

Under the Dock

July/August 2023



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

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Mark Your Calendar

- **August 7 - 8**
 - GA AFS Workshop
 - Go Fish Education Center
- **August 20 - 24**
 - AFS 153rd annual meeting
 - Grand Rapids, Michigan
- **October 15 - 18**
 - SEAFWA
 - Corpus Christi, Texas
- **November 16 - 17**
 - Southeastern Fishes Council Meeting
 - Chattanooga, TN
- **January 16, 2024**
 - GAAFS Abstracts Due
- **January 31 - February 4, 2024**
 - SDAFS annual meeting - Chattanooga, TN
- **February 13 - 15, 2024**
 - Georgia AFS annual meeting
 - Great Wolf Lodge, LaGrange

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 or underlined 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. Articles range from 250 to 1200 words.

Contact us at 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

July 14 Shark Awareness Day

Sharks have existed in the ocean for over 400 million years. Today there are more than 465 known species of sharks living in our oceans. One in four of these species are currently threatened with extinction due to human activities like overfishing and shark finning.

Great white sharks are warm-blooded whereas most other sharks are cold-blooded. Therefore, great white sharks can raise their body temperature above the temperature of the water. This allows them have energy available to burst forward while hunting.

Watch the [Today Show](#) interview with Georgia AFS member Kady Lyons

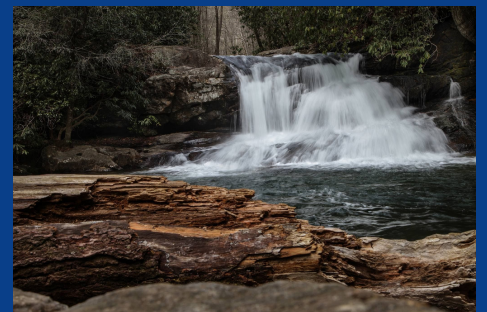
Sharks boost local economies through ecotourism. Over the last several decades, public fascination with sharks has developed into a thriving ecotourism industry in places such as the Bahamas, South Africa and the Galápagos Islands. These activities — which support businesses like boat rental and diving companies — are said to provide 10,000 jobs in 29 countries. (source: *Conservation International*)

August is American Adventures Month

American adventurer Peter Kulkula founded American Adventures Month to promote travel within North, Central, and South Americas. He wanted to showcase the diversity and beauty of the landscapes and ecosystems in the western hemisphere.

During August consider visiting one of the many national parks managed by the [US National Park Service](#) or visit one of Georgia's 49 [state parks](#).

[Moccasin Creek State Park](#) is a great place to camp, fish, hike, and relax.



[Indian Springs State Park](#) is one of the oldest state parks in the nation, drawing people to its mineral rich healing waters and tranquil natural setting, offering you a journey through time from its Creek Indian origins to the stone buildings built by the CCC.

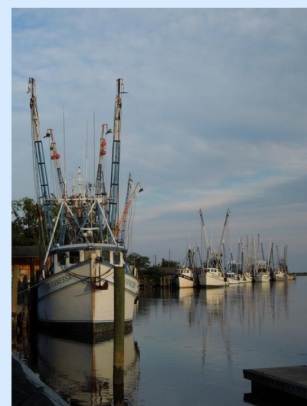
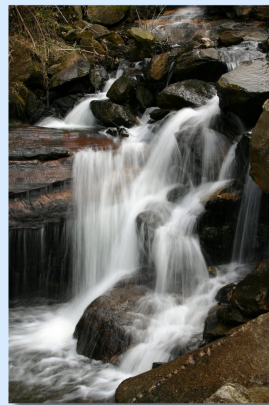


NEWS & UPDATES

2024 Georgia AFS Annual Meeting Theme

Putting Stock in Biodiversity; Resiliency in Numbers

From the mountains to the coast, Georgia's fourteen major watersheds abound with biodiversity. Georgia ranks among the top five U.S. states in the number of native species of mussels, fishes, crayfishes, and aquatic snails; though many are experiencing significant declines across their range. From black basses to blacktail shiners, each species is critical to the health of our waterways. Investing in research, management practices, communication, and current and future fisheries professionals is essential to manage our aquatic resources for a sustainable future. Managing our biodiversity is an investment in our resiliency and ensures Georgians will be swimming, fishing, boating, and drinking from healthy systems for years to come.



2024 Georgia AFS Annual Meeting Dates

We want to invite you to join us for the 39th Georgia AFS annual meeting at the [Great Wolf Lodge](#) in [LaGrange, GA](#) on February 13 - 15, 2024. The Georgia AFS Planning Team is already busy working on ideas to provide all our participants with a worthwhile meeting experience.



Georgia AFS May 23rd Virtual Business Meeting Summary

Due to the need to change meeting venues at the last minute, the EXCOM planned to have a virtual business meeting due to the uncertainty of the number of meeting attendees. This was also an opportunity for Georgia Chapter members who were unable to attend the annual meeting to still be able to participate in the business meeting.

We had 23 Chapter members join the virtual meeting and a quorum was determined. Financially the Chapter is doing well. The Chapter has \$30,900 in its checking account. We exceeded our expectations for our annual fundraiser and thanks to all of our participants the raffle and silent auction made \$7,639. Please let our fundraising chair, Jackson Sibley, know if you have anything to donate for the 2024 annual fundraising event.

Cecil Jennings and Ani Escobar provided us with updates from AFS and SDAFS. AFS held the first Latin American Caribbean Fisheries Congress in May which was well attended by more than 350 participants. AFS has its annual meeting in Grand Rapids, MI August 20 - 24 this year. During the AFS Leadership Meeting in May AFS asked for members to suggest webinar ideas relevant to a national or regional level. AFS has also asked all of its chapters to update their logos and make sure they follow the branding guidelines on the Society website. The Georgia AFS logo is one of the logos used in the guidelines as an example to follow.

The AFS Hutton Scholarship Committee selected 44 students for the 2023 program. This is a highly competitive scholarship and this year the Society had 534 applicants.

The Policy, Bylaws, and Resolutions Committee is reviewing the Chapter bylaws to make recommendations for revisions to the EXCOM. This is a long process, so expect some emails this Fall to vote on approving the revision of the bylaws.

The Professional Awards Committee is revising the Professional of the Year in Fisheries Management Award questionnaire to include the nomination of teams rather than individuals. Chapter members felt more comfortable nominating a team than an individual.

Unfinished Business - GA AFS Competitive Grant Proposal from 2022: Due to other responsibilities and commitments this is taking longer to organize. Anyone interested in working on this proposal can contact Jackson Sibley or Ani Escobar.

New Business

- The proposal for renaming the undergraduate travel grant to the Robert E. Reinert Undergraduate Travel Award was approved.
- The motion for the Chapter to cover AFS membership for a maximum of 6 students annually was approved.
- The motion for the Chapter to consider a travel grant for graduate students and professionals to attend the annual meeting or Chapter workshops was approved. The funds for these travel grants will come from the Chapter's general fund.
- Results of the 2023 Post-Meeting Survey and GA AFS Demographics Survey will be shared in the newsletter and the Chapter website (password-protected page).

End of Summary

Georgia AFS 2023 Survey Results

The mission of Georgia AFS 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.” Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are important to this mission because Georgia’s diversity is not only found in our aquatic resources, and the demographics of our state constituents are not necessarily reflected in our membership. If we are to make sustainable improvements to our aquatic resources, we need to have all hands on deck. Georgia AFS wants to continue the excellent support towards our current membership while ensuring equitable access and treatment of everyone interested in fisheries as a profession.

Georgia AFS asked its members in February 2023 to complete a demographics survey to collect information to help the Chapter support its diverse membership, respond to the needs of our members, and learn more about how we can promote the development of fisheries professionals. This was an anonymous survey.

