each month unless told otherwise. Contact Rebecca Brown (GeorigaAFS@gmail.com) if you have questions. We also welcome suggestions for an aquatic species to highlight, safety tips, and ideas for the sections *Did You Know* and *The Bookshelf*.



# ON THE CALENDAR

## January 9 National Word Nerd Day



Answer on back page

How many of you like to play Scrabble? Do you have a Word a Day calendar on your desk? Do you love crosswords? You just might be a word nerd.

Word Nerd Day is a reminder of the importance of words in our history and civilization. Use this day to learn some new words, complete a crossword, or play scrabble with a friend or family member.

Looking for a different word to use?



[wordhippo.com](http://wordhippo.com)

Try one of these words at work or home

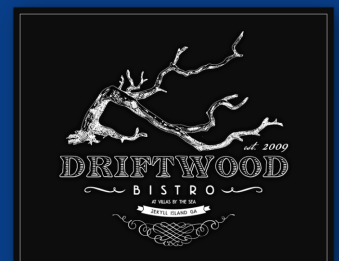
- **Exultant:** filled with or expressing great joy or triumph; (*The exultant children ran up the hill with the fish they just caught.*)
- **Tempestuous:** violently disturbed or agitated, as by storms; (*We were unable to conduct research today due to the tempestuous weather.*)

## February 18 National Crab Stuffed Flounder Day



Do you have a favorite recipe for crab stuffed flounder?

Last winter we had our annual meeting at Villas by the Sea on Jekyll Island. Did anyone try the the stuffed flounder at the Driftwood Bistro? Their stuffed flounder is listed as one of **Georgia's 100 Plates**, a collection of outstanding dishes from around the state that represent Georgia's diverse culinary scene.





# NEWS & UPDATES

## Georgia AFS 2023 Annual Meeting Has Changed Venues



**Epworth by  
the Sea**



Lake Blackshear Resort had to close its lodge and villas for repairs. Our annual meeting has moved to Epworth by the Sea on St. Simons Island. The annual meeting section of this newsletter has been revised and updated.

**Due to changing venues we went back to a 3-day meeting  
Dates for the meeting are February 15 - 17, 2023**

### Upcoming Deadlines

- Abstracts due January 20th
- Early registration ends February 1st

**Abstract  
Submission**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Hotel  
Registration**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**Meeting  
Registration**

[CLICK HERE](#)

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## **Don't Forget You Can Earn Credit to Renew Your Pesticide Certification**

Professionals who currently have a pesticide applicator license can earn 5 hours of credit toward renewing their pesticide applicator license by attending the 2023 Georgia AFS annual meeting. Anyone needing credit can email Rebecca Brown (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com) and she can provide you with the information needed to get credit.





### **Georgia AFS Award Nominations**

Thank you all who submitted nominations for our Fisheries Professionals of the Year and Fisheries Conservationist of the Year. We have a great group of finalists and they are now working on their nomination questions to submit to our team of judges. Good luck to all of our finalists!

Don't forget to submit your nominations for Unsung Hero Award, Certificate of Appreciation, Distinguished Service Award, and Career Contribution. Your nomination summary is limited to 350 words and we ask that you include a picture of your nominee if possible. **Click** on the name of the award for more information about that particular award.

**“Showing gratitude is one of the simplest, yet most powerful thing humans can do for each other.” ~ Randy Pausch**

#### **UNSUNG HERO AWARD**

This award recognizes the contributions of a person who may not be directly employed as a typical fishery professional (e.g. biologist, technician, etc.), but provides exceptional work that is essential to the mission of promoting the conservation, development, and wise use utilization of fisheries resources. This award is designed to celebrate the contributions of people often completing responsibilities “behind the scenes.”

#### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Exhibits the Chapter’s gratitude to an individual or organization for a specific contribution or event that supports the Chapter or its mission.

#### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Recognizes the outstanding contributions of time and energy for special projects or activities by Chapter members.

#### **CAREER CONTRIBUTION AWARD**

Honors individuals who have made numerous and significant contributions towards the advancement of fisheries research and/or management in Georgia over the course of their career(s).



# Georgia AFS Committee Updates

**Membership and Student Affairs Committee:** The committee is planning a student-mentor luncheon for the annual meeting. Students need to complete the survey. Contact Lauren Carroll (Lauren.Carroll25@uga.edu) if you have any questions.

**Fundraising/Raffle Committee:** The committee has been working very hard for the past 12 months to connect with potential meeting sponsors and find items for the raffle and silent auction. Items are still rolling in and we are still accepting donations. Contact Jackson Sibley (oceansibley@gmail.com) if you have questions or have something you want to donate for the fundraiser.

**Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Committee:** The Hutton program is open to all current high school students in the classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025. The deadline to apply is February 14, 2023. If you are interested in becoming a Hutton mentor your deadline is March 1, 2023.

**Continuing Education Committee:** Due to changing venues for the 2023 annual meeting the committee decided to cancel the ggplot workshop. The workshop will be rescheduled.

**Nominating Committee:** We have one nominee for our next Georgia AFS President-Elect. Thank you, Chad Kaiser, for volunteering to serve. Although we only have one candidate we still need to hold elections for write-in candidates. Voting will begin electronically on January 30, 2023, to allow those unable to attend the annual meeting time to vote. Those attending the meeting can pick up their ballot at the registration table if they do not want to vote electronically. You must be a member of the Parent Society (AFS) and Georgia AFS to vote. Both candidate biographies are included in this newsletter.



## Knauss Fellowship Applications Due February

The John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship program offers a unique educational experience to graduate students who have an interest in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources, and in national policies that affect those resources.



Applications must be submitted to **Georgia Sea Grant** by **5:00 p.m. on Feb. 16, 2023**.

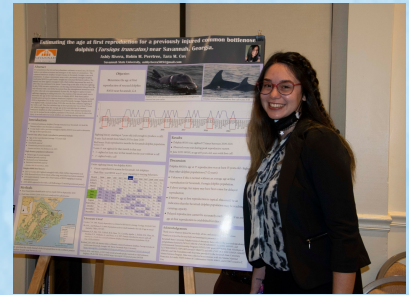
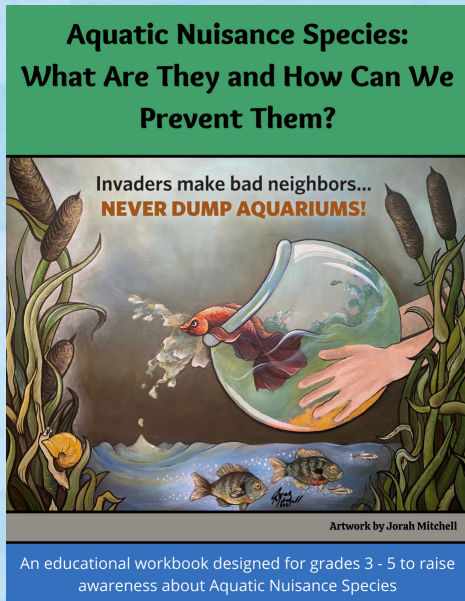
Visit the **National Sea Grant Knauss** website, which provides information on program rules, housing, former and current fellows and information to strengthen your application.

