

Under the Dock

July 2022



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

WHAT'S INSIDE

Click on title to go directly to page

- [Mark Your Calendar](#)
- [Dockside: Safety First](#)
- [On the Calendar \(this month\)](#)
- [News and Updates](#)
- [Campus Corner - Georgia Sea Grant Fellowship](#)
- [Working Outside During Hot Weather \(Safety Tips\)](#)
- [Southeastern Fishes Council Annual Meeting](#)
- [Georgia AFS Committees](#)
- [Plugged In](#)
- [Georgia AFS Annual Fundraiser](#)
- [Sponsor Highlight](#)
- [Chapter Spotlight](#)
- [Did You Know](#)
- [Bubba's Place](#)
- [The Book Shelf](#)
- [Fishy News from Around the World](#)
- [AFS and SDAFS Annual Meeting information](#)

Mark Your Calendar

- **July 15**
 - Deadline GA Sea Grant Fellowship
- **August 15-16**
 - R Workshop, UGA Campus
- **August 21 - 25**
 - AFS National Meeting in Spokane, WA
- **October 1**
 - GA DNR CRD CoastFest, Brunswick
- **October 14-16**
 - Great Ogeechee Seafood Festival (Richmond Hill, GA)
- **November 16-18**
 - Southeastern Fishes Council (Athens, GA)
- **November 21**
 - World Fisheries Day
- **February 1-5, 2023**
 - 2023 SDAFS Annual Meeting (VA)
- **February 14-17, 2023 (Tues-Fri)**
 - GAAFS Annual Meeting
 - Lake Blackshear Resort, Cordele

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 Chapter 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 - click on anything underlined or highlighted for more information and click on a laptop image for a video



Send us your fish photos for the Props! bulletin board



While fishing in the Bahamas, John Damer caught this barracuda with a whopper plover.

Do you have an idea for an article?

We welcome a broad range of submissions that address research and ideas relevant to marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their respective fisheries and environments. Submissions are due on the 21st of each month unless told otherwise.

Contact Rebecca Brown (georgiaaafs@gmail.com) if you have questions. We also welcome suggestions for an aquatic species to highlight, safety tips, and ideas for the section *Did You Know*.

DOCKSIDE

SAFETY FIRST

Safe. Perhaps no other word is more important to us as people when describing the place we desire to be at any given moment. From the time we are toddlers, we are taught about the importance of being protected from harm, whether that harm is strangers approaching us, cars in the road we are trying to cross, or the electrical outlet that's so enticing to stick toys in. Regardless of our age, being safe is imperative to our survival and well-being, even though we sometimes take that message for granted.

As we engage in the busy sampling season for many of us, perhaps there is no better time to remind us to think about keeping safety in the forefront of our minds. When thinking of the word "safe", ask yourself this question: "How often do you review safety procedures in your workplace or school setting"? As fisheries professionals and students, we often find ourselves working in a multitude of hazardous conditions, albeit in extreme temperatures (heat/cold) both day and night. We often utilize a multitude of equipment, from boats with trailers to tractors and front-end loaders, from otolith saws to chain saws, and all manner of items in between. Whatever the task and whatever the tool, it is imperative that fisheries professionals and students are aware of all safety protocols that relate to their job. **NEVER**