We had 98 total participants for this survey. Some of what we learned:

- We identified some potential misconceptions about what is meant by "DEI" and the need to clarify this for our members.
- When designing and giving presentations we need to be cognizant of members with disabilities.
- 30% of the survey participants were/are first-generation college students and 39% of the survey participants were/are first-generation graduate students. First-generation college students have a 92.2% higher dropout rate than their legacy peers.
- The Chapter should improve how we communicate to our meeting participants whom to contact to report inappropriate or unwelcome behavior as outlined in the AFS Meetings Code of Conduct.



DOWNLOAD

**2023 Demographics
Survey Results**

We had 52 people participate in the 2023 Post-Meeting Survey. We appreciate everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to complete the survey. Some takeaways from the survey:

- The Chapter EXCOM and Continuing Education Committee will explore how to include professional development as part of the 3-day meeting format.
- Some new ideas for training workshops - resume building, creating presentations for a conference, and a leadership workshop.
- The Chapter needs a systematic way to provide feedback to student presenters.
- The Membership and Student Affairs Committee wants to use some of the suggested ideas for the student-mentor luncheon that takes place during the annual meeting.
- Trivia Night was a huge success and should be part of every meeting.
- Several great suggestions were made for networking and other activities for the annual meeting.



DOWNLOAD

**2023 Post-Meeting
Survey Results**

Georgia DNR Coastal Resources Division Addressing Aquatic Barriers

Georgia DNR CRD has received funding from the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP) and the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation to conduct a survey of road-stream crossings in the coastal region. Staff are evaluating each aquatic barrier according to SARP's standardized assessment protocol. The assessments will provide information on the degree of habitat fragmentation and flood risk across the landscape as well as identify which of these structures cause both flooding and fish passage issues. Using these data, SARP and CRD will develop a list of prioritized restoration projects to present to funding sources and partners on the coast.



Photo Courtesy of Georgia DNR CRD



Coastlines Georgia is the official quarterly publication of the Coastal Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Click on the image to access June 2023 *Coastlines Georgia*.



Fish Parasites and Biosecurity Workshop

Join us on August 7 and 8 at the Go Fish Education Center for the Georgia AFS 2023 workshop, *Fish Parasites and Biosecurity*.

Upon completion of the workshop participants shall

- have a better understanding of fish parasites found in Georgia
- be able to identify and manage critical control points where fish may be exposed to disease pathogens
- teach others how to properly clean, drain, and dry their boat and other equipment

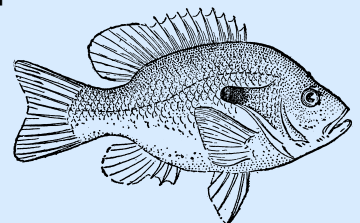
Start Time: 10am, August 7

End Time: Noon, August 8

Cost: \$35 for Georgia AFS Members; \$45 for non-Georgia AFS Members

Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/tZ97vNxF9BSaAPSV7>

Lunch and dinner are on your own. The Chapter will provide refreshments for breaks



Volunteering

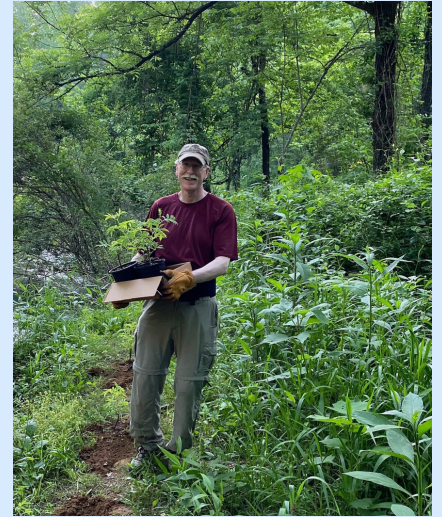


A team of volunteers, including representatives of the UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Georgia Trout Unlimited, Atlanta Fly Fishing Club, Columbus State University Oxbow Meadows, and Georgia Chapter American Fisheries Society, came together to provide support for the Steve and Marjorie Harvey Foundation 2023 Mentoring Program for Young Men. This program helps high school students from all over the United States to realize their potential and envision and prepare for a robust and productive future. The team of volunteers shared information on careers in natural resources, provided a live animal program, and guided over 200 participants in their pursuit of fish in the beautiful lakes of Steve and Marjorie Harvey's Legacy Ranch. Would you agree that the smiles on the faces of both the volunteers and participants confirm that it was a highly successful event?



Unicoi Outfitters Protecting the River

Jimmy Harris and Jeff Durniak recently planted more than 60 elderberry bushes along the bank of the Chattahoochee River near the Unicoi Outfitters fly shop in Helen, GA. That task was part of a new, cooperative effort to restore and enhance the river's vegetative buffer zone. Healthy vegetative buffers provide shade to maintain cold trout stream temperatures, while root systems stabilize stream banks and reduce their erosion and resulting stream sedimentation.



Georgia Trout Unlimited Chapters Volunteer to Assist with Stream Restoration

Are you one of the many volunteers who volunteer to help restore stream habitat for Georgia trout species? If not, do you want to be part of a group of anglers who are making a difference in their fishing community? Visit the [Georgia Council of Trout Unlimited](#) website and discover the different ways you can meet others who like yourself appreciate great fishing and the conservation of our trout fishery resources. ([Georgia Council Calendar](#))



Are you interested in volunteering with Georgia AFS?

Often times during the annual meeting or other events we have members approach an EXCOM member or a committee chair and say they would like to volunteer their services. Once the event is over and we all go back to our jobs and homes we often forget the names of those who want to volunteer to help because so much was going on at the time. Please understand if a member of the EXCOM or a committee chair forgot to contact you it was not because your services were not wanted. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee, facilitate a workshop, or help during the annual meeting.

Georgia AFS EXCOM Contact Information

President: Ani Escobar (anakela.escobar@dnr.ga.gov)

President-Elect: Chad Kaiser (chad.kaiser@dnr.ga.gov)

Recording Secretary-Treasurer: Dawn Franco (dawn.franco@dnr.ga.gov)

Executive Secretary-Treasurer: Rebecca Brown (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com)

Immediate Past-President: Marion Baker (marion.baker@dnr.ga.gov)

Visit the Chapter
website for more details
about each of the
committees

gaafs.org/committees

Georgia Committee Chair Contact Information

Membership and Student Affairs: (OPEN)

Fundraising: Jackson Sibley (oceansibley@gmail.com)

Arrangements: Annual Meeting Setup: Kevin Cavallaro (cavallaro@fultonschools.org)

Annual Meeting Registration Table: Brent Hess (brent.hess@dnr.ga.gov)

Continuing Education Committee: Peter Sakaris (psakaris@ggc.edu)

Hunter Roop (hunter.roop@dnr.ga.gov)

Policy, Bylaws, and Resolutions: Dawn Franco (dawn.franco@dnr.ga.gov)

Student Presentations Awards: Chalisa Fabillar (chalisa.fabillar@dnr.ga.gov)

Professional Awards: Steve Sammons (sammoss@auburn.edu)

Georgia Chapter Scholarships: Donna McDowell (donna.mcdowell@dnr.ga.gov)

Communications: Rebecca Brown (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com)

Program: Carolyn Belcher (carolyn.belcher@dnr.ga.gov)

Audit: Clint Peacock (clint.peacock@dnr.ga.gov) and **(OPEN)**

Environmental Concerns: Jordan Steele (jordan.h.steele@gmail.com)

AFS has several different committees in which professional and student members can volunteer their time and expertise.