# GA AFS 2023

## Annual Fundraiser

Each year at our annual meeting our Chapter hosts a raffle and silent auction to raise funds to support the Chapter's mission. Proceeds from the annual fundraiser support aquatic education outreach projects, aquatic habitat restoration projects, fisheries continuing education workshops, and student travel awards.

### FUNDRAISING DOLLARS SUPPORT



### WE NEED YOUR HELP

Our members can help our fundraising efforts by personally contributing an item or soliciting from a local business, organization, or person. Items may include backpacks, gift certificates, coolers, tackle bags, event passes, guided fishing trips, angling tackle and equipment, fishing rod/reels, kayak/whitewater rafting trips, camping equipment, original artwork, prints, or other fish and wildlife-related items.

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

You can contact our fundraising chair, Jackson Sibley, for more information: [oceansibley@gmail.com](mailto:oceansibley@gmail.com)



# Thank you for your Support!

## Georgia AFS 2023 Fundraising Donors





## **Nominee for Georgia AFS 2023 President-elect Chad Kaiser**

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for the position of 2023 Georgia AFS President-elect. I have served as the South Dakota State University student subunit President and have served Georgia AFS as a judge for student presentations. Georgia AFS is an organization that provides fisheries professionals an opportunity to share our expertise and learn from each other. The people are the core of what makes fisheries such a great career and Georgia AFS is one of the connections that help keep fisheries professionals and students connected. I have always enjoyed attending the chapter meetings and learning new information from students and professionals; the late-night discussions; debates; and catching up with old friends. If selected I look forward to the opportunity to give back even a portion of what I have received from Georgia AFS.

My first experience in fisheries was the summer after my sophomore year in college while attending South Dakota State University. I got “hooked” into the fisheries profession while working for a grad student on an Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) in the Northern Glaciated Plains of South Dakota (the eastern third of the state). Once my feet got wet there was no turning back. Since that summer I have peered over every bridge I have crossed with curiosity.

I have been fortunate to experience countless opportunities early in my fisheries career. I have spawned walleye in barely thawed pothole lakes of South Dakota; assembled fish habitat in Texas; and learned about the impact of woody debris on salmon populations in Oregon. All of those experiences put me in a position to lead the research for the development of an Index of Biotic Integrity for western South Dakota which was done as my main research in pursuit of my master’s degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management.

After successfully defending my thesis: “Northwestern Great Plains Ecoregion Index of Biotic Integrity of Wadable Perennial Streams and Habitat Associations of Western South Dakota Prairie Stream Fishes”, I was selected for a position with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources on the Stream Survey Team. My family and I (wife and three daughters) arrived in Georgia in 2017 and I have worked with the Stream Team since. The Stream Team is an awesome program to work in within Georgia DNR. The diversity of fishes and habitat and the diversity of the state of Georgia keeps the work fresh every year.

I would not be where I am today without the help of so many great mentors and friends. I have tried to repay that gratitude with all the aspiring fisheries professionals I encounter. Of all the accomplishments throughout my career the most rewarding has been helping others reach their goals. The attitude of service to others is what I would like to bring with me as President of Georgia AFS. I would be honored to have your support of my candidacy for Georgia AFS President-elect.



# CAMPUS CORNER

# Student Opportunities

The UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant offer several opportunities for students to gain experience that will benefit them in their future careers. Visit their website to learn more about fellowships and internships for students.



Marine Extension and  
Georgia Sea Grant  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



**Marine Extension and Sea Grant**

You will be able to learn more about all of the student opportunities offered by the UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant at the 2023 Georgia AFS annual meeting. During the break-out session, you will have a chance to ask questions and meet with a few of the UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant leaders.



*Learn more about UGA Marine Extension and  
Georgia Sea Grant*

The **Inclusive NOAA Fisheries InternSHIP (IN FISH)** is a partnership program between NOAA and research partners in academia and non-governmental research institutions. It is a 10-week paid undergraduate internship for U.S. citizens in a NOAA or partner institution marine research lab or marine resources program office.

All undergraduate students who are enrolled in an undergraduate program at the time of the application period and are U.S. citizens are eligible to apply and participate.

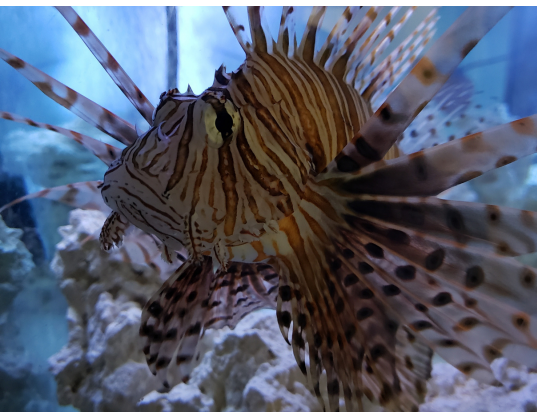


**NOAA IN FISH 2022 Students Share Insights**

**CLICK HERE**







# National Invasive Species Awareness Week

February 27 – March 3, 2023

Invasive species are non-indigenous organisms that have been introduced into a new area. They threaten the diversity or abundance of native species and adversely affect humans by hindering economic development, preventing recreational and commercial activities, decreasing the aesthetic value of nature, and serving as vectors of human diseases. Such introductions may be the result of human activities or natural events.

