

Under the Dock

September/October 2023



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

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Mark Your Calendar

- **October 15 - 18**
 - SEAFWA
 - Corpus Christi, Texas
- **November 16 - 17**
 - Southeastern Fishes Council Meeting
 - Chattanooga, TN
- **December 15**
 - Ronnie J Gilbert Scholarship deadline
 - Robert E Reinert Travel Award deadline
- **January 16, 2024**
 - GAAFS Abstracts Due
- **January 29, 2024**
 - GAAFS 2024 hotel reservation deadline
- **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 GeorgiaAFS@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

September 23 National Hunting and Fishing Day

Celebrate this day and share your passion for the outdoors with your family or friends. This is a great opportunity to teach someone else the role of hunters and anglers in the conservation and sustainability of our natural resources.

Georgia Anglers contribute annually to our economy...

- \$2.2 billion economic output
- \$1.4 billion spent by anglers while fishing in Georgia
- 13,760 jobs supported by GA anglers
- \$635 million in salaries/wages



Check out the Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division EVENTS page for information about scheduled events near you.

georgiawildlife.com/

October 4 National Taco Day

The word taco comes from the Nahuatl word 'tlahco' which means "half or in the middle", referring to the way it is formed. A variety of meats, fish, shellfish, and other interesting organisms can be used to make a taco.



Fish Taco



Shrimp Taco



Crab Taco

DOCKSIDE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ANI ESCOBAR



Believe it or not, summer is beginning to leave us in her hot, humid tracks, though not without some parting gifts. As we transition to fall, I hope you all stay safe through hurricane season and begin to catch snippets of crisp autumnal air.

Recently, I had the opportunity to connect with colleagues at the National AFS meeting. Inspirational to see research and conservation across the country and to feed off the passion and depth of knowledge brought to the meeting. As I bounced between talks on sturgeon movement in the Coosa and population dynamics of sucker species, I was reminded of the breadth of knowledge represented in the Society and in our Chapter. Georgia's astounding aquatic biodiversity is reflected in the diversity of the Chapter's aquatic expertise. I will never be an expert on black bass genetics (though, will anyone really ever be an expert on native bass genetics? 🤔) and I'm glad to know folks are working towards a better understanding of the distribution and diversity of our native sportfish. Collaboration among us is important for us to benefit from each of our members' different strengths. I look forward to gathering together again this February to engage with the diversity of our chapter's work.

In addition to the diversity of expertise in our Chapter, I always appreciate the camaraderie, dedication, and service of our members. No

one will be surprised to learn that one of our own was honored nationally this year for her service. If you have the chance, please congratulate Rebecca Brown for receiving a well-earned Distinguished Service Award! Rebecca was one of two recipients and our gratitude for her dedication to the Chapter cannot be understated.

As we prepare for the 2024 annual meeting in LaGrange, I hope you will consider the ways you are engaging with our Society. If you are already serving, thank you! Your contributions move our Chapter forward and make everything from the Pathogen and Biosecurity Workshop to kids' fishing events possible. If you would like to become more involved, please consider joining a [committee](#). This is an excellent way to serve our society and help shape fisheries in Georgia, and we cannot operate without your support!

Keep up the fantastic work, everyone!

Ani



Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society



2024 Annual Meeting

February 13 - 15

Great Wolf Lodge, LaGrange

Putting Stock in Biodiversity; Resiliency in Numbers

Join us as we share research and ideas relevant to
marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their
respective fisheries and environments

GAAFS.ORG

NEWS & UPDATES

2023 GAAFS Workshop a Success

This summer we had an opportunity to host a workshop on fish pathogens along with a review of biosecurity for fisheries professionals. Twenty-one Georgia DNR fisheries professionals participated in the workshop at the Go Fish Education Center in Perry.

Dr. Tyler Achatz of Middle Georgia State University gave us a crash course in fish pathology and John Lee Thomson, Georgia DNR Trout Stocking Coordinator, shared his knowledge of fish pathogens and treatment in addition to examples of biosecurity control measures used at the state trout hatcheries. Rebecca Brown created an introduction to biosecurity video for the workshop participants to watch before the workshop to prepare them for one of the workshop activities. Jim Page volunteered to facilitate the learning about aquatic nuisance species (ANS) in Georgia and biosecurity control measures to mitigate the spread of ANS.

Tyler's students, Zoe and Maggie were a huge help with the fish parasite lab. And a shout out to Marion, Caroline, Zack, and Amory for helping set up and break down the training workshop.



Dr. Cecil Jennings **2023-2024 American Fisheries Society President**

Cecil Jennings is a retired Fisheries Research Biologist and was employed by the U.S. Geological Survey. His work addressed an assortment of fish management or conservation issues and included investigations into fish population dynamics, life history, age and growth, food habits, habitat use, and movement patterns, assemblage response to habitat perturbations, and human dimensions. He served as an Adjunct Professor of Fisheries at the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia. Previously, he worked with the Virgin Islands Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center.

Jennings holds a bachelor's degree in biology/natural science/conservation from Carthage College, a master's degree in wildlife and fisheries ecology from Mississippi State University, and a Ph.D. in fisheries science from the University of Florida.

Jennings is a life member and Fellow of AFS and has been involved in the Society for 39 years. He has served on 12 different committees, as president of the Georgia Chapter and Southern Division, as an Associate Editor for two of the Society's journals (North American Journal of Fisheries Management and Transactions of the American Fisheries Society), and on the AFS Governing Board.



Cecil's President's Address at 2023 AFS meeting in Grand Rapids, MI



2024 AFS 154th Annual Meeting

September 15-19

Honolulu, HI

2024 Georgia AFS Annual Meeting Theme

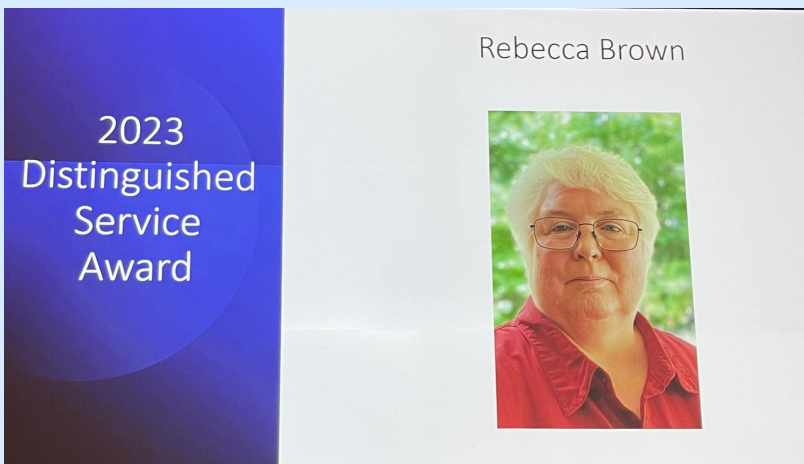
Putting Stock in Biodiversity; Resiliency in Numbers

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.



Rebecca Brown Recipient of AFS DSA

Rebecca was selected as a recipient of a 2023 American Fisheries Society Distinguished Service Award. The Distinguished Service Award was established in 1980 to recognize members who have made outstanding contributions of time and energy for special projects or activities of AFS.