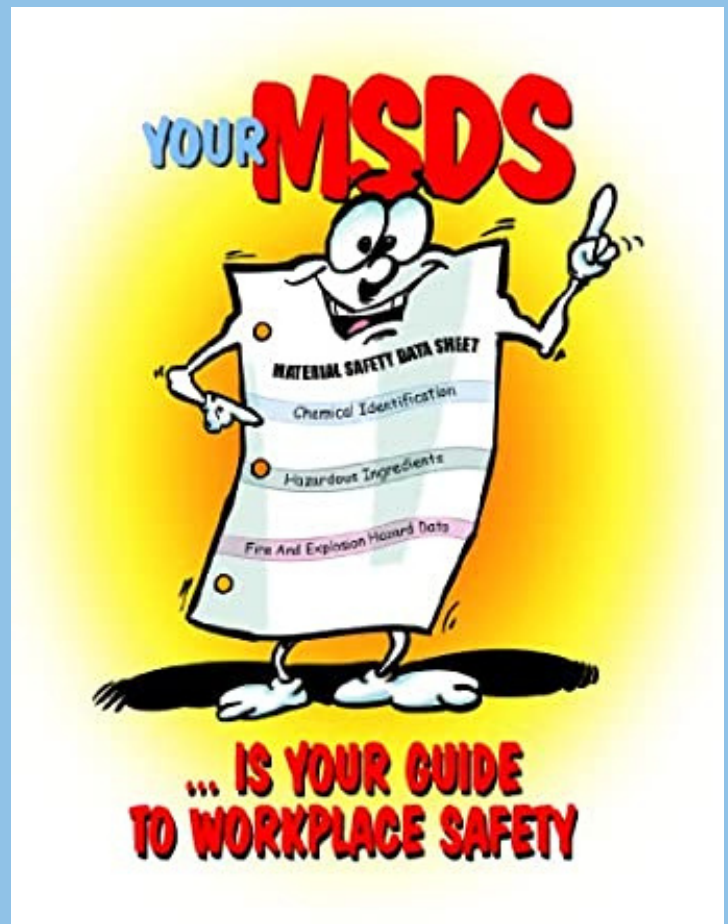


take shortcuts when it comes to safety, as the consequences can be severe. In May of this year, we were unfortunately reminded of this lesson in the tragic death of an Auburn fisheries graduate student who died of electrocution while working on an aerator at a private farm in West Alabama. Officials claimed that "a momentary lapse in safety protocols led to this tragic accident." As we pause to reflect on this tragedy, we must also use it as an opportunity to remind ourselves of how imperative it is to keep safety at the forefront of our minds **EVERY day, EVERY minute.**

Safety is intentional and is achieved through planning. For those who are supervisors, your leadership in developing and implementing safety measures is one of the most critical parts of your job. Without a safe working environment, all other goals and objectives are

not achievable. Consequently, it is highly recommended supervisors annually review all safety protocols with personnel, confirming that such protocols have been provided to staff and that they understand them. For all staff, it is imperative to understand and follow the safety protocols of your employer or school for every task you pursue, whether it's electrofishing, driving boats, operating lab equipment, or any other responsibility placed upon you to complete. Safety protocols should also include inclement weather policies, and boat operators are reminded that a float plan can mean being rescued in time.

While predicting all of the possible safety hazards that can occur and creating a work environment with zero risk is not possible, adequate preparation and safety training can significantly reduce the potential of these risks. In that vein, communication is critically important, and supervisors and employees are reminded that ongoing discussions between **ALL** involved are imperative to fully understand and develop the best approaches to ensuring a safe place to work. **ALL** communication designed to better pursue safety is needed,



whether it's reporting safety concerns, identifying new strategies, or lauding the successes of a plan. Make it a point to keep the lines of communication regarding safety always open.

Work-related accidents cost employers and employees financial consequences and lost work time. In many cases, these accidents could and should have been avoided. Though we may not avoid all accidents, **we must do all we can** to minimize the chances of such accidents occurring.

SAFETY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH OF US. If we will remember that concept each day, each time, then the accident we prevent and the life we save may just be our own.

⚠ WARNING

Check following points each time before towing trailer.

- Make sure all parts, bolts and nuts are tight.
- Secure load to trailer - check tilt and the down mechanisms - use extra rope as a safety measure.
- Check tire air pressure when tire is cold.
- Repack wheel bearings once a year, preferably in the Fall before storing trailer.
- Make sure you are not exceeding trailer capacity.
- Make sure the coupler is securely latched to the hitch ball.
- Check each time you stop & leave trailer.
- Cross safety chains under tongue and secure to towing vehicle.
- If equipped, hook up break-away brake chain with slack to permit cornering.
- Make sure the trailer electrical connector is properly connected and all lights are operating.
- Check brake operation.
- Make sure the jack is raised to its highest position.
- Make sure all gates and latches are secured.