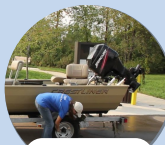
## Help Reduce the Spread of Invasive Species - Educate Others



NEVER release aquarium fish, snails, crayfish, shrimp, aquatic plants, or any other aquatic pets into the wild

**Habitattitude - How to be a responsible exotic pet owner**

## CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.



### CLEAN

- Clean boats, trailers, and gear
- Remove all weeds and mud before using in another body of water
  - Decontaminate with high pressure warm water if possible



### DRAIN

- Drain water from boat, motor, bilge, and live well
- Drain water before leaving
  - Tilt the motor down to drain
  - Trash unused fishing bait (do not discard into water)



### DRY

- Dry with a towel or let air dry
- Thoroughly hand dry with towels before using again
  - or air dry for at least 5 days

### Clean.Drain.Dry Initiative

### Additional Resources

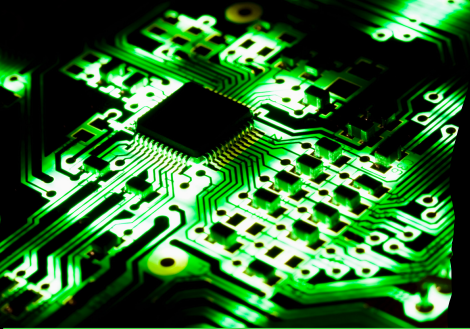
[Georgia AFS Aquatic Nuisance Species Outreach](#)

[Georgia DNR Aquatic Nuisance Species](#)

[USGS Why Are Invasive Species a Problem](#)

[NOAA Invasive and Exotic Marine Species](#)





# PLUGGED IN

Podcasts can be both entertaining and educational. Podcasting can help you build your brand, provide a more personal connection with your audience, and allow your message to reach a wider range of audience. More than 38% of Americans listen to a podcast monthly and each year that number is increasing. Even college professors are now using podcasting as a teaching tool.



## Georgia's Native Brook Trout, with Sarah Baker

Tom's guest, Sarah Baker [35:40] is a woman who has a job most of us would envy—she studies and manages the populations of wild, native brook trout in the mountains of northern Georgia. Learn more about these southernmost populations of brook trout, their life history, and where you can find them (no spot burning, just some general areas to investigate for yourself). ( Can listen on [Apple Podcast](#))



## The Toyota-Share Lunker Program

Dr. Wes Neal chats with Tom Lang, Director of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, about the selective breeding approaches the state of Texas is using to grow bigger, better bass. Hear all about the Toyota Share-Lunker Program and how genetic approaches are increasing maximum bass size in Texas.



## Fish of the Week

Check out the list on this podcast. Join fish enthusiasts Katrina Liebich and Guy Eroh along with their guest speakers. They share fascinating facts about fish, and also how to catch and even eat some of them.

December 26 Fish of the Week: [Walleyes](#)



## Recognizing the links between humans and biology and fish | Mandy Karnauskas

Join Alliyah Lusuegro in her conversation with Mandy Karnauskas, a fishery biologist with NOAA Fisheries and long-time resident of Miami, Florida. She will cover Mandy's love for fish from a young age, the many interconnected components of a fishery ecosystem, climate impacts, and red tide in the Gulf of Mexico, and how exactly science gets translated and used in managing fisheries.





## The Go Fish Education Center is Home to the Georgia Fish Art Contest

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Fish Art Contest! With over 55,000 entries and counting, the Fish Art Contest is the BEST way to introduce youth to conservation and the joys of fishing. The Fish Art Contest uses art, science, and creative writing to foster connections to the outdoors and inspire the next generation of stewards.



Got a young artist residing in your home? Be sure to encourage them to enter [Wildlife Forever's annual Fish Art Contest](#). This contest is open to kids in Grades K–12, but there's a deadline and you have to enter to win!

Students across the United States and internationally have the opportunity to win prizes and recognition while learning about fish species, behaviors, aquatic habitats, and conservation. Using art, this contest ignites children's imagination while teaching them about fish and fishing.

The Fish Art Contest offers many different award categories to recognize our contestants' unique talents and to focus on important conservation topics and issues. To enter, young artists create an original illustration of their chosen fish species. An essay, story or poem based on species behavior, habitat and/or conservation needs is also awarded.

Participants need to use the [Georgia entry form](#). Entries must abide by the guidelines and be submitted by Tuesday, February 28, 2023. If you have questions, please contact Marion Baker, Curator & Preservationist, Go Fish! Education Center at [Marion.Baker@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Marion.Baker@dnr.ga.gov).

The Fish Art Program offers many different [award categories](#) to recognize each participant's unique talents and to focus on important conservation topics and issues. Each of the awards has certain requirements to compete.

### [Wildlife Forever Award Categories](#)

- IGFA Conservation Award
- Invader Crusader Award
- Western Native Trout Award
- Fish Habitat Writing Award
- Go Fish Georgia Award
- Guy Harvey Shark Award
- Art of Conservation Award
- Smile Award



*Alexandra Huynh from Georgia took 3rd place in the 7th-9th Grade Division nationally with a mudskipper illustration.*



# MAKE AN IMPACT

## Become a Mentor

*Getting the most out of life isn't about how much you keep for yourself, but how much you pour into others.*

— David Stoddard



Most people can point to a person who was particularly important to their growth and development. A mentor is someone who teaches or gives help and advice to a less experienced person. Mentoring enables people to unleash their full potential by learning from others.

## Benefits of Mentoring

### The Mentee

- Help with identifying and achieving career goals
- Increase confidence
- Develop strong communication skills
- Learn to self-reflect
- Potential for networking
- Learn from others experiences
- Have someone to hold you accountable
- Have a trusted ally

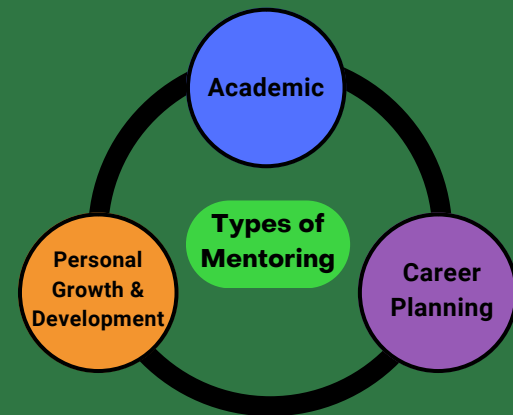
### The Mentor

- Career rejuvenation
- Personal fulfillment
- Boost interpersonal skills
- Strengthen your own knowledge
- Expand your network
- Increase your confidence
- Exposure to new and different perspectives
- Establish leadership skills
- Add to your qualifications



## What Makes A Good Mentor

- Active listening skills
- Empathy and authenticity
- Ability to see solutions and opportunities
- Flexibility and openness
- Interest in others success
- Reliable



## Different Ways to be a Mentor

- Community
  - Youth coach
  - Boys & Girls Club
  - YMCA
  - Spiritual
- Academic
  - Science Fair advisor
  - Advisor/counselor
- Career Planning
  - Interns
  - Co-workers
  - AFS Hutton Mentor

## E-Mentoring

Thanks to technology mentors and mentees do not need to be geographically close to each other. E-mentoring programs reach a larger number of people and allow more flexibility for both parties to communicate with one another.