"It is an honor to be the recipient of this award. I am grateful to all of my colleagues who worked together to nominate me. I am fortunate to work with a great group of fisheries professionals on various projects and ideas around Georgia. Together we have accomplished so much more than we predicted. The diversity of our skills and strengths along with our commitment to the profession has created opportunities for our Chapter to grow and evolve for the next generation of fisheries professionals."

Middle Georgia State University Searching for New Collaborators for Parasite Projects

Currently their main need is access to various animals

- Fishes (top priorities are bowfin, gar, and redbfin pickerel)
- Reptiles, birds, and mammals that eat fish



If you are interested in helping or donating animals for parasite screening, please contact Dr. Tyler Achatz (tyler.achatz@mga.edu)

Middle Georgia State University Now Offers Internship Credit Hours for Biology Majors

- Students may be located throughout the middle Georgia region
- If you have any projects that may need assistance contact
 - Dr. Dawn Sherry (dawn.sherry@mga.edu)
 - Dr. Tyler Achatz (tyler.achatz@mga.edu)



Earn Your ANS Certificate

Get Certified to Combat Invasives! To educate the public about aquatic nuisance species and how they can be kept out of state waters, staff with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) developed an online certification tool to provide awareness about invasive species found in or near Georgia. Learn more and take the course at GeorgiaWildlife.com/ANS



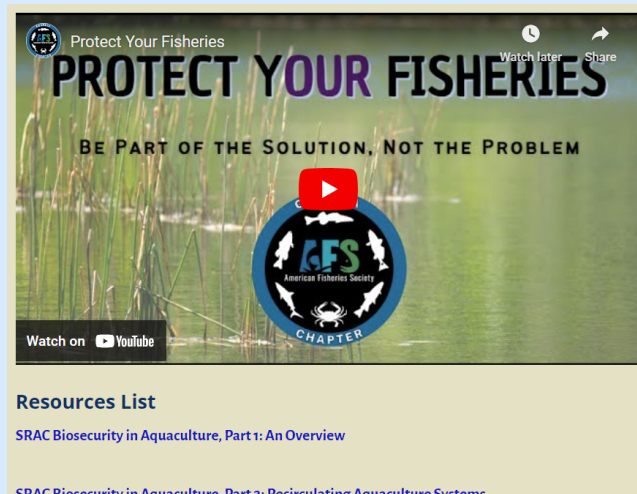
What's New on the Chapter Website?

Homepage



The Georgia AFS Google calendar is added to the home page to make it easier to find. Events and deadlines found in the newsletter are added to the calendar. Anyone who has an event they want to add to the calendar can send a request to GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com.

Biosecurity Resources



This webpage can be found under the Education Materials tab. The page has a list of resources and a few videos including the video created for the 2023 *Fish Pathogens and Biosecurity workshop*. The webmaster would like to add a *Fish Disease* page as an additional biosecurity resource. Any member interested in helping to put this idea into action can contact Rebecca Brown at GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com.

GA AFS Gift of AFS Membership Award



During the Georgia AFS business meeting this year the motion was approved for the chapter to cover American Fisheries Society membership for a maximum of 6 students annually. Students selected to receive the Gift of AFS Membership will have their AFS student membership covered by the Georgia Chapter until they graduate.

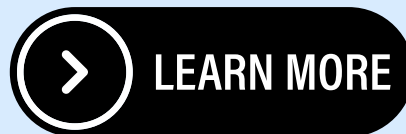
Click on the link below to find the application. Send your completed applications to Rebecca Brown at GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com.

**CLICK
HERE**

**Georgia AFS
Gift of AFS Membership
Application**

Update to Georgia AFS Professional Awards

Our members have spoken and we have listened. We have added the *Fisheries Professional Team of the Year Award*. This award honors fisheries professionals who while working as a team promote the conservation and sustainability of our fishery and aquatic resources, advance fisheries science through new ideas and innovation, and/or strengthen the fisheries profession through outreach, professional development, and sharing of knowledge.



Time for Georgia AFS Officer Nominations



The Georgia Chapter is now accepting nominations for the 2024 Georgia AFS President-Elect and Recording Secretary-Treasurer. Refer to our Chapter bylaws for the responsibilities of elected officers. gaafs.org/bylaws/

You may nominate a colleague or yourself. Nominees will be notified to confirm they want to be considered for the position they have been nominated.

All nominees who choose to run for Georgia AFS President-Elect must be a 2024 member of the Georgia Chapter and a 2024 member of the American Fisheries Society. Nominees are required to write a brief biography essay to provide to our voting members. The biography should be 500 words or less and include why the nominee chose fisheries as a career, the nominee's educational background, the nominee's involvement with the Georgia Chapter or AFS, and how the nominee will help Georgia AFS achieve its mission.

Note: Dawn Franco, current Recording Secretary-Treasurer, does plan to run for re-election.



Innagural Society for Freshwater Science Southeast Chapter 2023 Meeting



When: November 8 - 9

Where: Cunningham Conference Center, Columbus State University

Who: Anyone interested in freshwater resources in SE US

Oral and Poster presentation submissions open through Sept. 30th

Registration - visit their website for more details

Southeast USA Chapter Society of Freshwater Science

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

CAMPUS CORNER

UGA Subunit News & Updates

University of Georgia AFS 2023-2024 Leaders

Joseph Nolan: President



Hunter Rider: Vice President



Russell Wilson: Secretary



Alan Bond: Treasurer



Savannah Perry: Fundraising Coordinator



Taylor Bell: Outreach Coordinator



ANNUAL
UGA AFS
FISH FRY

OCTOBER
14

Students Mark Your Calendars

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](#) (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)



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. Applications are typically due around the first week of February.

The 2023 class of 18 IN FISH students hail from nine states and U.S. territories, and 18 different colleges and universities in 10 states and U.S. territories. Five of the eighteen students are from Georgia colleges and universities (Georgia State University, Morehouse College, and Savannah State University).

Student projects included climate science, protected species, fisheries, offshore wind, science communication, vulnerable marine ecosystems, Indigenous practices, and recreational fishing.

[Click Here](#)

Read Student
Profiles

In each profile, students outline their project, explain why it's important, and—always the most compelling part—share insights they've gained into marine science as a career during their time with NOAA.



In Memoriam

Dr. Ronnie Joe Gilbert, Jr.

March 5, 1945 – July 11, 2023

On July 11, the Fisheries world incurred a great loss with the passing of Dr. Ronnie Joe Gilbert, Jr. Born March 5, 1945, in Milton, Florida, Dr. Gilbert earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee and doctorate from Auburn University (Auburn). In addition to his academic achievements, he also was a United States National Guard Veteran.

His professional career began during his time at Auburn when he accepted a temporary position as a consultant with the U.S. Agency for International Development. In that role, he traveled to Ecuador with Dr. Tyson Roberts to collect freshwater food fishes throughout the country. After receiving his doctorate degree from Auburn, he worked as a private consultant until 1977, when he started working in Georgia as the Assistant Leader of the University of Georgia's (UGA) Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit. He was also an Assistant Professor on the UGA faculty, teaching upper graduate level courses, supervising graduate students, and conducting independent research. In 1984, he accepted an Associate Professor appointment with the UGA School of Forest Resources (now Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources) and the UGA Cooperative Extension Service. He and Dr. George Lewis initiated a continuing succession of workshops, seminars, and training sessions covering commercial aquaculture, catfish farming, aquaculture financial planning, sportfish pond management, and aquatic weed control. After 21 years of service, Dr. Gilbert retired from UGA as a Professor Emeritus of Fisheries in 1998.