American Fisheries Society Committees

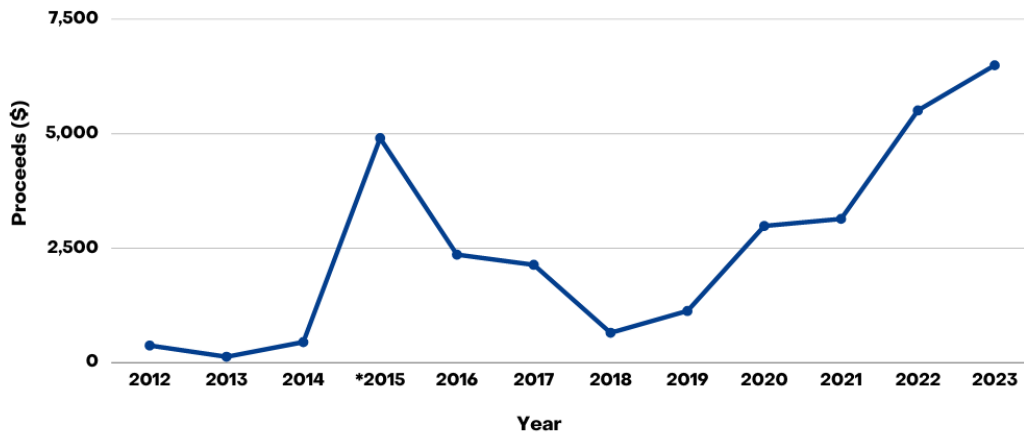
Georgia AFS Annual Fundraiser Needs Donations

Thanks to our fundraising committee and our fundraising donors the Chapter has increased the amount of money it raises each year to support aquatic education outreach projects, aquatic habitat restoration projects, fisheries continuing education workshops, and student travel awards. Let Jackson Sibley (oceansibley@gmail.com) know if you have something you want to donate for the 2024 fundraiser or if you want to join the fundraising committee.



GAAFS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER PROCEEDS

*2015 was the year the Georgia Chapter hosted the Southern Division American Fisheries Society annual meeting. That meeting was attended by 700 people and we increased raffle tickets from \$1 each to \$2 each.





AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 153rd Annual Meeting

AUGUST 20-24, 2023 | GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN



American Fisheries Society

Adaptive Approaches to Understand and Manage Changes in Fisheries

The American Fisheries Society, President April Croxton, and the Michigan Chapter are excited to host the 153rd AFS Annual Meeting, August 20-24, 2023 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. 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.

More Information 

Give yourself plenty of time to apply for scholarships, fellowships, travel awards, etc. Get out your phone right now and add these dates to your calendar with at least a 2-week reminder notification.

Georgia AFS Awards

[Georgia AFS Ronnie J Gilbert Scholarship](#) (deadline December 15)

[Georgia AFS Robert E. Reinert Travel Award](#) (undergraduate award - deadline December 15)

[Georgia AFS Gift of Membership Award](#) (undergrad and graduate students - deadline first Friday of Oct.)

[Georgia AFS Travel Grant](#) (graduate students and professionals - deadline dependent on the event)

Southern Division and AFS Awards

[Noreen Clough Memorial Scholarship for Females in Fisheries](#) (deadline December 15)

[John E. Skinner Memorial Fund Award](#) (usually due April 1)

[J Frances Allen Scholarship](#) (for a female doctoral fisheries student - plan for April 1 due date)

[The Steven Berkeley Marine Conservation Fellowship](#) (deadline February 1)

[Equal Opportunities Section \(EOS\) Student Travel Award](#) (deadline May 1)

[William R. Mote Fisheries Fellowship Award](#) (deadline April 1)

Other Awards/Contest

[AFS Student Writing Contest](#) (deadline April 1)

[UGA Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant Student Opportunities](#) (deadlines vary - visit website)

Propagating Riparian Plants for Pollinators

By Steven Patrick (UGA Extension)

Our story begins with a member of our community showing up at Victory Home Greenhouse in Clarkesville to deliver a tractor-trailer load of free potting soil to Headwaters Master Gardener Kathy Booker, our lead volunteer of the Victory Home Greenhouse Project. He promised her she'd never drag another broken bag out of her car again. Combine that with 1,000 free pots from Janice Bridges and our idea was moving.

Over the past 5 years, White County Agent Nathan Eason and I struggled to get quality plant material that is both inexpensive and suitable for planting on dry sandy river sites. Bare root plants are great but small and difficult to get going. Competition usually smothers them out. Through research, we've found the plants that we live stake tend to propagate very easily from stakes or cuttings.

Over the past few months, I installed about 4500 live stakes of elderberry. I placed them higher, above the water line to extend the buffer and they are currently doing well.

We propagated about 1000 elderberry at the Victory Home greenhouse and they grew very quickly. At the Spring annual plant sale about 200 plants were purchased and another 75 were donated to Hardman Farms. Unicoi Outfitters continued the movement and placed 75 plants along the Chattahoochee River near the fly shop.

We found other plant species to use that come in several native and ornamental varieties. At home, I'm still nurturing about 500 ninebarks, Annabelle hydrangeas, buttonbush, arrowwood viburnum, chokeberry, Beautyberry, and a few others for fall planting in 23.

To improve our genetic footprint Bodie Pennsi with UGA Extension is going to help shift us to growing plants from seed. Our goal is to get folks across the southeast to consider expanding their buffer into an attractive pollinator border using these plants.

We hope to sell some plant material each spring and fall with the idea of rolling the funds into more plant material. Whenever opportunities like Hardman and Unicoi come up where we can make an impact, we will have plenty of plants on hand.

We are looking to develop curriculum ideas for Extension Agents, Master Gardeners, and high school agriculture teachers throughout Georgia. We are hopeful we can get folks excited about expanding their riparian zone with attractive, blooming plants native to their region. By doing so, we can hopefully engage an army of volunteers to host plant sales and planting projects across the state.



Steven Patrick



2024 Annual Meeting

GREAT WOLF LODGE • FEBRUARY 13 - 15

Putting Stock in Biodiversity; Resiliency in Numbers

Abstract Submission

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 12, 2024. 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)

TIPS FOR DESIGNING ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The Chapter has included in its website presentation resources for professionals and students. <https://gaafs.org/presentation-resources/> 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.



2024 Annual Meeting

GREAT WOLF LODGE • FEBRUARY 13 - 15

INFORMATION

The Chapter has a block of rooms reserved for our meeting participants. Guest can make their reservations by either calling the Great Wolf Customer Contact Center 1-866-751-9653 or visiting their website www.greatwolf.com/georgia.

Room Rate: \$98/night

Reference Block Code: 2402GAFS

Reservations must be made prior to Jan. 29, 2024



Great Wolf Lodge offers a diversity of [dining options](#) or you might choose to travel 10 minutes down the road to LaGrange to select from one of its many restaurants.