The **Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program** is a paid summer internship and mentoring program for high school juniors and seniors, sponsored by the American Fisheries Society (AFS). This program is for students interested in pursuing the disciplines of **fisheries science and management** and/or **natural resources related fields**. Over the past 22 years (2001-2022), AFS has offered internship opportunities to 727 students with the help of almost 800 Mentors in over 150 host and financially sponsoring institutions.

Selected students known as Hutton Scholars, are matched and mentored by a fisheries professional to enjoy an 8-week hands-on fisheries science summer experience in a marine and/or freshwater setting.

### Who Applies?:

- High school rising juniors, seniors, and graduated seniors
- We accept applicants from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Mexico
- A diverse range of students with a passion for fisheries, biology, and environmental science

### Program Details:

- Students receive a \$3,000 stipend, provided by AFS
- Flexible internship start and end dates
- Students typically work 40 hours a week
- Student liability is covered by AFS

**Questions?** Email Ashley Berniche, Education Program Coordinator, at [aberniche@fisheries.org](mailto:aberniche@fisheries.org)  
301-897-8616, Ext 204



Apply Online for Summer 2023 at <http://hutton.fisheries.org>  
**Application Deadline: March 1st, 2023**

Do you want to **inspire** young high school students?  
Do you desire to share your **passion** for fisheries?  
Do you want to participate in promoting **diversity** and **inclusion** in fisheries?

**APPLY TO BE A HUTTON MENTOR TODAY!**







# Chapter Spotlight

Janet Genz

Janet joined the faculty of the University of West Georgia as an Assistant Professor in August 2013 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2018, so she has been there for nearly 10 years. She teaches an introductory course for Biology majors and advanced courses in Comparative Physiology and Animal Nutrition. Janet is also expected to maintain an independent research program, and she is active in both basic and applied research. When Janet is not in the lab, she is involved in experimental design, grant writing, and preparing manuscripts. Her research team typically has 4-5 undergraduate and 1-2 Master's students that she mentors, trains, and supervises. She does this work out of UWG's Aquatics Research Laboratory, a shared space for faculty working in Fisheries and associated fields, which she oversees and maintains.



## What inspired you to choose a career in fisheries science?

*I've loved the ocean my whole life. I also loved learning about science, ecology, and conservation. I remember asking Santa for a textbook on Cetaceans one year. When I got old enough to seriously consider my future career, my parents encouraged me to ask people I admired how they got to where they are, and through that process, I discovered fisheries research and education as the nexus where my passions and skills aligned.*

## Where did you go to school and what did you study?

*I earned my B.S. in Biology from the University of Miami in 2005, with minors in Marine Science and Chemistry. I remained at U. Miami and entered the doctoral program at the Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) directly after graduation, advised by Dr. Martin Grosell. I completed a Ph.D. in Marine Biology & Fisheries in 2010. My dissertation investigated the intestinal transport mechanisms associated with osmoregulation in fish exposed to high salinity, comparing species of differing natural tolerance levels.*

## Describe the most rewarding experience you have had during your career.

*Achieving tenure is definitely up there. To look back at 12-year-old me who set the goal to be a research professor, see the blood, sweat, and tears along the path, and be able to say "kid, you made it".*



## Chapter Spotlight Continued

**Describe a project you are currently working on as part of your current position.**

Generally, my research is on the physiology of fish exposed to modified environments. Lately, this has focused on nutrition and energetics in the early life history of fishes reared in aquaculture systems. I'm currently writing up a paper on a study that investigated how juvenile lake sturgeon absorb nutrients from standard Rangen feed when exposed to different environments that vary in their ion concentrations.



**What do you most enjoy about your current position and what do you find most challenging?**

I love mentoring undergraduate and graduate students one-on-one in the lab, and the thrill of a scientific discovery or research breakthrough never gets old. The most challenging aspect of my job is cultivating the patience needed to navigate bureaucratic systems and procedures.

**What advice would you give to someone pursuing a profession in fisheries science?**

Take advantage of opportunities to meet new people and learn new things whenever they present themselves. You never know when a network connection or familiarity with a skill might be useful. "Luck" is mostly just having the right resources available to you at the right time, and being able to recognize and jump on those chances as they come.

**What is your favorite fish and why?**

Whichever one I am working on at the moment! My primary research models have been *Opsanus beta* (the gulf toadfish) and *Acipenser fulvescens* (the lake sturgeon), but I do have a soft spot in my heart for small cyprinids (minnows), and I keep a goldfish pond at home with three carp named by my nephews (Seaking, Seaqueen, and Goldeen).





## Chapter Spotlight Continued

**What do you enjoy most about being a member of Georgia AFS?**

*The moonshine. Just kidding. But I do enjoy the camaraderie, and the opportunity to network with folks getting their boots wet in the field much more often than I do.*



**What is one thing on your bucket list?**

*I've always wanted to travel to Japan. Hopefully, I'll get there one day!*



**What is your favorite quote?**

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." Proverbs 1:7*

**What is something about yourself that others may be surprised to know about you?**

*This might not be all that surprising, but I own over 80 pairs of shoes.*



# GEORGIA BASS SLAM

The Georgia Bass Slam is to recognize anglers with the knowledge and skill to catch five (5) different species of black bass in a variety of habitats across Georgia and to stimulate interest in the conservation and management of black bass and their habitats.

Some of these bass are similar in appearance, so it is important that you review the location you fish, and the characteristics and markings of each fish in order to best ensure your entry is processed correctly.

Visit the [Georgia DNR WRD](http://www.GeorgiaDNRWRD.com) website for additional information about the rules and procedures to enter the bass you catch this year.

A few of our Chapter members have completed the Georgia Bass Slam. Some of them caught all 10 species.