Though a successful professor, his impacts extended beyond his leadership in the classroom. Dr. Gilbert was very active in local and national professional fisheries organizations throughout his career, most notably the American Fisheries Society (AFS). He was a Certified Fisheries Scientist and an active Life Member of the AFS, where he chaired and served on numerous committees. He

*Ronnie with a
few of his former
students*



In Memoriam: Dr. Ronnie Joe Gilbert, Jr. continued

extended his belief in the value of active participation in professional organizations to his students, requiring each of his undergraduate and graduate advisees to actively participate in professional organizations as well.

A man with a vision, he initiated discussions in 1984 for the formation of a Georgia AFS Chapter. He obtained the required 20 AFS members' signatures in 1985 supporting the formation of the new Georgia chapter. In 1986, he volunteered to serve as the first President of the Georgia (GA) Chapter of the AFS. Not one to rest on his laurels, he continued to be an active member of the GA Chapter for the next several decades. He and Dr. Bob Reinert were the primary organizers of the UGA student subunit of the GA Chapter of the AFS, and both later served as faculty advisors for the UGA student subunit. In 2018, Dr. Gilbert made a substantial donation to the Georgia AFS Student Opportunity Fund. In honor of this contribution, the Chapter EXCOM (leadership) voted to approve the naming of the academic scholarship to thereafter be known as the Ronnie J. Gilbert Scholarship. Several students have been afforded the opportunity to participate in meetings they otherwise may not have been able to attend as a result of this scholarship and the generosity of Dr. Gilbert.

While we will certainly miss seeing Dr. Gilbert at our GA Chapter meetings, there is no question his presence will still be felt. His impacts will undoubtedly carry on both in the students he educationally invested in and in those whom the Ronnie J. Gilbert Scholarship opens the doors of new opportunity.



*Caroline Cox is first recipient
of the Ronnie J. Gilbert
Scholarship*



Ronnie with his Career Contribution Award

AWARD NOMINATIONS

Georgia AFS values its members and all those who work to improve the conservation and sustainability of our fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems. One way our Chapter shows its gratitude is by recognizing outstanding individuals or organizations for their achievements and excellence in support of the Chapter's mission and objectives. One way you can express your appreciation to those who have gone above and beyond normal expectations is to nominate them for one of the [Georgia AFS awards](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Who is eligible for a Georgia AFS award?**
 - It depends on the award. Some awards do not require Chapter membership to be considered for the award. Detailed descriptions are available on the website.
- **Who can nominate someone for a Georgia AFS award?**
 - Anyone can submit a nomination.
- **Is a nomination letter required for all Georgia AFS awards?**
 - A nomination letter is not required for an *FPY or FCY award. A short summary explaining why the nominee should be considered is required on the nomination form. All other awards require a nomination letter. Visit the website for more details.
- **Do nominees need to score exemplary for all of the standards for an FPY or FCY award?**
 - Nominees are not expected to score exemplary in all standards.
- **When is the deadline to submit nominations?**
 - **Nominations for Georgia AFS FPY and FCY awards are due Dec. 30, 2023**
 - Nominations for the other awards are due January 20, 2024

**FPY includes Fisheries Professional of the Year in Science and Research, Professional of the Year in Fisheries Management, and Fisheries Professional Team of the Year. FCY is Fisheries Conservationist of the Year.*

FISHERIES PROFESSIONAL TEAM OF THE YEAR

PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR IN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR IN FISHERIES SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

FISHERIES CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR

DUE December 30, 2023

CAREER CONTRIBUTION AWARD

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

HIDDEN HERO AWARD

DUE January 20, 2024

**GEORGIA AFS
AWARDS**

CLICK HERE



2024 Annual Meeting

February 13 - 15

Great Wolf Lodge, LaGrange

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 managing 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.

Annual Meeting Resources





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 16, 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. Awards are presented to the top 3 student oral presenters and top 3 student poster presenters.

Additional videos on Chapter YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/@GeorgiaAFS/playlists



GEORGIA CHAPTER AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY 39TH ANNUAL MEETING 2024 SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES



Platinum Sponsorship \$2000

- Link to your organization's website and logo on the Chapter website and in the newsletter
- Recognition in the 2024 meeting program and Chapter social media sites
- Signage at the registration table and in the ballroom
- Opportunity to leave materials and handouts at the registration table
- 10 minutes of conference presentation time to address all attendees
- 2 exhibitor tables
- 3 complimentary registrations

Gold Sponsorship \$1000

- Link to your organization's website and logo on the Chapter website and in the newsletter
- Recognition in the 2024 meeting program and Chapter social media sites
- Signage at the registration table and in the ballroom
- Opportunity to leave materials and handouts at the registration table
- 10 minutes of conference presentation time to address all attendees
- 1 exhibitor table
- 2 complimentary registrations

Silver Sponsorship \$500

- Link to your organization's website and logo on the Chapter website and in the newsletter
- Recognition in the 2024 meeting program and Chapter social media sites
- Signage at the registration table and in the ballroom
- 1 exhibitor table
- 1 complimentary registration

Bronze Sponsorship \$250

- Link to your organization's website and logo on the Chapter website and in the newsletter
- Recognition in the 2024 meeting program and Chapter social media sites
- Signage at the registration table and in the ballroom



2024 Annual Meeting

GREAT WOLF LODGE • FEBRUARY 13 - 15

HOTEL 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



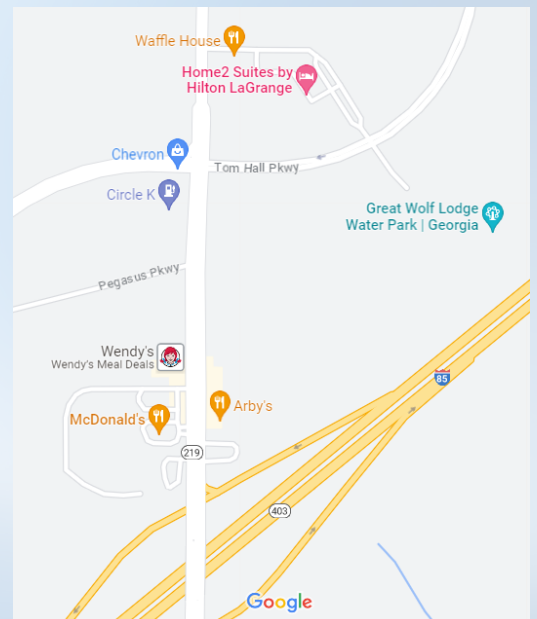
Great Wolf Lodge offers a diversity of **dining options** or you might choose to travel 10 minutes down the road to LaGrange to select from one of its many restaurants.



Coming Soon

Schedule of Events

150 Tom Hall Parkway
LaGrange GA 30240, USA



GA AFS 2024

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.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

You can help our fundraising efforts by 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




2024 Annual Meeting

GREAT WOLF LODGE • FEBRUARY 13 - 15

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration and complimentary registration 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. Email Rebecca Brown if you plan to bring a guest (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com).