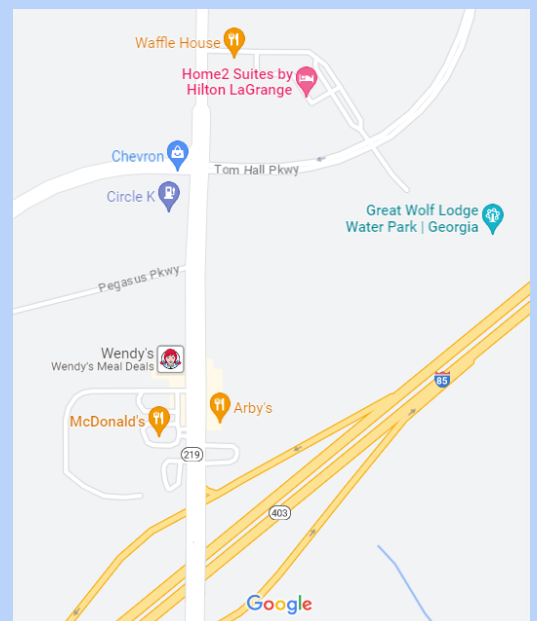


Coming Soon

Registration Information

Schedule of Events

150 Tom Hall Parkway
LaGrange GA 30240, USA



Local Fishy Stuff

Click on title of article

**Ultrasounds on Whale Sharks
Deepen Mysteries of This Big Fish**



**Georgia Aquarium, Taiwan
researchers and wildlife officials
partner on long-term marine
conservation and education project**



**A backbone of bugs: The tiny
drivers of freshwater ecology**



**Public right to fish saved in final
seconds of General Assembly session**

**The Fish that Feeds All:
Restoring Habitats for
River Herring has Broad
Social and Environmental
Benefits**



Georgia Fish Art Contest



There are many ways to teach people about the value of fisheries conservation. Imagine kids sitting in an art class and they are learning about fish species, their habitat, and conservation needs. Combining science and art, Wildlife Forever's Fish Art Contest is creating future stewards of our lakes, rivers, streams, and oceans. The award-winning **Wildlife Forever Art of Conservation Fish Art Contest** is supported by Bass Pro Shops, International Game Fish Association, the U.S. Forest Service, the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation, Rapala, and National Fish Habitat Partnership. Bringing youth, art, and conservation together, the Fish Art program is free to enter.

The Art of Conservation Georgia Fish Art Program hosted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Go Fish Education Center is affiliated with the Wildlife Forever Fish Art Contest. Each Spring volunteers meet at the Go Fish Education Center to select the **top winners** for each category and enter them in the Wildlife Forever Art of Conservation Fish Art Contest. This year Georgia had 2 national winners. Isabella Puzyreva earned 2nd place in the K - 3rd grade division and Minakshi Chilagani was awarded 3rd place in the 4th – 6th grade division.



Isabella Puzyreva (3rd grade)



Minakshi Chilagani (6th grade)

History of Georgia Fish Art Contest

Georgia began hosting the State-Fish Art Contest in 2011 and was led by the Go Fish Education Center educator at that time, Michael Fulghum. Michael would later host the National Expo for the State-Fish Art Contest at the Go Fish Education Center (GFEC).

Marion Baker took over the reins as the State-Fish Art Contest coordinator in 2015 when she began working at the Go Fish Education Center. The contest was then referred to as the Georgia Division of the State-Fish Art Contest. Marion began giving plaques to winners and creating prize packages for the



Elly Wasden (9th grade)
1st Place Georgia Smile Award

winners, nominees, and educators. The creation of a new specialty award, the GoFish Georgia Award, was a nice addition in 2017. This award celebrates fish species native or introduced to the state that are commonly sought by anglers.

Due to budget constraints and staff shortages, Georgia DNR's role in the State-Fish Art Contest was almost eliminated in 2018. Thanks to Amory Cook and others, who volunteered additional time to process, judge, and return entries, the Georgia Division of the State-Fish Art Contest remained.

Various stakeholders from other agencies and sections began volunteering as judges for the 2019 Georgia contest. This helped to diversify perspectives, promote the contest, and increase engagement. Though these judges may change year-to-year, their presence and support have become an integral part of the contest.

The Georgia State-Fish Art Contest became the Georgia Fish Art Contest in 2021. Young Georgia artists in grades K – 12 can submit entries for one of these categories: GoFish Georgia Award, Guy Harvey Award, IGFA Conservation Award, Western Native Trout Award, Fish Habitat Writing Award, or the Invader Crusader Award.

Thirty schools participated in the 2022 Georgia Fish Art Contest. This contest would not be possible without the educators in these schools inserting the Georgia Fish Art Contest into their curriculum. To show appreciation, in 2022 Marion began raffling a free field trip to the Go Fish Education Center to one participating educator each year.

After 9 years of coordinating the Georgia Fish Art Contest and judging at the national level, Marion handed the reins over to Chrystal Sherwood. Marion has begun her new adventure with Georgia DNR as the Fisheries R3 Coordinator and Chrystal, who has worked with Marion for many years, was hired to replace Marion as the GFEC educator. Georgia AFS is looking forward to working with Chrystal to promote the Georgia Fish Art Contest.



Marion along with an educator from Texas were recognized in May by **Wildlife Forever** for their dedication and commitment to the program.

A Peek at Some of the Georgia Fish Art Contest Winners



Emily Chow (8th grade)
First Place 7th - 9th grade



Shannon Wang (11th grade)
First Place 10th - 12th grade



Emily Zhu (6th grade)
2nd Place 4th - 6th grade



Lucas Kutz (4th grade)
3rd Place 4th - 6th grade



Emma Wu (3rd grade)
2nd Place K - 3rd grade

Winning artwork used in title of article (left to right)

Tiare Yu (2nd grade, 3rd place)
Chenxi Yu (9th grade, 3rd place)
Daniel Chen (8th grade, 2nd place)

Newsletter Cover Page

Allison Tsu (5th grade, 2nd place Smile Award)

See all of the winning entries

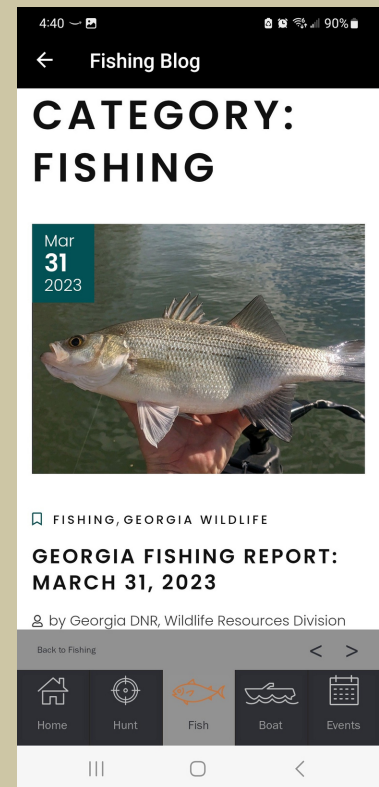
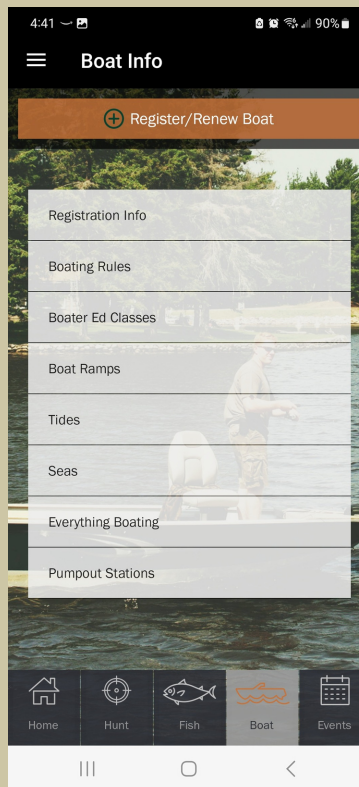
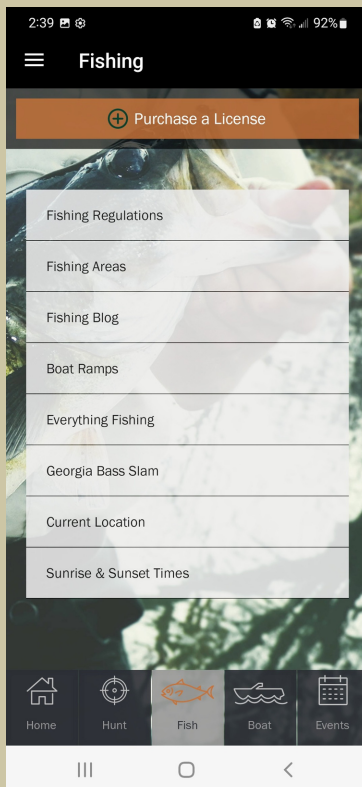
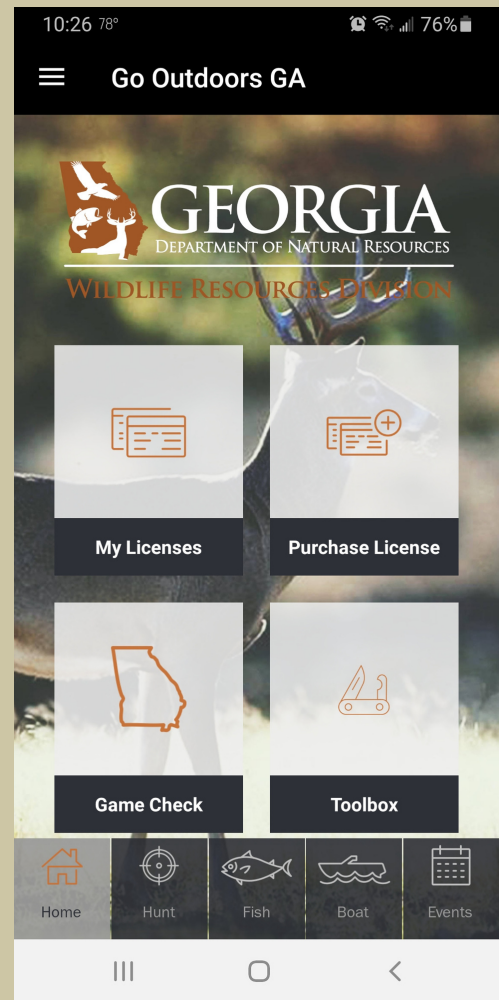
[Wildlife Forever 2023 Fish Art Winners](#)