⚠ WARNING

ALWAYS use safety chains.
Chains hold trailer if connection fails.
You must:

1. CROSS chains underneath coupler.
2. ALLOW slack for trailer to turn.
3. ATTACH chain hooks securely to tow vehicle frame.

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ON THE CALENDAR

July 17 National Peach Ice Cream Day

What does peach ice cream have to do with fisheries? Fort Valley, GA has some of the best peach orchards in the state. Pearson Farms has great peaches and Lane Southern Orchards has tasty peach ice cream.

The Region 3 Georgia DNR WRD Fisheries office is in Fort Valley. Region 3 fisheries professionals are responsible for Flat Creek Public Fishing Area and Marben Public Fishing Area. Flat Creek PFA is closer to Fort Valley. And if it is too hot to fish then travel over to the Go Fish Education Center just a few miles down the road from Flat Creek PFA.

This month travel to middle Georgia for some sweet fresh peaches, peach ice cream, and a little fishing.



July 31 World Ranger Day



World Ranger Day is celebrated worldwide on July 31st to commemorate Rangers killed or injured in the line of duty and to celebrate the work Rangers do to protect the planet's natural treasures and cultural heritage.

Let's pause for a moment to reflect on the courage and sacrifice that Rangers make: by honoring Fallen Rangers and standing with Rangers who bravely undertake their role on the frontline. World Ranger Day is an International Ranger Federation initiative promoted together with its official charity arm, The Thin Green Foundation.



The Thin Green Line
Documentary



NEWS & UPDATES

2023 Georgia Chapter AFS Annual Meeting

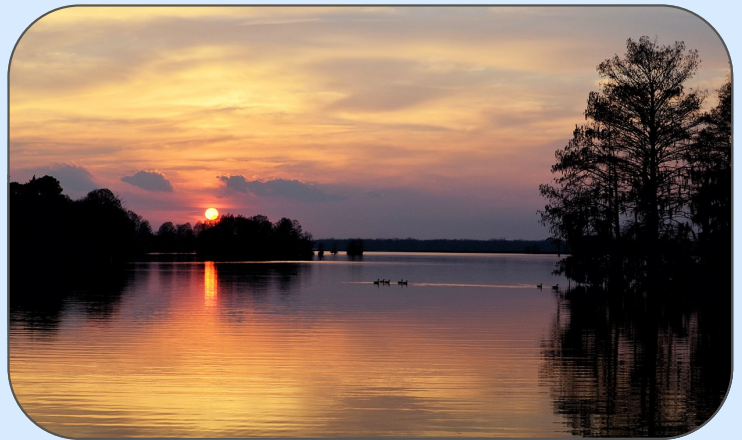


The annual meeting planning team is excited about next year's meeting. Not only will we be returning to Lake Blackshear Resort in Cordele, but the team is planning additional activities as requested by our chapter members.

The typical 3-day meeting has been extended to a 4-day meeting filled with opportunities for professional development and time to network with other fisheries professionals and students.

In addition to professional and student presentations, what is planned for the 2023 annual meeting?

- Hands-on training opportunities
- Team-building events
- Breakout sessions
- Trivia Social
- Poster Social
- Awards Banquet
- Annual Raffle and Silent Auction



LET US KNOW if you have an idea for...

- a hands-on training lesson to include as part of professional development
- a discussion topic to include with our breakout sessions
- for an icebreaker with a fisheries theme

Email Rebecca Brown at georgiaafs@gmail.com with your suggestions

R Workshop August 15-16 at UGA



The Intro to R workshop will be held on August 15 - 16, 2022 at the UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources in room 419 located in building 4.