	Cost/Person Before Feb. 1, 2024		Cost/Person After Feb. 1, 2024	
	GAAFS Member	Non-GAAFS Member	GAAFS Member	Non-GAAFS Member
Professional	\$135	\$150	\$150	\$165
Retired	\$60	\$75	\$60	\$75
Student	\$65	\$80	\$75	\$90
One-day Professional	\$60	\$75	\$60	\$75
One-day Student	\$35	\$50	\$35	\$50
Extra Banquet Ticket			\$40/person	
Extra Social Ticket			\$25/person	
**Georgia AFS membership dues			\$10	
Quick Link to Pay GAAFS 2024 Membership Dues				



Google
Registration
Form

**** Membership to the Georgia Chapter is separate from being a member of the American Fisheries Society (AFS). Visit gaafs.org/membership for instructions on how to pay Georgia AFS dues online. Visit fisheries.org/membership to join AFS.**

Payment Options <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check should be made payable to Georgia Chapter AFS and mailed to Rebecca Brown. One registration form per person.• Credit card payments use our online store.	Rebecca Brown 241 Apple Ridge 2 Dawsonville, GA 30534
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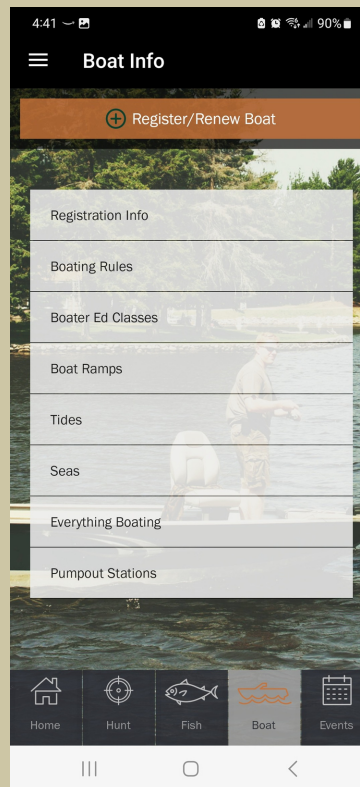
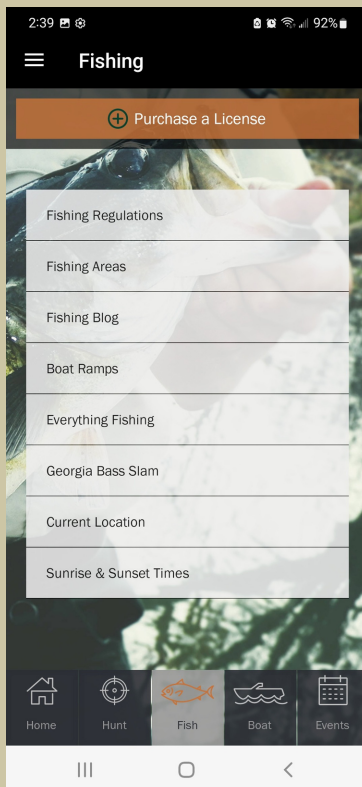
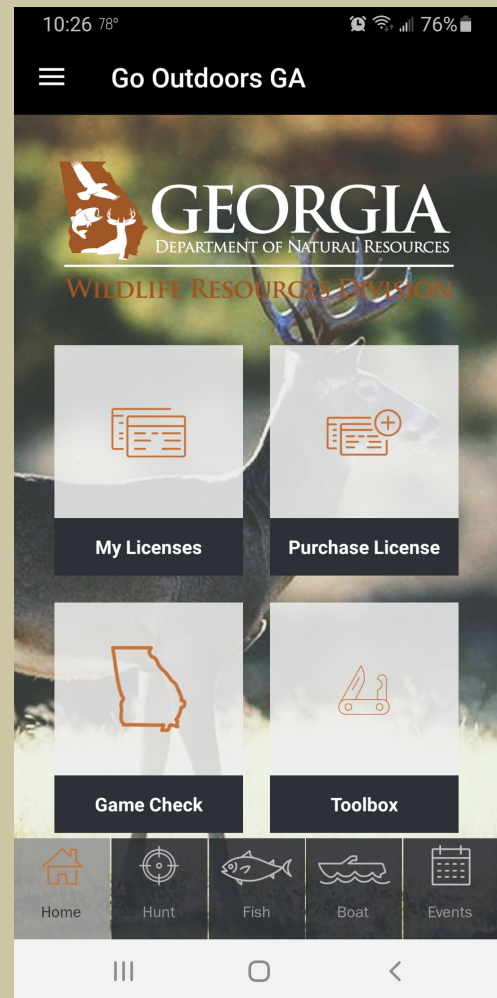
We strive to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to engage fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact Rebecca Brown at GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com

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



Local Fishy Stuff

Click on title of article



**USFWS: An Endangered River
Worth Saving**



**Swimming with the
storm: Wet spring, high
rivers are a boon to fish**



Blotchy Bass Bonanza

**Fish being tested for
cancer-causing toxin in
Georgia river**





49TH ANNUAL MEETING
16-18 NOVEMBER 2023
CHATTANOOGA, TN

Chattanooga Hotel
1201 Broad Street

Abstracts Due 6 October



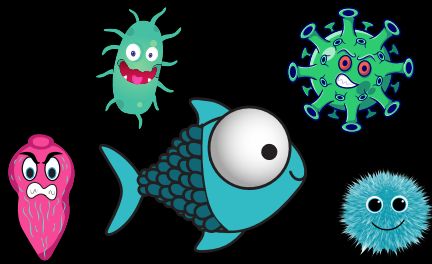
Thursday Night Poster Social
Tennessee Aquarium
River Journey

Early Registration deadline 13 October
Late Registration ends on 14 November

CLICK HERE

for more details

Questions? Contact Bernie Kuhajda (brk@tnaqua.org or Anna George (alg@tnaqua.org)



BIOSECURITY

FISH PATHOGENS

One of the three goals of biosecurity is the management of pathogens. Management of pathogens is achieved through prevention, reduction, and/or elimination. To best utilize time and limited resources, fisheries professionals need to have adequate knowledge of the fish they are working with and the pathogens that can harm these fish.

Know Your Fish & Their Pathogens

- Different species of fish have different diseases of concern
- Each pathogen requires different diagnostic and treatment protocols
- Have a plan to control a disease outbreak
- Keep current with new and emerging diseases and regulations

Pathogens vary in their regulatory significance, survivability in reservoirs, how easily they can infect and cause disease (pathogenicity), diagnostics, and control. Some infectious diseases are easily controlled by good sanitation and disinfection or with drugs. But some parasites and many viruses cannot be treated as easily and the best control is good preventive practices and proper use of vaccines. Preventive practices include managing the risk of transferring pathogens via the equipment, vehicles, and vessels that we use to do our jobs.

Manage the risk of equipment, vehicles, and vessels transferring pathogens

- Establish procedures for cleaning and disinfecting
- Designate a large enough space to clean and disinfect
- Assign dip nets to be used in specific areas (color code handles)
- Avoid using surface water when hauling fish
- Avoid transferring water between drainages or between unconnected waters within the same drainage on the same day
- Assign shared equipment to only be used in areas with the same issues



**Approved Drugs for
Use in Aquaculture**



FISH DISEASE SPOTLIGHT

COLUMNARIS

DESCRIPTION

Flavobacterium columnare is the causative agent of columnaris disease. This bacterium affects both cultured and wild freshwater fish including many susceptible commercially important fish species.