Have you tried the Go Outdoors GA app?

The Outdoors GA app, free in [Google Play](#) or [Apple store](#), has multiple uses.

- Fishing regulations - some rules change each year
- Boating rules - know before you go
- Fishing locations
- Boat ramps - plan your next kayaking adventure
- Tide information
- Purchase your fishing license (don't forget your SIP)
- Store your fishing license - avoid awkward moments
- Event calendar - find a KFE near you
- [Georgia DNR Fisheries Blog](#)
- And it has hunting stuff too

DOWNLOAD THE APP TODAY AND PLAN YOUR NEXT OUTDOOR ADVENTURE





Southern Division American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting January 31 - February 4, 2024



The Tennessee Chapter of the American Fisheries Society kindly invites you to the **2024 Southern Division AFS meeting** in Chattanooga, TN at the Chattanooga Convention Center.



The Program Committee is accepting proposals for symposia and workshops. Proposals are due August 1, 2023. Follow instructions for submitting proposals.

Instructions to submit
Proposals





Q and A

with

Cecil Jennings

In August Cecil will assume the role of President of the American Fisheries Society. He is the first Georgia AFS member to serve as the President of AFS.

Cecil's journey to a career in fisheries began at Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin where he played football and earned a bachelor's degree in biology, natural science, and conservation. That led him to his first "professional" fisheries job as a biological intern with the Virgin Islands Division of Fish and Wildlife in January 1980. And that summer he was hired by that same agency as a fisheries technician. He would later earn his master's degree in wildlife and fisheries ecology from Mississippi State University and a Ph.D. in fisheries science from the University of Florida.

It was the summer of 1994 when Cecil arrived at the University of Georgia campus as a research fisheries biologist with the Georgia Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and adjunct professor at Warnell School of Forest Resources. Before he retired in 2021 Cecil was the Unit Leader for USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit.

Now that you are retired, how do you fill your days?

In truth, I'm failing miserably (and happily so) at being retired. I have two retirement "gigs" and a couple of hobbies. The first "gig" is a paid position as a Senior Lecturer (Part-Time) in UGA's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. In this capacity, I teach a 1-hour summer seminar on the administration of natural resource agencies and a 3-hour fall class in scientific communication. The second "gig" is a volunteer position as an officer (currently President) of the American Fisheries Society. This position involves governance of the society as it fulfills its core mission. As for my hobbies, they include crappie fishing (and sometimes catching), gardening, and traveling.



Does anyone stand out that inspired or mentored you early in your career?

Yes! Yes!! And Yes!!! I would not be where I am today without sound guidance, wise counsel, and a swift kick in the pants as needed by caring people along the way. I am the embodiment of that child raised by a village: from elementary school to today. Many people come to mind: some were scientists, and some were not. All saw something in me I didn't see



Cecil (early 1990s)

in myself. All pushed me (sometimes with resistance) to be my best self. For example, a 7th-grade teacher who refused to accept my very crappy, smart-a** response to an assignment and insisted I give my best effort... always (Thanks Ms. Simmonds)! Thanks also to Mrs. Parrot, Dr. Crump, Dr. Suter, Dr. Muncy... and on and on.



On the Oconee River

What do you see as the most rewarding/favorite aspect of your career?

Two aspects of my career stand out as being among the most rewarding: being a positive influence (hopefully) on aspiring scientists and the production of scientifically sound, actionable information on which management decisions are made. I very much enjoyed seeing those "light bulb" moments when interacting with students and they grasp difficult concepts or when an unconfident

student gives a great presentation or does well on a test. I also enjoy seeing my former graduate students doing well in their various endeavors. As a research biologist, I was pleased when an agency changed management approaches or regulations based on research results that my students and I have published.



Fisheries biologist need to learn how to improvise

As a fisheries research biologist, you have traveled to many countries. What countries have you visited for work and was there a favorite?

In the course of my work, I've been privileged to travel to Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, and Scotland. All were interesting in their own way, and I enjoyed my time in each country. However, if I were forced to choose, I think New Zealand was my favorite.

New Zealand's geography and geology are simply amazing! The country is comprised of two large islands, whose long axes are north to south; climate is variable (subtropical in the

north, temperate in the south). New Zealand's landscapes are very variable, complete with sandy beaches, mountains, glaciers, glacial rivers, fjord-like sounds, and active volcanoes. If you've ever seen any of the 'Lord of the Rings' movies, you've seen this landscape, as those movies were filmed in New Zealand. The flora and fauna are unique because of the country's isolation. Finally, the native Maori people and culture seem to be well integrated into New Zealand society and institutions, and the overall "Kiwi" (nickname for people from New Zealand) culture is great. The vibe is easy going, and the people I encountered were friendly and accommodating. I had a great time there and intend to go back on holiday... (as vacation is called there) one day. Kia Ora (an all encompassing Maori greeting to wish others well)!



Imaging Banded Kokopu in New Zealand

What are two things you hope to accomplish as the next AFS President?

Two specific objectives for my presidential year are: 1) evaluate how Society messaging is perceived by young professionals who are nonmembers and their potential employers and adjust messaging breadth, as appropriate to recruit new members, and 2) Prepare/update standard operating procedures for recruiting an Executive Director under planned and unplanned scenarios and for preparation of strategic plans.



2023 Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress

How have you benefited from being a member of AFS?

AFS has been my professional home for 39 years, and I've benefited greatly from my membership in the Society. The list of benefits is long: a great source of fisheries information, access to an international network of colleagues with whom to collaborate and share camaraderie, training in leadership, and opportunity for extensive travel to destinations near and far.

What is your advice to the next generation of fisheries professionals?