**Are you ready to test your skills  
and go for the Georgia Bass Slam  
this year?**



## Georgia is the Black Bass Capital of the World!



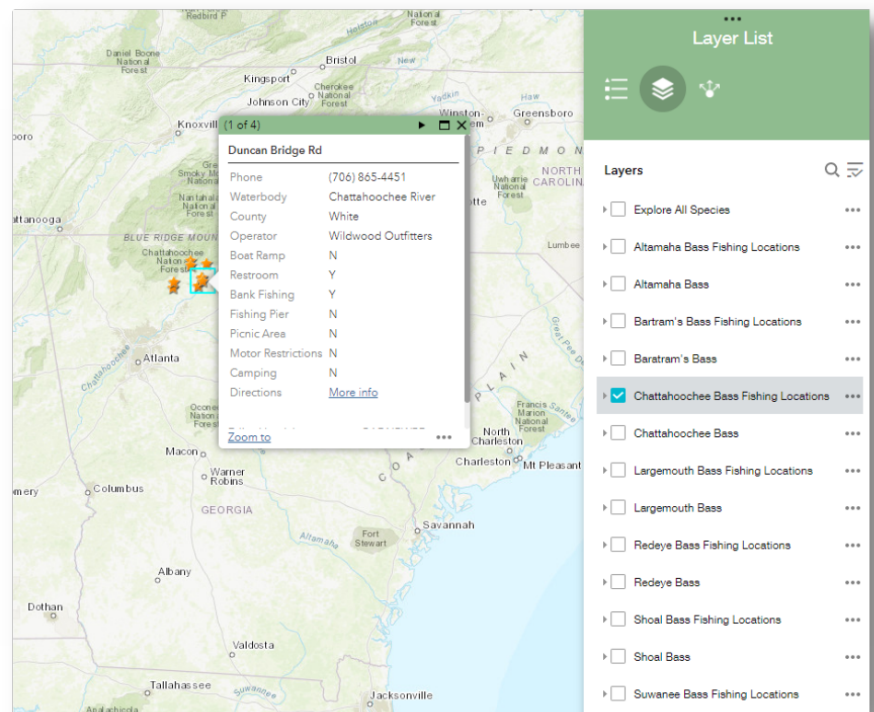
Largemouth  
Spotted  
Smallmouth  
Shoal

Suwannee  
Redeye  
Tallapoosa

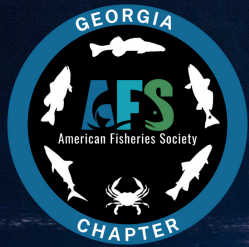
Chattahoochee  
Altamaha  
Bartram's

## Where can you find each of these bass?

Georgia DNR has provided access to a [MAP](#) that shows anglers where they can catch a particular black bass species.







# 2023 Annual Meeting

*Building Strong Alliances that Spawn Success*

**No one can whistle a symphony. It takes a whole orchestra to play it.**

A big shout-out to our chapter's planning team members who went the extra mile to help secure a new venue for our annual meeting. Chapter President, Marion Baker, along with Jim Page, and Zack Brock visited a potential venue to gather information, and Dawn Franco, Georgia AFS Recording Secretary-Treasurer, visited another venue. And thank you to the rest of our team, Kevin Cavallaro, Brent Hess, Ani Escobar, Robert Bringolf, Jamie Roberts, and Jackson Sibley, for providing suggestions, reviewing our different options, revising special events on the schedule, and supporting each other.

Epworth by the Sea will allow us to do some of what we planned for the upcoming annual meeting, but not everything. The 2023 meeting will be a 3-day meeting starting at 12:30 pm on February 15 and ending at noon on February 17. We will have some special sessions, additional networking opportunities, trivia night, and more. Our number one goal is to provide an outstanding and meaningful 2023 meeting experience for all of our meeting participants.

***Building Strong Alliances that Spawn Success***

New events this year include discussion group sessions, networking opportunities, team-building activities, and a student-mentor luncheon.

Our goal for the Georgia AFS 2023 annual meeting is to emphasize the effectiveness of building strong alliances that support and enhance fisheries science and conservation. These relationships include establishing effective partnerships between fisheries professionals and other stakeholders, strengthening the way we interact with other fisheries professionals, and developing opportunities for future fisheries professionals to acquire the necessary skills to achieve their goals.



# Call for Abstracts

## Georgia AFS 2023



### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

**DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JANUARY 20, 2023**

We welcome topics including, but not limited to, fisheries management, aquatic invasive species, fish health, aquaculture, endangered species, genetics, economics, fisheries ecology in the urban interface, and all topics relevant to marine and coastal fisheries. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your knowledge and research with various professionals and students.

Interested individuals are encouraged to email their abstracts to Carolyn Belcher (Carolyn.Belcher@dnr.ga.gov) by **January 20, 2023**. Abstracts (300 words max) should be submitted as an attachment in a Word document and include the following information:

- Presentation Title
- Presenting Author (with contact information; work address and email)
- Co-authors (with contact information)
- Abstract (300 words max)
- Presentation type: Oral or Poster (Minimum poster size of 24" x 36" and maximum poster size of 48" x 36" - check with your advisor as to what they require)
- Please also indicate if you are a student presenter

Oral presentations are 15 minutes (10 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for Q&A)

The meeting will begin at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, February 15, and end at noon on Friday, February 17.

## TIPS FOR DESIGNING ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The Chapter has included on its website a list of resources to help professionals and students as they create their presentations for a meeting. Students can find the judging forms on the same page. Monetary awards are presented to the top 3 student oral presenters and top 3 student poster presenters. [gaafs.org/presentation-resources/](https://gaafs.org/presentation-resources/)





# Georgia AFS 2023 Annual Meeting Registration

**The Georgia AFS EXCOM wants to invite you to join us  
February 15 - 17 for our annual meeting.**

**The meeting will begin at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, February 15, and end at noon  
on Friday, February 17.**

***We strive to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals, including individuals  
with disabilities, to engage fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about  
accessibility, please contact Rebecca Brown at GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com***

Registration for the GAAFS annual meeting includes annual Chapter membership (\$10)		
	Cost/Person Before Feb. 1, 2023	Cost/Person After Feb. 1, 2023
Professional	\$125	\$140
Retired	\$65	\$65
Student	\$70	\$85
One-day Professional	\$70	\$70
One-day Student	\$35	\$35
Registration and complimentary registration (e.g. student travel stipend) include all break sessions, social events, and the Awards Banquet. One-day registration does NOT include social events or the Awards Banquet. There is an option to purchase tickets for a social event or banquet if you select one-day registration or you need extra tickets for your guest.		