Outbreaks in aquaculture are commonly associated with stressful rearing conditions such as low dissolved oxygen, high ammonia and nitrite concentrations, and overcrowding. Handling and injuries to the skin/mucosa may predispose cultured and wild fish to columnaris disease. Columnaris is transmitted from fish to fish and mortality rates can be extremely high.

SYMPTOMS

The fish may become lethargic, have a loss of appetite, and hang around the surface of the water.

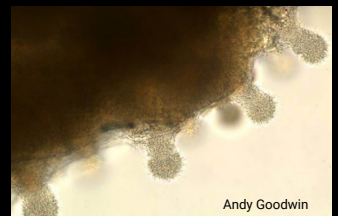
Gross signs of columnaris are frayed fins, depigmented lesions on the skin, and necrotic gill lesions. Skin lesions typically begin around the dorsal fin and extend laterally to encircle the fish resembling a saddle (why columnaris is called the saddleback disease).



skin lesions



yellow-pigmented lesions



microscopic image -
"haystacks" on gill
tissue



necrotic gill lesions



saddle-back lesion

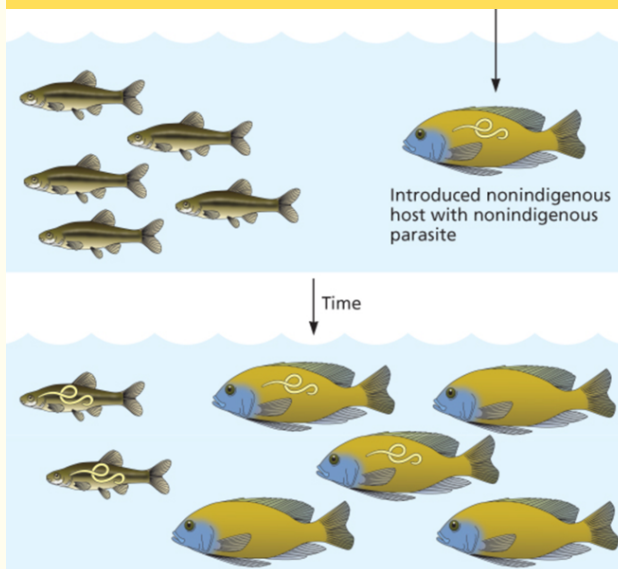
ANS - Invasive Fish Parasites

Invasive species are non-indigenous organisms that have been introduced into a new watershed or 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. Globalization has increased long-distance travel and commerce, leading to an increase in non-native plants, animals, and pathogens in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems around the globe.

Below is a diagram Dr. Tyler Achatz (Middle Georgia State University) shared at the August workshop. The diagram demonstrates two different scenarios of invasive parasites and their hosts along with possible outcomes for each. The consequences of introducing parasites into a new ecosystem vary because of the complexity of the parasite life cycle, its ability to spill over to native hosts, and the extent of the natural resistance and resilience to infection in these hosts.

Scenario #1

Invasive parasites brought in by invasive hosts



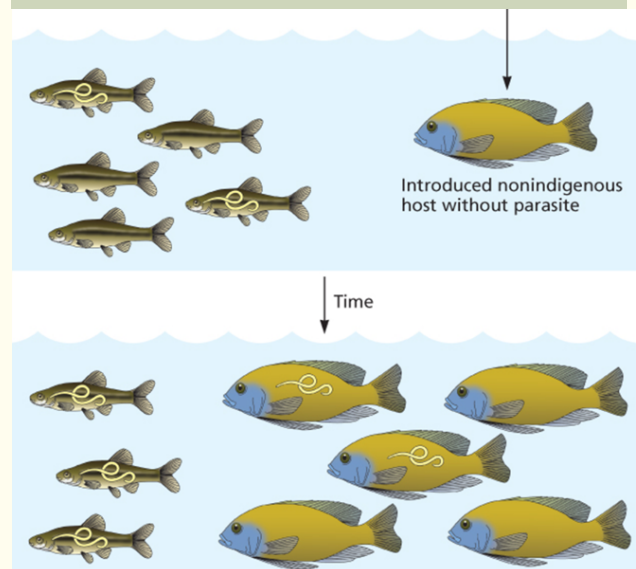
Invasive parasites may transition to the native host species

Outcomes:

1. Native hosts may be more strongly impacted (e.g., disease, death)
2. Invasive species may 'lose' their parasites to the native hosts (e.g., invasive may become 'healthier' and outcompete the parasite-filled hosts)

Scenario #2

Invasive hosts have no parasites



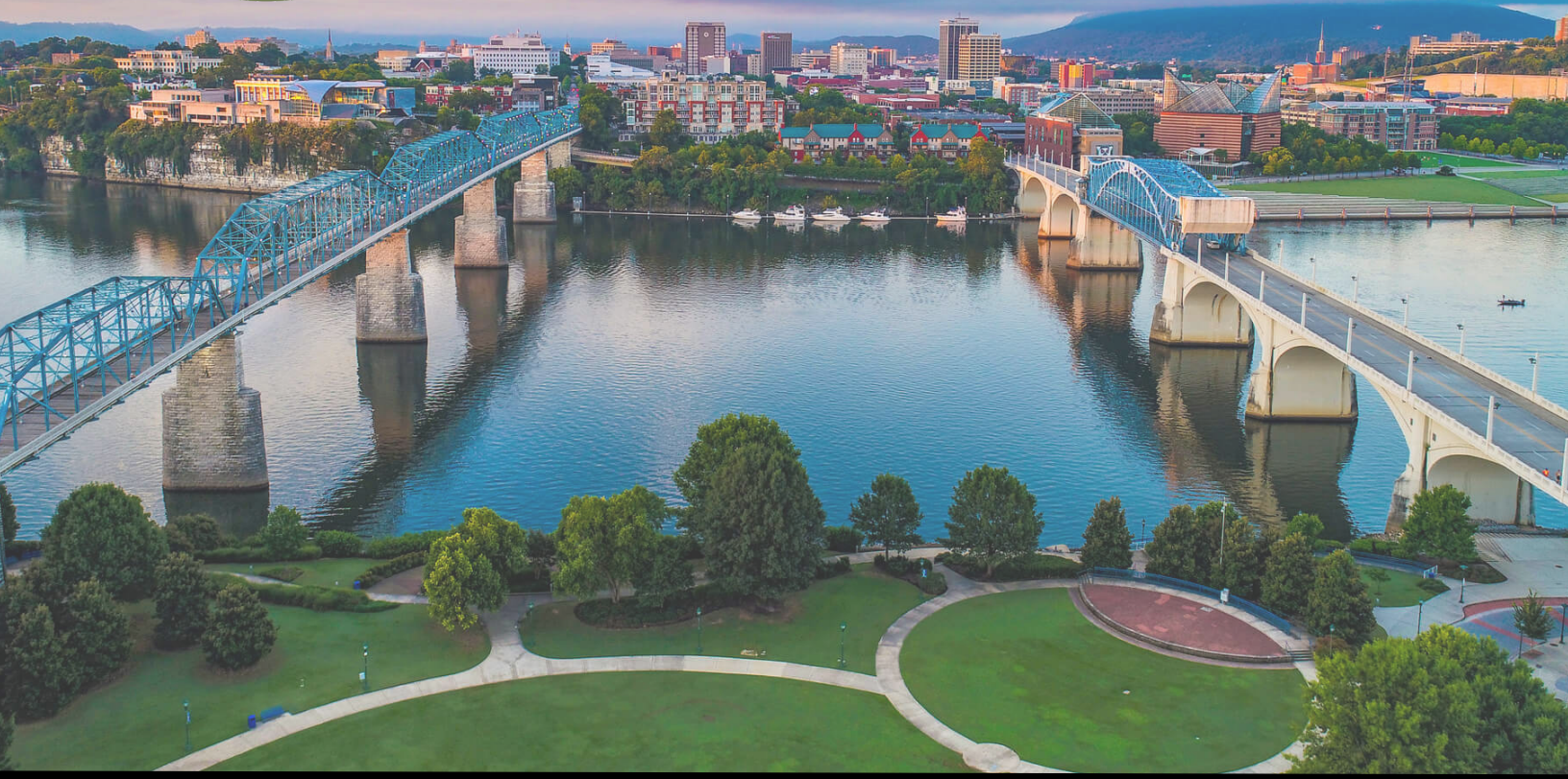
Native parasites may transition to the invasive host species