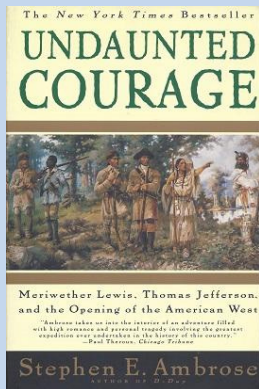
Plan your work, work your plan, but keep an open mind. Have some idea of what you want to accomplish, develop a plan for said accomplishment, and implement the plan. However, opportunities come when (and from where) least expected, and they may deviate from your plan. Be flexible. I never planned to get a masters... or a Ph.D., yet here we are. And strive for work-life balance! Whatever "it" is, it's not THAT important. Yes, be responsible, be professional, be accountable, but not to the exclusion of all else. Tend to your personal relationships (family, friends, yourself) as you would a cherished garden, and they will sustain you during good times and bad.

If you were a fish, what fish would you be?

Don't know what I would be, but I would want to be a bluefin tuna. Why? They are simply amazing. They are widely distributed in tropical and temperate waters of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. They are large (about 5' long and weigh about 130 lb.), warm-blooded predators in an environment where almost all of their prey is cold-blooded, which gives the tuna a decided advantage when feeding. They can live up to 40 years, dive to 3000 feet, and swim at speeds of 40+ mph.

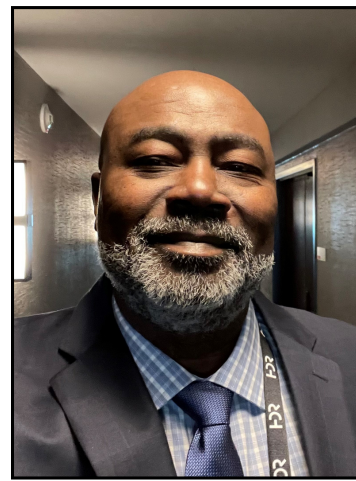


What book would you recommend all fisheries professionals should read?



"Undaunted Courage: Thomas Jefferson, Meriwether Lewis and the opening of the American West" by Steven Ambrose.

It's an amazing TRUE story of leadership, courage, dumb luck, and human foibles that all combine to make the America that we know today. Life lessons abound in this book, and I think it offers a great perspective on life in our modern world.



What is your favorite quote?

"In an unguarded moment, the truth will manifest."

Managing people is what separates us from Ichthyologists. People are complicated beings, and deciphering their words and actions can be difficult. However, we all have unguarded moments when we act or speak freely, and much can be learned about others intentions in those unguarded moments.



Younger
Cecil



Mature
Cecil

Stay Safe - Avoid Heat Stress

People need to take precautions to maintain their body temperatures during hot weather. It's important to understand heat safety tips because they can help you prevent instances of heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and other types of heat-related illnesses.

HEAT SAFETY TIPS

- Wear light-colored clothing and light-weighted clothing
- Drink plenty of **WATER** before and during work (Don't wait until you are thirsty)
- Shorten work times with frequent breaks (adjust work schedule when possible)
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat to prevent direct sun exposure
- Use a cooling cloth on the back of your neck
- Use a buddy system - check on each other
- Understand the signs of heat-related illnesses

HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

WHAT TO DO

HEAT STROKE

- High body temperature (103 F or higher)
- Hot, red, dry, or damp skin
- Fast, strong pulse
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Passing out

- Call 911 immediately (medical emergency)
- Move the person to a cooler place
- Help lower the person's temperature with cool cloths or a cool bath
- **DO NOT GIVE** the person anything to drink

HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Heavy sweating
- Cold, pale, and clammy skin
- Fast, weak pulse
- Nausea or vomiting
- Muscle cramps
- Tiredness or weakness
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Passing out

- Move to a cool place
- Loosen your clothes
- Put cool, wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath
- Sip water

GET MEDICAL HELP RIGHT AWAY IF

- You are throwing up
- Your symptoms get worse
- Your symptoms last longer than 1 hour



Chapter Spotlight

Steve Sammons

Steve is a Research Fellow in the School of Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Aquatic Sciences at Auburn University. Last month marked his 19th year in this position. However, he started at AU in May 2000 as a Ph.D. student, so he has been there for a total of 23 years (or forever if you ask his wife). Steve runs a lab with full-time employees, graduate students, and undergraduate students and conducts research in both Alabama and Georgia on rivers, streams, ponds, and reservoirs, generally on sportfish.



What inspired you to pursue a career in fisheries?

I grew up in southern New Jersey, on the edge of the greater Philadelphia area. I learned to fish at an early age, going to some local ponds and fishing bait for bluegill and pumpkinseed. My best friend in elementary school lived next to our town lake, and we spent hours catching frogs, turtles, salamanders, snakes, and even an occasional fish. These were seminal moments in my life, as I now realize that through all our “mucking” (i.e., dipping great quantities of mud and detritus from the bottom with long-handled nets and seeing what we found) I gained a

great appreciation for all kinds of creepy crawlies that live in aquatic ecosystems outside of fish. Oh, and we fished a lot too. After he moved away in the 8th grade, I continued fishing on my own and with my dad. By high school graduation, it was obvious that I wanted a career in some kind of natural resources field.

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

The land-grant university in New Jersey is Rutgers University, which is in the middle of the concrete jungle southwest of New York City. That school might as well have been in Alcatraz because no way was I going to live there. There was this unknown school with the unwieldy and clumsy name of “Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University”. Because I went to high school during the Pleistocene, academic advising was minimal, so I picked a major off a mimeographed list offered by our “guidance counselor” (a.k.a. the lunch lady). I had never heard of “fisheries”, but I saw “forestry” on that list, and I liked being in the woods. After about one semester I found out about this strange thing called “Fisheries”, so I switched from the woods to the water. After graduating, I went to South Dakota State University for my MS degree. After being a research associate at Tennessee Tech, I obtained my doctorate at Auburn University.



Steve on Lake Seminole



Pulling barb wire out of a gill net

Chapter Spotlight Continued



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

I am currently working on Shoal Bass in the lower Flint River Basin. This project aims to describe the movement and habitat use of Shoal Bass and Largemouth Bass in the mainstem Flint below Albany Dam as well as examine factors mediating successful hatching of both species in the mainstem and tributaries from Warwick Dam to Lake Seminole. It is a collaborative project among GADNR, AU, and the Jones Center at Ichauway.

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

I have been blessed with so many. Our careers are built upon experiences, brick by brick. I learned the foundation of Fisheries while at VA Tech. At SDSU, I learned how to plan and execute field work, often under trying conditions, and how to overcome adversity. At TTU, I learned how to channel those prior experiences to become a scientist. Bringing those skillsets to AU allowed me to thrive during my Ph.D. program. My approach to fisheries science has been derived from all those prior opportunities. My most rewarding experiences involved working with multidisciplinary agencies to address needed conservation issues and communicate both the issues and how scientists are trying to address them to the public. The work I have been privileged to do over the last 15 years on endemic black bass, most notable Shoal Bass, has probably been some of my most impactful work, thanks to the many partners I have been able to work alongside.

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

I enjoy the relative freedom to pursue my scientific interests and being involved in multiagency efforts to conserve some of our large riverine fishes, such as Shoal Bass, Alabama Shad, and Gulf Striped Bass. Of course, working with a wide diversity of agencies, groups, and stakeholders is also quite challenging, the proverbial herding of cats.



What is your favorite fish and why?

Toss up between Smallmouth Bass and Shoal Bass. They live in beautiful places and are extremely fun to fish for and catch.

What is your walk-up song?

Send in the Clowns

What is one thing on your bucket list?

To make it to retirement, hopefully before kicking said bucket.



Chapter Spotlight Continued

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

1) Go fishing as much as possible. Memories are more important than a 4.0 GPA (but not more than a 3.0). I cannot emphasize enough how much credibility you gain from the angling public when they find out you are actually one of them, just with an extra degree or two.

2) Unless you get an offer you can't refuse, get some real-world experience before you pursue a graduate degree. Many western state agencies hire temporary technicians to conduct field work. You can get solid field skills and work/live in some amazing places. So, in the words of Horace Greeley: "Go West, young man (and woman)!"