- August 15: 10am - 5pm
- August 16: 8am - 2pm

During this two-day workshop participants will have opportunities to practice skills and ask questions. This workshop is intended for students and professionals. We will be using the computer lab at Warnell.

Registration Deadline August 1, 2022

Registration form:

<https://forms.gle/t8Jht7RfDM1UzHHu8>



UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources
<https://www.warnell.uga.edu/about/directions-maps>

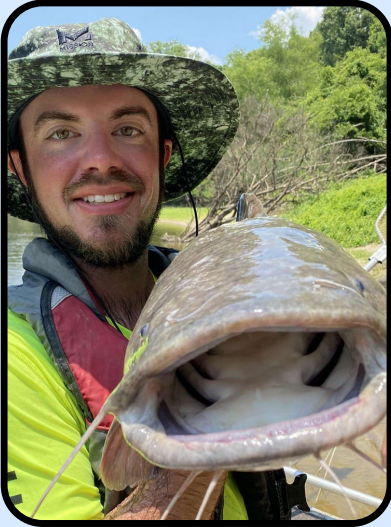
Because parking on campus is \$10 per day we reduced the cost of the workshop to \$20 for GAAFS members and \$30 for non-Chapter members. We will be able to accommodate up to 40 participants so be sure to register and pay early to secure a seat.

Visit our website for more information about registration and hotel selections.

<https://gaafs.org/r-workshop-august-15-16-2022/>

This is the same week students move into the dorms so do not hesitate to make your hotel reservations.

Congratulations Aaron Gray! Winner of the June Bubba's Contest that Pays!



Aaron will receive a \$50 gift card to Bass Pro Shops that was donated by one of our Chapter members for this contest.

Thank you all who entered the contest and solved our cryptogram below. The hint provided to help solve the puzzle was **Q is W**.

**QV QUNN DV AFSQF BSXVWVX DP YLV
YXMIAE QV NVMWV.**

ANSWER

We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.

~ Native American Proverb



RECOVERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE ACT PASSES HOUSE

"After almost two decades of working on this legislation with our partners in the science, conservation, and outdoors communities, we are ecstatic to see this historic bill pass in the House of Representatives," said Leanne Roulson, President of the American Fisheries Society. "I've seen firsthand how effective conservation efforts for imperiled species can be, as long as states and tribes have the resources they need to be proactive. This bill promises to be a turning point for fish and wildlife, especially for the 40% of freshwater species already at risk."

Read the entire article: fisheries.org/2022/06/recovering-americas-wildlife-act-passes-house/



Additional information about RAWA : fisheries.org/policy-media/recovering-americas-wildlife-act/

Georgia Sea Grant State Fellowship

The Georgia Sea Grant State Fellowship Program provides a unique educational and professional opportunity to eligible graduate students who are interested in coastal and marine resources in Georgia, and the policy and management decisions affecting those resources.

The State Fellowship Program is designed to provide recent graduates an opportunity to acquire “on the job” experience in planning and implementation of coastal and marine policies and programs in Georgia. The program matches highly motivated graduate students who have recently graduated or are near completion of degree with select host local, state and federal government agencies as well as non-governmental partners and industries in Georgia.

Application Deadline

July 15, 2022

by 5 pm EST

2022-2023 State Fellowship program positions available:

- NOAA Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary
- Sapelo Island National Estuarine Reserve/Sapelo Island Cultural & Revitalization Society (SICARS)
- Jekyll Island Authority
- Georgia Audubon
- Springfield Legacy Foundation

More information: <https://gacoast.uga.edu/state-fellowship/>

Applications may be submitted by a graduate student close to completing their degree (Masters, Ph.D., or J.D), or within a year of their graduation, in a field related to conservation, management, protection, stewardship, public policy, or law of marine or coastal environments, or areas that impact marine and coastal environments. Applicants should address their degree of interest and experience in either marine/coastal/watershed science, natural resource management, public policy or law. Fellows must complete all degree requirements before starting the fellowship.