Outcomes:

1. Invasive hosts may be more strongly impacted (e.g., disease, death) or less impacted compared to native hosts
2. Parasite populations may increase due to more available hosts
3. Invasive species may not gain parasites (e.g., invasives may become 'healthier' and outcompete the parasite-filled native hosts; the fitness increase can be noticeable compared to natural populations of the invasive species)



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.



Meeting Information





Chapter Spotlight

Hunter Roop

Hunter is a senior fisheries biologist with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division and has been employed by GA DNR WRD since 2018. He is mostly responsible for managing river and reservoir fisheries in the western portion of Region 2 (northeast Georgia), which are Lake Lanier and its tailwater, Lake Chatuge, Lake Nottely, and two water supply lakes (Bear Creek and Cedar Creek Reservoir). Hunter also manages the delayed harvest trout fishery in the Chattahoochee River below Morgan Falls Dam in Atlanta. He has some other fun projects going on in Region 2, including the ongoing monitoring of northern snakehead in Gwinnett County and the assessment of riverine black bass populations in the Upper Chattahoochee River Basin. Hunter lives in Athens with his wife, Brittany, and their three children: Lulah, Paisley, and Marshall Roop.



What inspired you to pursue a career in fisheries?

If it were not for the mere existence of two small ponds—I probably wouldn't be a fisheries biologist. Pond #1 sat right behind my grandparent's house, and every summer I went there my grandfather would have cane poles ready and I would sit on the bank catching bluegill and bass with worms that we would dig up out of his compost pile. I was obsessed with fishing that pond. Pond #2 sat right off Rivermeade Drive in Atlanta, just a short bike ride from my house. There I employed the same fishing tactics to catch more of the same species,

along with some snapping turtles and bullfrogs. I had an awesome experience of assisting three precocious great blue heron chicks back to their nest near that pond, too. In the concrete jungle of Atlanta, that pond was a place for real adventure. Growing up, I knew that if I could work in or around water, I'd love my work.

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

My initial academic interests were strictly in the marine realm, and so I attended Coastal Carolina University and studied Marine Science. I really enjoyed my time at CCU and learned a lot about coastal and marine systems, but I decided to transfer to UGA after my sophomore year with the plan to earn H.O.P.E. and save quite a bit on out-of-state tuition. During orientation at UGA, I was homing in on the Marine Biology program when I saw a picture of a fisheries technician holding up a big Atlantic sturgeon. I did my homework on the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and sealed my fate to fisheries management before orientation was over. I graduated with a BSFR from UGA in 2010, and in 2015 I completed a MSFR from UGA. My master's research focused on recreational use, human dimensions, and creel data collected from the Marben Public Fishing Area.

Chapter Spotlight Continued



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

One project I've recently embarked upon involves a collaboration with the US Army Corps of Engineers' (USACE) Sustainable Rivers Project (SRP) on the Chattahoochee River below Buford Dam (i.e., the Lanier tailwater). The SRP was informally conceived in the late 1990s as an effort between The Nature Conservancy and the USACE to improve ecological outcomes downstream of hydropower projects via ecological flow assessments. The current program has expanded its funding and scope in recent years, and fortunately the SRP found our proposal for the Chattahoochee River worthy of funding in 2022. The USACE hosted a stakeholder workshop in January of 2023, and we are currently evaluating the effect of three experimental flow regimes on water quality in the Lanier tailwater. This project is unique for SRP because it is the first effort funded by the program to evaluate water quality within a tailwater trout fishery.

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

I think the ultimate reward for any fisheries professional working with sportfish is to engage with happy anglers that understand and appreciate the positive impact of fisheries management. From that perspective, my most rewarding experience so far has been to see the smiling faces of so many folks that have caught their first fish at one of our WRD fishing events. I recall last year's trout KFE at Buford Dam, and watching Brant Sandifer help his son, Ezra, reel in his first rainbow trout. Ezra was so excited he threw both hands up in the air to celebrate! I had another similar experience during the Trout Fishing with Mom Event on Smith Creek. I worked with Ms. Freeman, who had never been trout fishing before, and while we sat together bankside and exchanged various fishing tips and family stories, she caught her limit of trout and was so excited to come back and bring her friends! That is the ultimate reward.



Ezra's big catch!



Ms. Freeman
hooked on fishing



Chapter Spotlight Continued

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

Develop and nurture relationships with people. The fish are awesome and the science is fascinating, but it's the people that you meet and work with along the way that will help you apply the knowledge and skills you've gained, and ultimately land you a job. Fish don't host job fairs—so apply your focus and time to build relationships that are mutually beneficial and long-lasting. Second, seek out diverse work/volunteer experiences that facilitate your understanding of what piques your interests. Through volunteering with state agency biologists, shadowing private consultants, and/or assisting fellow academic researchers with their field or lab work, you can gain that high-level perspective to better understand the options that are available that match your specific interests. Lastly, check your expectations when it comes to compensation and adjust your plans accordingly. There are a few reasons why 99.9% of fisheries professionals don't drive a Ferrari, but let's be honest, the price tag is one.



What is your favorite fish and why?

This is a really easy one because I despise all fish except the Atlantic sturgeon...just kidding! While all fish invariably have some unique trait that makes them a potential favorite, the Atlantic sturgeon is at the top of my list because of its unique morphology, life history, foraging behavior, large adult size, and watching them randomly leap six feet out of the water is the coolest!



What is one thing on your bucket list?

To travel to the Galapagos Islands. My relatives just got back from a week there. I may have turned some slight hue of green as studied their vacation photos. Sure, I would be recreating Darwin's observations and inductions in my mind with every passing flora and fauna, but I really just want to watch the blue-footed booby do their mating dance in person!



Continued on next page

Chapter Spotlight Continued

How has being a member of Georgia AFS benefitted you?



I've learned that the benefits of Georgia AFS membership are both shared and varied depending on where you are in your career. For students, it's an excellent place to present your first formal research project, or practice your presentation for an even "grander" forum. The annual Chapter meeting is always enjoyable for students, researchers, and practitioners alike, and it provides the only opportunity to learn about so much of the fisheries research being conducted throughout the state in one setting. The conversations and brainstorming sessions that take place in between and after formal sessions are invaluable. I have been a part of several collaborative side projects that have resulted from those moments. Serving the organization by co-chairing the Continuing Education committee and assisting the Fundraising committee has allowed me even more opportunities to grow professionally and expand my network.