3) Finally, let me address one of my biggest pet peeves – the term "imposter syndrome." True imposters are rare in science, and it's a poor way to describe virtually every young scientist who sometimes feels overwhelmed. Truth is, we all do at times. No one can know everything, and expectations that someone should are unrealistic and hypocritical. We grow and learn throughout our journey as scientists. Anyone who acts like or thinks they know it all is the real imposter.

How has being a member of Georgia AFS and AFS benefitted you?

For me, the main benefits of AFS are the meetings, at whatever level. Fisheries is all about relationships. Because of the complexity of ecosystems in general and aquatic ecosystems in particular, most of the issues we face cannot be solved alone. We need partners, we need collaborators, we need colleagues. How do we find them? Meetings provide the perfect opportunity. Of course, the opportunities to present and listen to science are important foundational components of student and young professional training. But do not neglect the most lasting impact a meeting can have, and that is meeting people. I have come to realize that often the most beneficial parts of a meeting happen outside the presentation rooms. Growing your networks makes a far more lasting impact than filling your entire day with talks. The old adage, "it's not WHAT you know but WHO you know" is just as true in our field as it is in everyday life.

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

I have become quite a proficient cook over the years. I make homemade pasta sauces, jambalaya, fried rice, chicken marsala, Bolognese, lasagna soup, and a host of other things. My lab always gets excited for gatherings at our house. My favorite recipes mostly come from Rachel Ray.



Mike Maceina and Steve awarded Best Paper Award in NAJFM for their Natural M estimator paper in 2016

DID YOU KNOW?

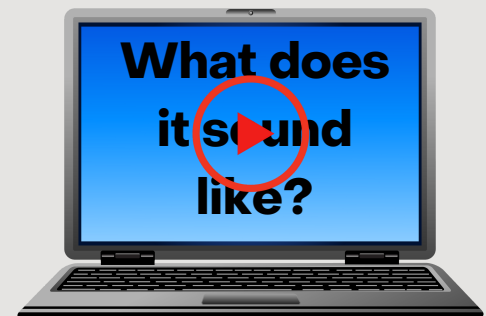
Who Cut the Cheese?

Pooting, tooting, or floating an air biscuit. No matter what you call it, there is a fish that communicates via flatulence. Pacific and Atlantic herrings will gulp air from the surface, store it in their swim bladders, and later expel it from their anal ducts. This phenomenon is known as Fast Repetitive Tick (FRT).

The high-pitched FRTs last between 0.6 and 7.6 seconds at frequencies between 1.7 and 22 kHz. It seems herring use FRTs more frequently at night when they are unable to see each other. The high frequency of FRTs are outside the known auditory range of most predatory fishes. But FRTs are within the hearing range of humans and marine mammals.

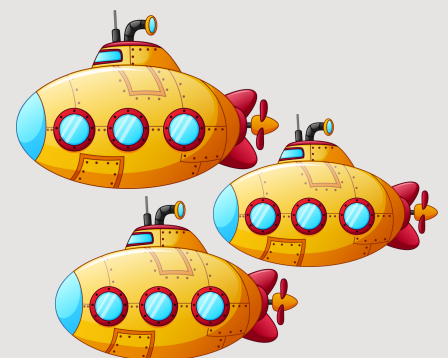


Bob Batty (Scottish Association for Marine Science), Ben Wilson (University of British Columbia), and Larry Dill (Simon Fraser University) were awarded the Ig Nobel award in Biology in 2004 for their research on how herring use FRTs to communicate. These scientists became curious when they observed air bubbles released by herrings at night.



The Ig Nobel Prizes honor achievements that make people LAUGH, then THINK. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative – and spur people's interest in science, medicine, and technology. The name of the award is a pun on the Nobel Prize, which it parodies, and on the word ignoble ("not noble"). (<https://improbable.com/>)

How herring farts almost lead to a diplomatic crisis:
Magnus Wahlberg at
TEDxGöteborg



Fishy News

Around the World

Click on title of article

RIVER EROSION CAN SHAPE FISH EVOLUTION, STUDY SUGGESTS

An MIT study identifies a geological process that may shape the diversity of species in tectonically inactive regions. In a [paper](#) appearing today in Science, the researchers report that river erosion can be a driver of biodiversity in these older, quieter environments.

MULTIVARIATE ENVIRONMENT-FISH BIOMASS MODEL INFORMS SUSTAINABILITY AND LOST INCOME IN INDIAN OCEAN CORAL REEFS

For the first time, a newly published artificial intelligence (AI) algorithm is allowing researchers to quickly and accurately estimate coastal fish stocks without ever entering the water.

CONSERVATIONISTS AIM TO SAVE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED EUROPEAN EELS ON ITALY'S PO RIVER

Since 1980, the European eel population has declined dramatically, by 97%. In 2008 the species [joined](#) IUCN's Red List as "critically endangered". Other species of *Anguilla* are under threat worldwide.

HARMFUL FISHERIES SUBSIDIES ARE LEADING TO MORE FISHING VESSELS CHASING FEWER FISH, RESULTING IN ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIETAL IMPACTS

A recent study quantified the number of harmful fisheries subsidies that support fishing in the high seas, domestic and foreign waters.

LARGER BUT YOUNGER FISH WHEN GROWTH OUTPACES MORTALITY IN HEATED ECOSYSTEM

A unique 24-year study of freshwater fish exposed to warm water pollution finds changes in growth rates, death rates and size, but not all in line with expectations.

MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF FORAGING CAN ATTRACT PREDATORS, SCIENTISTS FIND

Animals using the most efficient methods of searching for resources may well pay with their lives, scientists at the University of Bristol have discovered.



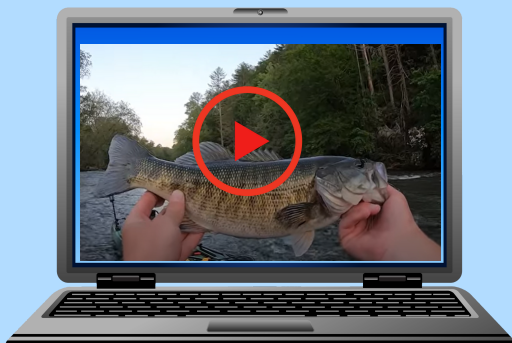
BUBBA'S SHORT VIDEO PICKS

Idiots at work & why you should love them! | Per Henrik Stenstrøm | TEDxArendal



North GA River Fishing

*I FINALLY Figured Them Out!!
(River Bass Fishing)
Aaron's Outdoors*



BONUS VIDEO - Fishing for Bartram's Bass

BUBBA BASS RECOMMENDS

Summer FUN and Summer SUN! Not all adventures need to be outside.

Click on image to visit website



Spend a day around Centennial Olympic Park and visit the GA AQ and the World of Coca-Cola. There is a lot to see at the GA AQ. The [Southern Company River Scout Gallery](#) will not disappoint. Plan your visits to avoid unexpected surprises.

The High Museum will not disappoint. Visit their website and plan your visit.



HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA



A lot is happening at the TN AQ. Have you seen their [Ridges to Rivers](#) display? And don't forget a visit to the IMAX theater - [Secrets of the Sea 3D](#) is playing this Summer. Visit the TN AQ website to plan your visit.

There is a lot to see and do at the Cummer Museum in Jacksonville, FL.



BUBBA BASS SAFETY TIP

Which Fire Extinguisher Do You Need?

Choosing the correct kind of fire extinguishers on the worksite is an integral aspect of fire safety. There are **five main fire classifications** in the United States: A, B, C, D, and K. The **type of extinguisher** you will use will depend on the kind of flame that needs to be put out.