**Visit the Georgia AFS website for registration information**

**[gaafs.org/2023-annual-meeting/](https://gaafs.org/2023-annual-meeting/)**

***Meeting registration (except one-day registration) will include Thursday breakfast, lunch,  
dinner (banquet), and Friday breakfast.***



# Georgia AFS 2023 Annual Meeting Hotel Information



Visit our website for information about making reservations for your lodging.

**Hotel Registration**

## Epworth by the Sea

The hotel room rate is \$145/night. State employees need to make sure they bring with them their state hotel tax form and present it when they register at the hotel front desk.

Meeting participants will be staying at Turner Lodge and all of the rooms have a view of the river.



**The meeting will begin at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, February 15, and end at noon on Friday, February 17.**

Included in your registration are Thursday breakfast, lunch, dinner banquet, and Friday breakfast. Meals will be served in the dining facility. Meeting participants are on their own Wednesday for lunch and dinner.

The poster social and trivia night will begin at 7pm on Wednesday in the Pioneer Room located at Turner Lodge. Beverages and snacks will be provided. We have prizes for trivia night participants.



Meeting participants can enjoy fishing from one of the two fishing piers at Epworth. Bring your own fishing gear and do not forget your fishing license and SIP permit.



# Time to Renew Memberships



**Renew your AFS membership by logging into your AFS account.**

Membership in the American Fisheries Society yields many benefits whether you are a student or professional, early or late in your career. The benefits of society membership range from access to the latest fisheries research to meeting new colleagues to developing soft skills for your resume.

## **AFS Membership Information**

Please note: Individuals who are members of only their local Chapter are not considered to be full Society members.



Membership in the Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is open to anyone interested in the progress of fisheries science and education in Georgia and the conservation and management of Georgia's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

## **Georgia AFS Membership Information**

**Georgia AFS Annual Membership Dues: \$10**



# DID YOU KNOW?

## Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum



If you find yourself in the neighborhood of Hayward, Wisconsin you need to make time to visit the [Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum](#).

The Hall of Fame was established in 1960. It has over 3,000 entries in its world record book and recognizes people, organizations, or institutions who have made significant and lasting contributions to the sport and heritage of freshwater fishing.

The museum was built in 1976 and displays over 5,000 fishing lures, 200 rods and reels, 400 mounted fish, and a room full of outboard motors.

The museum is home to several structures including a 143-foot muskie sculpture that is more than 4 stories tall. The sculpture is known as the "Shrine to Anglers" and is considered the world's largest muskie. The open jaw can accommodate up to 20 people.



The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame will be inducting three people into their 2023 class of legendary individuals. They are Karen Eppinger, Stan Moberly, and Mark Van Patten. Karen's company, Eppinger Manufacturing, makes fishing tackle and lures. Stan (past AFS president and has an AFS award named after him) is well known for his success in the conservation of fish habitats. And Mark is a retired fisheries biologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation and is being recognized for his Stream Team work.





# **Fishy News**

## **Around the World**

*Click on title of article*

### **TROUT IMMUNE SYSTEM DISCOVERY COULD HELP IMPROVE AQUACULTURE VACCINES**

Researchers from the Salinas Lab at the University of New Mexico are the first to identify an immune structure in the nasal cavities of rainbow trout, giving fish immunologists greater insights into their biology and opening the door to better aquaculture vaccines.

### **RARE GOOD NEWS FROM THE AMAZON: GIGANTIC FISH ARE THRIVING AGAIN**

The pirarucu population has recovered says Ana Claudia Torres, who runs the sustainable fishing program for the Mamirauá Institute, which manages a vast nature reserve covering 4,300 square miles of jungle in northern Brazil.

### **HARMFUL ALGAL TOXINS FOUND IN BULL SHARKS IN THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON**

Researchers from Florida Atlantic University are the first to measure multiple phycotoxin concentrations in bull sharks (*Carcharhinus leucas*) in the Indian River Lagoon, an estuary of national significance.

### **THE OCEAN IN A CUP: ENVIRONMENTAL DNA SUCCESSFULLY CAPTURES MARINE BIODIVERSITY**

Environmental DNA left behind by ocean animals can be measured to inventory the marine life in a particular area.

### **PUTTING ALGAE TO WORK**

Can native freshwater algae help restore the mauri of local waterways? The Filamentous Algae Nutrient Scrubbers trials are testing the capability of native algae to filter contaminants such as nitrogen and phosphorus from farm runoff.

### **CITY OR HINTERLAND - SITE POTENTIALS FOR UPSCALED AQUAPONICS IN A BERLIN CASE STUDY**

Sustainably feeding the rapidly growing urban populations requires resource-efficient food production solutions, such as aquaponics. Using Berlin as a case study, site potentials regarding the production of freshwater fish, tomatoes, and lettuce to achieve self-sufficiency were investigated.



# **American Fisheries Society**

## **153rd Annual Meeting**

**August 20-24, 2023**

**Grand Rapids, Michigan**

## **Preliminary Call for Proposals – Symposia and Workshops**

**Formal Symposium Submission Opens: 19 December 2022**

**Proposal Deadline: 27 January 2023**

The American Fisheries Society, President April Croxton, and the Michigan Chapter are excited to host the 153rd AFS Annual Meeting, August 20-24, 2023. Home to the iconic Blue Bridge and Grand River, AFS is thrilled to return to the city of Grand Rapids following a successful Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting held earlier this year. As we continue to address the various stressors impacting fisheries and their ecosystems, we hope that this year's theme, "Adaptive approaches to understand and manage changes in fisheries," will stimulate a wide range of sessions as we bring together professionals from across North America and countries throughout the world.

The Grand Rapids Program Committee invites proposals for symposia, pre-conference workshops and continuing education courses, and innovative sessions that support the theme and look to advance the fisheries profession. We are expecting that scientific sessions will take place in-person in Grand Rapids. We anticipate there will be options for self-funded hybrid sessions, but do not anticipate hosting virtual 'only sessions'.