Working Outside During Hot Weather

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

Southeastern Fishes Council

48th Annual Meeting

Fish Diversity Connections

November 16 - 18, 2022

Athens, GA

We are dedicating this year's first round of talks to fish diversity connections. We ask speakers to think broadly about the role of southeastern fishes in ecosystems and human culture. We provide the following guiding questions but will consider any talk addressing the broader conference theme.

What is the ecological significance of upstream fish migrations to headwater streams?

How do fishes influence the survival and reproduction of other taxonomic groups, such as freshwater mussels?

How are southeastern fishes connected to human culture through art, media, subsistence, and recreation?

What conservation actions are needed to restore fish diversity connections?

The meeting will also include oral and poster presentations addressing the ecology, conservation, and taxonomy of southeastern fishes.

Please share this meeting announcement widely and consider including colleagues and students that might add more diversity to SFC.

If you have any questions contact Brett Albanese (Brett.Albanese@dnr.ga.gov) or Duncan Elkins (delkins@uga.edu).

Are you interested in serving on one of our GA AFS committees?

One way you can support the Chapter and its mission is by serving on one of our standing committees. A brief description of the committees seeking additional members is provided along with the committee chair's contact information. Visit our website if you want to see the list of all members of a particular committee. <https://gaafs.org/committees/>

Membership and Student Affairs Committee shall recruit new members for the Chapter and the Society; ensure continued membership of current members; promote student involvement; and identify concerns of members and students related to Society structure, function, and activities.

Committee Chair: Lauren Carroll (lmc80753@uga.edu)

The Fundraising/Raffle Committee shall solicit donations and contributions for various Chapter and/or Society events, including the annual Chapter meeting.

Committee Chair: Jackson Sibley (oceansibley@gmail.com)

Arrangements Committee shall assist in organizing and carrying out various duties associated with the annual Chapter meeting or other assigned events.

Breaks and Poster Social Committee Chair: Kevin Cavallaro (cavallaro@fultonschools.org)

Registration and Awards Banquet Committee Chair: Brent Hess (Brent.Hess@dnr.ga.gov)

Policy, Bylaws, and Resolutions Committee shall review current bylaws and policies and develop resolutions, proposed changes/updates, or other items prudent for consideration by the Chapter membership.

Committee Chair: Dawn Franco (Dawn.Franco@dnr.ga.gov)

Awards Committee shall be responsible for reviewing nominations for the Chapter's professional awards and judging student presentations at the annual Chapter meeting. The Awards Committee is divided into Professional Awards and Student Awards.

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

Student Awards Committee Chair: Chalisa Fabillar (Chalisa.Fabillar@dnr.ga.gov)

Communications Committee shall seek to disperse information pertaining to the GA Chapter members via multiple outlets, including the GA Chapter website, Facebook, newsletters, AFS Fisheries Magazine, or other appropriate forms of media.

Committee Chair: Rebecca Brown (georgiaafs@gmail.com)

Environmental Concerns Committee shall seek to identify issues pertaining to the conservation and responsible management of aquatic species and their habitats; provide a forum by which ideas and information may be exchanged; and consider a position when deemed appropriate.

Committee Chair: Jordan Steele (jordan.h.steele@gmail.com)

Georgia AFS

2023 Annual Meeting

February 14 – 17
Lake Blackshear Resort, Cordele

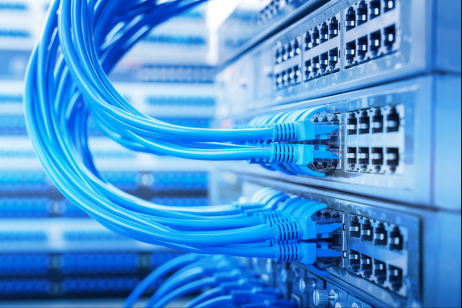
Building Strong Alliances that Spawn Success

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



Mark your calendars now and plan to join us in February for an annual meeting that will be like no other you have attended. In addition to the traditional activities from past meetings, we plan to include hands-on training opportunities, team-building activities, special interest group discussions, a field trip, and more.