What is your favorite quote?

My favorite quote is the first sentence of the Serenity Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I can't change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.



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

Trouble seems to follow me and my wife—for whatever reason. Since we have been married, there have been three occasions that we've had to use CPR and/or First Aid techniques to help people in life-threatening situations. I've learned firsthand the value of CPR and First Aid certification thanks to those experiences. Everyone working in this profession, whether in the office or in the field, should receive this training and know what to do in an emergency.

Hands-Only CPR

EVERY MINUTE CPR IS DELAYED, A VICTIM'S CHANCE OF SURVIVAL DECREASES BY 10%.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is an emergency procedure that can help save a person's life if their breathing or heart stops.

When a person's heart stops beating, they are in cardiac arrest. During cardiac arrest, the heart cannot pump blood to the rest of the body, including the brain and lungs. Death can happen in minutes without treatment.¹ CPR uses chest compressions to mimic how the heart pumps. These compressions help keep blood flowing throughout the body.

Cardiac arrest is not the same as a heart attack. A heart attack happens when blood flow to the heart is blocked. A person having a heart attack is still talking and breathing. This person does not need CPR—but they do need to get to the hospital right away.

Hands-only CPR does not require formal training

How to tell if someone is in cardiac arrest

- The person is unresponsive, even if you shake or shout at them.
- The person isn't breathing or is only gasping.
- The person does not have a pulse.

If someone is in cardiac arrest follow these steps

1. Call 9-1-1 right away. If another bystander is nearby, ask that person to call 9-1-1.
2. Give CPR. Push down hard and fast in the center of the chest at a rate of 100 to 120 pushes a minute. Let the chest come back up to its normal position after each push. The American Heart Association recommends timing your pushes to the beat of the song "Stayin' Alive." This method of CPR is called "hands-only" and does not involve breathing into the person's mouth.
3. Continue giving CPR until medical professionals arrive or until a person with formal CPR training can take over.

How to Perform Hands-Only CPR



Hands-only CPR is only for teens and adults

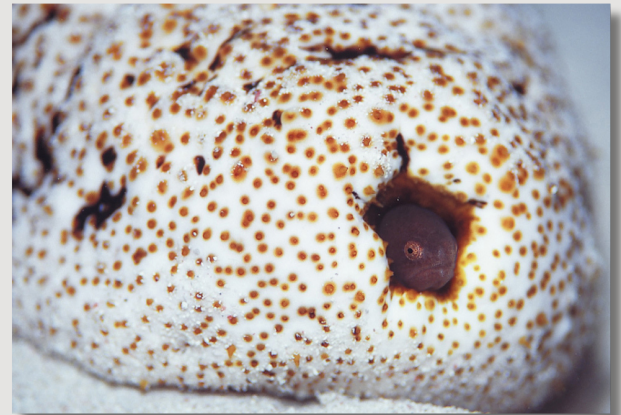
DID YOU KNOW?

The pearlfish is no gem!

The slender, scaleless pearlfish of the Carapidae family lives and feeds along the sandy areas near coral reefs. Places to hide from predators in this habitat are limited. Not a problem for the pearlfish as long as there are sea cucumbers around.

Some species of pearlfish find the keister of the sea cucumber as prime real estate to hide from predators. The sea cucumber has toxic skin so most predators avoid it.

Because the sea cucumber also breathes from its heinie it prefers the pearlfish stay away. So it will clench its cheeks just enough so the fish cannot enter. The defensive derriere of the sea cucumber is not a problem for the pearlfish. The pearlfish will maneuver its tail into the anal opening and spin its body forcing its way into the sea cucumber's tushie.



A Pinhead Pearlfish, Encheliophis boraborensis, at Kaitim, Indonesia

Depending on the species, the relationship between the pearlfish and the sea cucumber is either a commensal relationship or a parasitic relationship. Some pearlfish cause harm to its host by eating its gonads and other internal organs.

The sea cucumber is no cutie patootie. As a defense mechanism, the sea cucumber can discharge through their bum some of their internal organs. This is not a problem because a sea cucumber can regenerate its intestines and gonads. Evisceration is the sea cucumber's way of expelling unwelcomed gonad-eating pearlfish.



Seeking shelter up a sea cucumber's bottom - BBC TWO

The tuchus of the sea cucumber is not the only hiding place for pearlfish. Some species of pearlfish prefer a different echinoderm, sea stars.

And you may have guessed, some species of pearlfish hide in oysters. It is said the pearlfish got its name because one individual was found inside an oyster, dead and embedded within mother-of-pearl.



Fishy News

Around the World

Click on title of article

TOP FISH PREDATORS COULD SUFFER WIDE LOSS OF SUITABLE HABITAT BY 2100 DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

A study of 12 species of highly migratory fish predators -- including sharks, tuna, and billfish such as marlin and swordfish -- finds that most of them will encounter widespread losses of suitable habitat and redistribution from current habitats in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean (NWA) and the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) by 2100.

PROTECTED SEX: STUDY RECORDS GROUPER MATING CALLS IN U.S. CARIBBEAN

A couple of months each year, groupers (Epinephelidae) gather in the hundreds and even thousands to mate under the full moon. This concentrated nature and short duration of mating, however, renders these species susceptible to incidental fishing and poaching.

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING RESEARCHERS FIND EVOLUTIONARY ADAPTATION IN TROUT OF WIND RIVERS

Scientists found that trout from lakes stocked decades ago in the Wind River Mountains have higher numbers of gill rakers, which are bony or cartilage structures in the gullets of fish that act as sieves to retain zooplankton and nourish the trout.

ASIAN CLAMS' SPREAD IN COLUMBIA RIVER WARNS OF WORSE INVADERS

To understand how new invaders might spread, a Washington State University-led team studied the existing invasive Asian clams hoping to see what might limit them.

IN SEARCH OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH: WONDERFULLY WEIRD GIANTS LURKING IN EARTH'S RIVERS

Freshwater vertebrate populations have declined over the past five decades at twice the rate experienced by species within terrestrial or marine ecosystems. Megafish numbers in particular fell by a shocking 94%, according to one study of more than 200 large freshwater species.

EFFECTS OF FORMULATED DIETS ON MUSCLE QUALITY AND FIBER CHARACTERISTICS OF LARGEMOUTH BASS

In a recent publication in *Reproduction and Breeding*, a team of Chinese researchers in the field of genetic breeding have shed light on the impact of replacing forage fish with formulated diets on largemouth bass.