### **More Information**

**[afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/call-for-sessions/](https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/call-for-sessions/)**







## BUBBA'S SHORT VIDEO PICKS

***Fish Sex is Tricky Business***

**Captain Ken Maff**



***Introducing The Shoalie:  
Crescent's First Specialized  
Fishing Kayak Designed  
With Drew Gregory***



## BUBBA BASS RECOMMENDS

Support one of these in 2023

Click on image to visit website



***Great kayaks and excellent  
customer service***



***Fly-fishing supplies,  
fishing guides, and  
more***



***Great sunglasses at an  
affordable price***

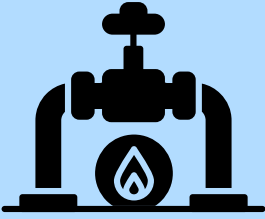
***Bert makes fishing lures for  
panfish, bass, and more.***



***Need a fishing rod?  
TFO has all types of  
rods to select from for  
your fishing needs.***

## BUBBA BASS SAFETY TIP

### I SMELL GAS!



Do you know what to do if you suspect a gas leak? Natural gas is used in our homes, at work, and in the laboratory. Mercaptan is added to natural gas to make it easier to detect in case of a leak. It smells like rotten eggs. Some homes use propane and it also has mercaptan added to help people detect a problem.

If you smell gas near an appliance like your stove or hot water heater then it may be the pilot light has gone out or a burner valve is open slightly. You should be able to fix that problem. But if the odor is strong then you should follow these guidelines:

- **No flames or sparks:** Immediately put out all open flames and do not turn on any appliances.
- **Leave the area immediately:** Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect the gas is leaking.
- **Shut off the gas:** If you are at home, shut off the main gas line if it is safe to do so). If you are in a lab shut off the main gas line as you leave the lab (it should be labeled).
- **Report the leak:** If you are at home, call your propane retailer or 911. At work or in the lab follow safety guidelines and contact your supervisor.
- **Do not return to the building or area:** Wait until qualified personnel let you know it is safe to return to the area.



## Bubba's Friends

### Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

Striped bass live along the East Coast from the St. Lawrence River in Canada to St. John's River in Florida, and in the Gulf of Mexico from Florida to Louisiana. Striped bass are anadromous, meaning mature individuals migrate back to fresh or brackish water in the spring to spawn. Sexual maturity is attained between the ages of 2 and 4 for males, and between the ages of 5 and 8 for females.

#### INTERESTING FACTS

- Can live up to 30 years
- Depending on where they live they can grow up to 5 feet in length and 77 pounds
- Other common names include rockfish, striper, linesider
- They have been of great importance to North Americans since the colonists first settled here
- In 2021, the recreational harvest of striped bass totaled 15.8 million pounds
- The Gulf Coast Striped Bass is genetically distinct from the Atlantic Striped Bass

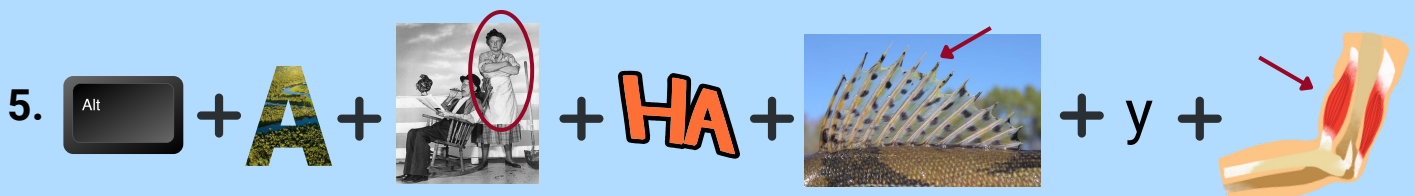
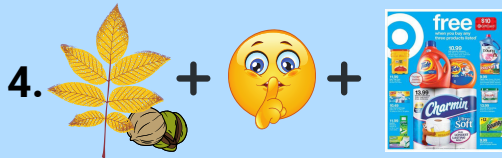
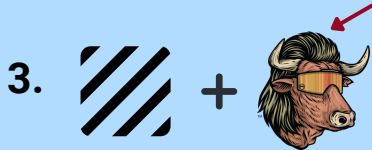
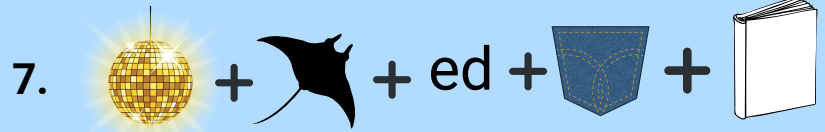


Roger Harrell (retired) with 37 pound  
Altamaha River striped bass

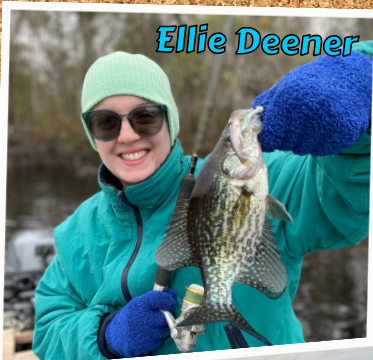


# Fin and Games

Use the pictures to help you identify the organism.



Answers on back page



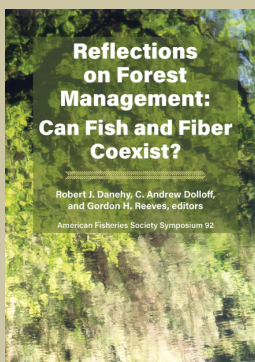
**Reagan Patrick**

**PROPS!**



# THE BOOKSHELF

## PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE SECTION



### Reflections on Forest Management: Can Fish and Fiber Coexist?

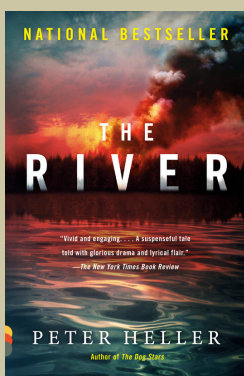
Edited by Robert J. Danehy, C. Andrew Dolloff, and Gordon H. Reeves

Chapters review and describe the interactions of fish and other aquatic biota with forest management, including impacts of forest management to fish communities, unique impacts on migratory fishes, and impacts on other biota, including rare taxa.

[Learn More Link](#)



## ADULT FICTION SECTION



### The River

By Peter Heller

Wynn and Jack have been best friends since college orientation, bonded by their shared love of mountains, books, and fishing. One night, with the fire advancing, they hear a man and woman arguing on the fog-shrouded riverbank; the next day, a man appears on the river, paddling alone. Is this the same man they heard? And if he is, where is the woman?