KNOW YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHER					
CHOOSING THE RIGHT EXTINGUISHER CAN PREVENT PROPERTY DAMAGE AND SAVE LIVES					
Extinguisher Type →					
Type of Fire ↓		Water	Foam	CO ₂	Dry Chemical
A Paper, Wood & Plastic		✓	✓	✗	✓
B Flammable & Combustible Liquids		✗	✓	✓	✓
C Electrical Equipment		✗	✗	✓	✓



How to use a fire extinguisher

How often do you think a fire extinguisher should be inspected to make sure it will work when you need it?

Monthly

Bubba's Friends

Sheepshead (*Archosargus probatocephalus*)

The sheepshead is found in coastal waters near structures such as oyster bars, seawalls, and tidal creeks. They are considered one of the best-eating fish along the coast, due to their delicate white flesh and mild flavor. However, its heavy scales and strong fin spines make it difficult to clean and fillet.



Bryan Fluech with a sheepshead
he caught in May 2023



Photo Credit: B Fluech

INTERESTING FACTS

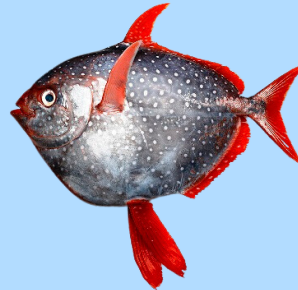
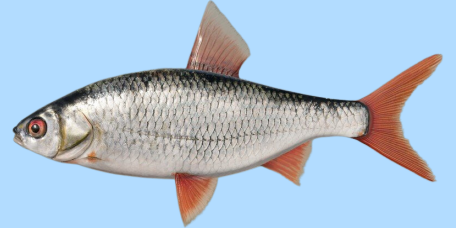
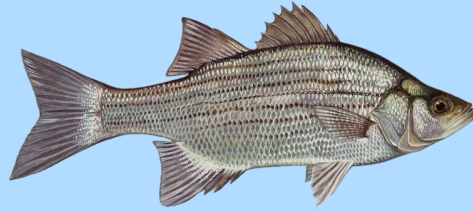
- Also known as the convict fish
- Teeth of the sheepshead include well-defined incisors, molars, and grinders
- Omnivorous grazers that use their unique teeth to grind and crush invertebrates - crabs, mussels, clams, small oysters, barnacles, shrimp
- Sheepshead are noted for being difficult to catch because their bite is so light to detect
- **Georgia Record***: Men's record: 14 pounds, 14.37 ounces; Ladies record 12 pounds, 9 ounces
- IGFA Record: 21 pounds, 4 ounces (New Orleans, LA - 1982)

Fin and Games

Earth is home to more than 30,000 different species of fish. And each has different common names. Below is a list of ___ fish names. Which TWO names are not common names for a fish?

You can click on the name to check your knowledge. But try on your own first.

1. [Footballfish](#)
2. [Guitarfish](#)
3. [Roach](#)
4. [Stonefish](#)
5. [Muppetfish](#)
6. [Pinecone fish](#)
7. [Moonfish](#)
8. [Catshark](#)
9. [McElligot](#)
10. [Barfish](#)
11. [Goatfish](#)
12. [Bombay Duck](#)



BONUS

Fin and Games

Can you identify these fish just by their mouth?

Click on the picture for the answer





9TH WORLD FISHERIES CONGRESS

March 3-9, 2024 • Seattle, Washington, USA



Fish and Fisheries at the Food-Water-Energy Nexus

We look forward to welcoming you to Seattle, Washington for the 9th World Fisheries Congress from 3-9 March 2024.

Organized through the [World Council of Fisheries Societies](#), every four years delegates from around the world meet to exchange ideas and perspectives about new research, emerging issues, scientific breakthroughs, and governance related to fisheries science, industry, conservation, and management.

Join us in 2024 as we explore the congress theme of Fish and Fisheries at the Food-Water-Energy Nexus. We are preparing a program composed of an opening plenary, general sessions, education workshops, and planned symposia related to sustainability, fish and aquatic ecosystems, fisheries and society, and innovations in fisheries.

As host city, Seattle is an ideal location for an international fish and fisheries conference, with an international airport, a light rail system, and public transportation. Home to several academic, governmental and industry leaders in fish and fisheries sciences, Seattle has a vibrant downtown surrounded by verdant forests, snowcapped mountains, lakes and rivers, Puget Sound, and several National Parks.

More Information 

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GAAFS 2023 Sponsors

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& Natural Resources
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Silver



In-Kind
Donation



Accent Lighting
provided by:
Johnny Clark
&
Craig Franco

Thank you for your Support!

Georgia AFS 2023 Fundraising Donors

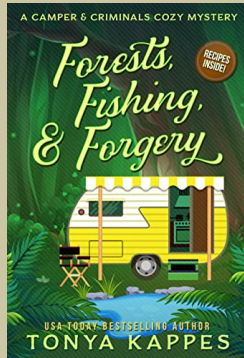


HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA



THE BOOKSHELF

ADULT FICTION SECTION



Forests, Fishing, and Forgery

By Tonya Kappes

Welcome to Normal, Kentucky~ where nothing is normal. It's Labor Day weekend in Normal, and if you know anything about camping and RVing, you know it's one of the busiest times of the year. Happy Trails Campground is at the center of a murder in which campers as well locals are suspects.

[Learn More Link](#)



TEEN FICTION SECTION



The Traitor's Son

By Pedro Urvi

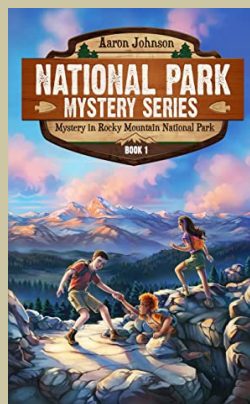
Finding books for teenagers to enjoy and read for fun can be a challenge. This book has been enjoyed by the young and the old.

A kingdom in danger, a great betrayal, and a boy seeking to redeem his father's honor. Will he succeed in exonerating him and saving the realm from an enemy in the shadows before it is too late for the whole North?

[Learn More Link](#)



YOUNG READER SECTION



Mystery in Rocky Mountain State Park

By Aaron Johnson

Before Jake's grandfather died, he was on the trail of a centuries-old mystery. And he has entrusted that mystery to Jake, leaving behind a set of hidden codes, riddles, maps, and other clues that lead Jake and his friends on a scavenger hunt into the heart of Colorado's wild and rugged Rocky Mountain National Park.

[Learn More Link](#)



BEGINNING READER SECTION



Sully the Seahorse

By Natalie Pritchard

Sully the Seahorse is a heart-warming, beautifully illustrated rhyming picture book that encourages children to believe in themselves and to be proud of who they are.

[Learn More Link](#)



Membership Information



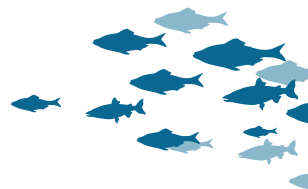
Are you a member of the American Fisheries Society?



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/



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/

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



AFS/SDAFS MEETINGS



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/



The Southern Division
of the American Fisheries Society

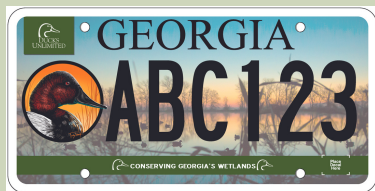
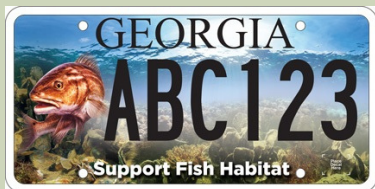
sd.fisheries.org/

**The next SDAFS meeting will be in
Chattanooga, Tennessee**

January 31 - February 4, 2024

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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.

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