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 INFO



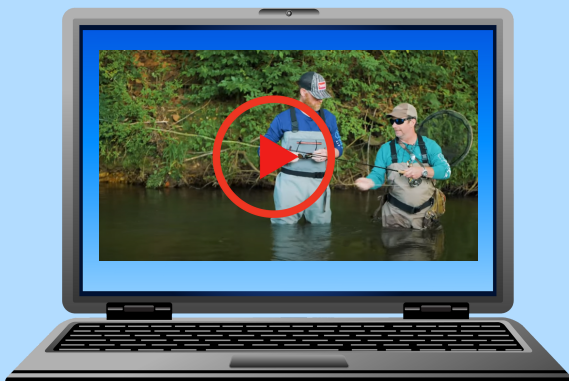


BUBBA'S SHORT VIDEO PICKS

*5 life lessons from the world's
largest fish | Alistair Dove |
TEDxAtlanta*



*SEC Traditions | Trout Fishing in
Georgia with Marty Smith*



BUBBA BASS RECOMMENDS

**Fall fishing is just around the
corner.**

Click on image to visit website



*Did you lose your sunglasses...again. Have
you tried Tifosi sunglasses?*

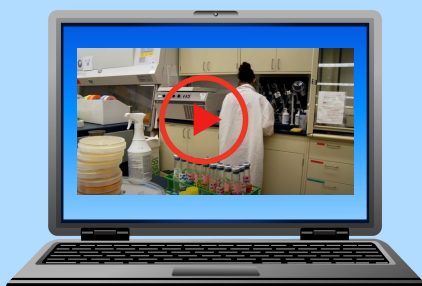
*Do you need
some new fishing
equipment or
lures for your
tacklebox?*



BUBBA BASS SAFETY TIP

Whether you are working in the field, in the shop, or in a lab, here is a list of workplace safety tips you should incorporate into your daily routine.

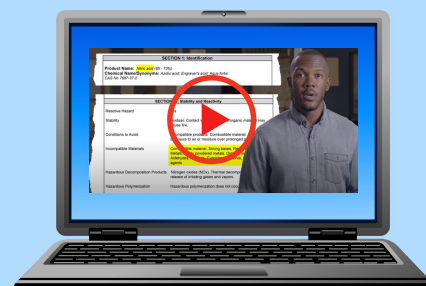
- Use tools, equipment, and machinery properly
- Report any unsafe conditions
- Wear all necessary safety gear
- Keep your workplace clear of clutter
- Be aware of your surroundings - do you know where the first aid kit is located?
- Never take shortcuts
- Stay up to date on new procedures and protocols



USCB Experimenting with
Danger



Lab Safety: Hazards part 1
Biological, Sharps, Physical



Chemical Safety
Information Resources

Bubba's Friends

Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*)

The brook trout are members of the char family. They are native to eastern North America, from the Great Lakes east to the Atlantic Ocean, and down the Appalachian Mountains as far south as Georgia, where they are found in many high-elevation streams. There are three types:

1. Great Lakes or Coaster
2. Sea-run or Salter
3. Eastern brook trout (found from Maine to Georgia)



INTERESTING FACTS

- Are the only trout native to much of the eastern United States
- Eastern brook trout is the smallest of the three
- They can grow to over 2 feet in length and weigh up to 15 pounds in the Great Lakes. In streams, they are typically 6 to 15 inches and weigh 1 to 5 pounds
- They are a type of char belonging to the salmon family, Salmonidae
- When a male brook trout breeds with a female brown trout, their offspring is called a "tiger trout"

Fin and Games

FIND THE HIDDEN PICTURES



pencil



heart



fish hook



ballpoint
pen



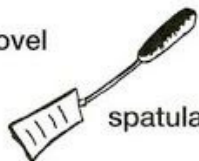
golf club



safety pin



shovel



spatula



ring



tube of toothpaste



slice of pie



teacup



magic wand



bell



Illustrated by Charles Jordan

PROPS



John Damer
Montana



Jackson Sibley
Montana



Don Harrison
Crooked River



Amory Baker
Cast and Blast



Bert Deener
Jacksonville



Justin Bythwood



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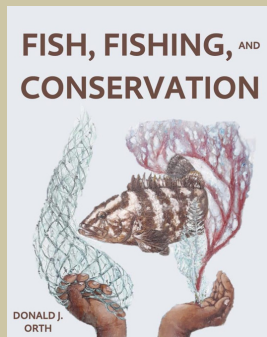


HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA



THE BOOKSHELF

PROFESSIONAL SECTION



Fish, Fishing, and Conservation

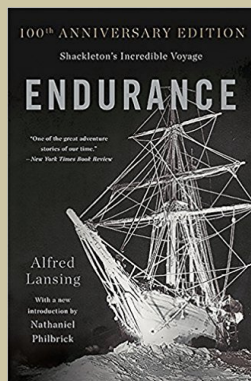
By Donald J. Orth

Fish, Fishing, and Conservation is a 389-page, peer-reviewed open textbook intended for undergraduate students who are exploring majors in Fish & Wildlife. It is also relevant to a general audience or for use in courses that explore social and ethical aspects of fish, fishing, and conservation.

[Learn More Link](#)



ADULT NON-FICTION SECTION



Endurance

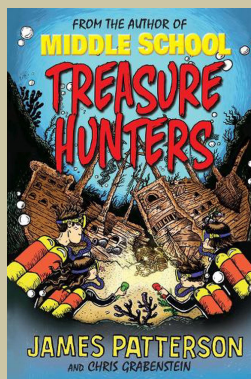
By Alfred Lansing

Experience one of the greatest adventure stories of the modern age in this New York Times bestseller: the harrowing tale of British explorer Ernest Shackleton's 1914 attempt to reach the South Pole.

[Learn More Link](#)



YOUNG READER SECTION



Treasure Hunters (Book 1)

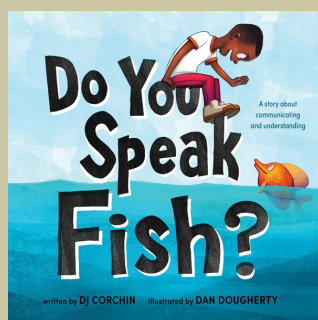
By James Patterson and Chris Grabenstein

The Kidd siblings have grown up diving down to shipwrecks and traveling the world, helping their famous parents recover everything from swords to gold doubloons from the bottom of the ocean. But when their parents disappear on the job, the kids are suddenly thrust into the biggest treasure hunt of their lives.

[Learn More Link](#)



BEGINNING READER SECTION



Do You Speak Fish?

By Dj Corchin, Dan Dougherty (Illustrator)

When a boy comes across a fish and says hello, the fish does not respond. The boy is shocked. What a rude fish! But soon he realizes that it isn't up to the fish to speak Boy. Rather, if he wants to communicate, it's up to the boy to take the time to learn how to speak Fish.

[Learn More Link](#)



Membership Information



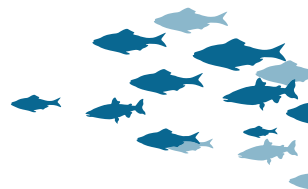
Are you a member of the American Fisheries Society?



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/>



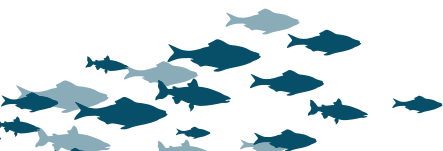
Are you a member of the Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society?

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

Future AFS Annual Meetings



American Fisheries Society

- 2024 Honolulu, HI: September 15-19
- 2025 San Antonio, TX: August 10-14
- 2026 Columbus, OH: August 30 - September 3

Volunteer to Serve on an AFS Committee

Any active member of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) is welcome to serve on AFS Committees.

MORE INFO



The Southern Division
of the American Fisheries Society

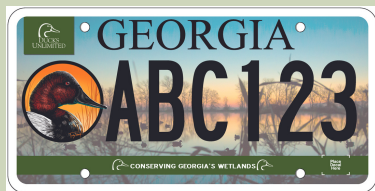
sd.fisheries.org/

**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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