[Learn More Link](#)



## YOUNG READER SECTION



### Cat Kid Comic Club

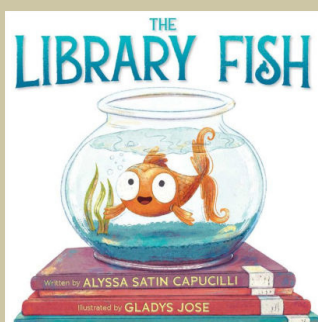
By Dav Pilkey

This is the first of graphic novel series by Dav Pilkey, the author and illustrator of the internationally bestselling Dog Man and Captain Underpants series. Cat Kid and his sidekick Molly are running a comic club for Flippy Frog's many children. Can Cat Kid inspire them to create well-thought-out, tightly plotted stories and classic comic art?

[Learn More Link](#)



## BEGINNING READER SECTION



### The Library Fish

By Alyssa Satin Capucilli (Author) and Gladys Jose (Illustrator)

Library Fish is very happy in her bowl on Mr. Hughes the librarian's desk. From there, she listens to story time. Library Fish wants to read, too! She starts jumping out of her bowl to practice when the library closes at night.

[Learn More Link](#)





# Membership Information



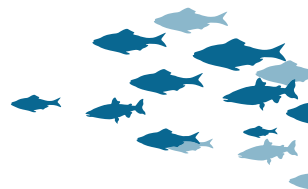
## Are you a member of the American Fisheries Society?



American Fisheries Society

Please visit the AFS membership website to learn more about being part of the largest professional society of fisheries scientists in the world.

[fisheries.org/membership/types-of-membership/](https://fisheries.org/membership/types-of-membership/)



Some benefits for becoming a member of AFS:

- Free online and mobile app access to AFS publications
- Discounts on books in the AFS bookstore
- Discounted registration fees
- Opportunities for AFS travel grants
- Attend continuing education courses at reduced registration rates
- Access to online webinars
- Able to vote on Society and Chapter business



Learn more about AFS: <https://fisheries.org/about/>



## Are you a member of the Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society?

Membership to the Georgia Chapter is separate from being a member of the American Fisheries Society (AFS). Membership in the Georgia Chapter is open to anyone interested in the progress of fisheries science and education in Georgia and the conservation and management of Georgia's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems. Chapter annual membership dues are \$10.



Georgia AFS Membership: [gaafs.org/membership/](https://gaafs.org/membership/)

**Georgia AFS membership dues support fisheries and aquatic conservation projects as well as aquatic education outreach programs in Georgia.**



# AFS/SDAFS MEETINGS



## SOUTHERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY MEETING

FEBRUARY 1 - 5, 2023  
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

The Virginia Chapter cordially invites you to attend the 2023 Southern Division AFS meeting in Norfolk, Virginia. The meeting will be held at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott.

[units.fisheries.org/va/annual\\_meeting/2023-sdafs/](https://units.fisheries.org/va/annual_meeting/2023-sdafs/)



American Fisheries Society

## Future AFS Annual Meetings

- 2023 Grand Rapids, MI: August 20-24, 2023
- 2024 Honolulu, HI: September 15-19, 2024

### 2023 Annual Meeting

*Adaptive Approaches to Understand and  
Manage Changes in Fisheries*

[afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/](https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/)





# Information

## Support for Fisheries Conservation and Sustainability

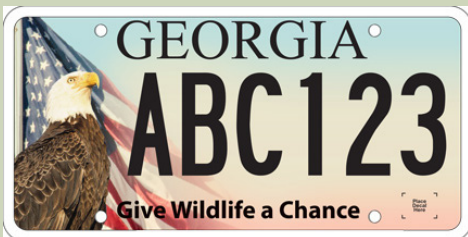


Do you have a specialty license plate that supports the conservation of Georgia's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems?



More information:  
<https://gadnr.org/license-plates>

*Click on the license plate for more information*



80 percent of that \$25 fee goes directly to wildlife programs (\$19 the first year, \$20 with every renewal). Only \$5 goes to the State of Georgia General Fund.



### Certified Fisheries Professional

There are many reasons for seeking professional certification. For some it represents achievement of a career goal while for others it represents a credential necessary to perform their job.

[Frequently Asked Questions about certification](#)

[AFS Application Process and due dates](#)

### Pesticide Applicator License

If you wish to purchase or use a restricted use pesticide (RUP), you or your supervisor must have a pesticide applicator's license from the Georgia Department of Agriculture.

[Georgia Dept. Agriculture Pesticide License Information](#)

[UGA Extension Pesticide Safety Education](#)

[Pesticide License Exam Study Videos](#)

### Job Hunting

AFS maintains an excellent Career Center page on its website. AFS provides several resources to help you find that fisheries job you want.

[AFS Career Center](#)

Do you want to improve your chances of getting that dream fisheries job?

[Georgia AFS Fisheries Career Tips](#)

### Internships

Internships are a great way to gain valuable work experience employers look for in potential new hires.

Georgia AFS maintains a list of internships for fisheries students on its webpage.

[GAAFS Internship listing page](#)

**Help us spread the word about interesting and insightful information about the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems.**

The Chapter newsletter is designed to spread the word about the exciting work being done by fisheries professionals and students, deliver information about upcoming meetings and events, and provide other useful information for fisheries professionals and students. We welcome a broad range of submissions that address research and ideas relevant to marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their respective fisheries and environments. Submissions can range from a paragraph to 3 pages. Let us know if you have an idea for an article but are not sure if it is suitable for the newsletter. Topics for the newsletter can include any of the ideas listed below.

- Fisheries science research updates or innovative ideas
- Articles with advice for students and young professionals
- Accomplishments such as recently publishing a research paper, giving a talk at a community event, being interviewed for a podcast series, and anything in the realm of communications and outreach
- Environmental concerns related to fisheries and aquatic ecosystems
- Safety tips for fisheries professionals and students

*Send your submissions to Rebecca Brown at [georgiaafs@gmail.com](mailto:georgiaafs@gmail.com).*

## Stay Connected

### GAAFS Website

[gaafs.org](http://gaafs.org)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/groups/georgiaafs.org](https://facebook.com/groups/georgiaafs.org)

### Twitter

@GeorgiaAfs

### Instagram

@georgiaafs

### **Newsletter Editorial Board**

Rebecca Brown  
Jamie Roberts  
Marion Baker  
Kevin Cavallaro  
Jim Page  
Brent Hess

Only  
two English word with 3  
consecutive pairs of letters  
Bookkeeper or Bookkeeping

**Fin and Games Answer**  
1. paddle fish  
2. oyster toadfish  
3. striped mullet  
4. hickory shad  
5. Altamaha spiny mussel  
6. northern hog sucker  
7. shiny rayed pocketbook  
8. scalloped hammerhead  
9. gag grouper