Registration information coming soon



PLUGGED IN

YouTube can be a great source of information. Learn about different fishing strategies/techniques, discover new locations to visit, expand your knowledge about fisheries science, learn to cook something new, and more.

Forest 2 Sea Adventures



Fishing tips, cooking tips, reviews of fishing equipment, and more.

Creek Fishing Adventures



Fishing in North Georgia and Tennessee. But not always about creek fishing.

Brian Latimer Fishing



A pro angler with a great attitude and provides a lot of great fishing advice.

Smokin n' Grillin with AB



Learn to cook some great food at a reasonable cost. A very enthusiastic chef.

Kevin Stratvert



Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Visio, and so much more. High-quality how-to videos.

NOAA Fisheries



A diversity of videos about fisheries, climate, and other ocean topics.



The **Georgia AFS** YouTube Channel is a resource for fisheries professionals and students. Click on the Playlist tab to find review videos to help you prepare for the pesticide applicators license, public speaking tips, how to prepare for an oral or poster presentation, and more. Videos listed on this channel have been vetted for content.

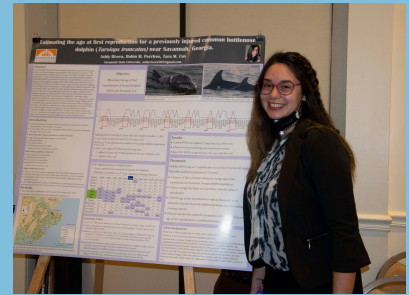
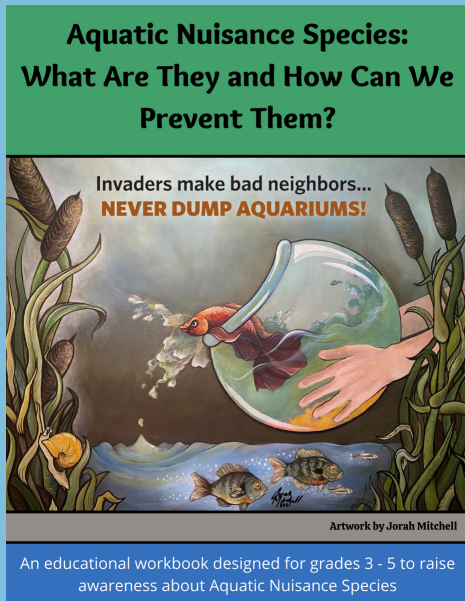
HIT SUBSCRIBE SO WE CAN CUSTOMIZE OUR URL

GA AFS 2023

Annual Fundraiser

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

FUNDRAISING DOLLARS SUPPORT



WE NEED YOUR HELP

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

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

You can contact our fundraising chair, Jackson Sibley, for more information: oceansibley@gmail.com

Sponsor Highlight

Our sponsors are critical to the success of our annual meeting and our efforts to promote the conservation and sustainability of our fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems in Georgia.



Georgia
Power



Georgia Power is the largest non-government provider of recreation facilities in the state. They own and manage approximately 82,000 acres of land reserved for watershed protection, future utility use, and power generation plant sites and fourteen lakes across the state.

Georgia Power lakes and parks offer boating, fishing, swimming, picturesque scenery, hiking trails, picnic areas, and campgrounds. In addition, Georgia Power leases about 30,000 acres for use as wildlife management areas operated by the Wildlife Resources Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.



Visit their website for more information

<http://georgiapowerlakes.com/>



Thank you for your Support!

GAAFS 2022 Sponsors

Click on image to visit website

Platinum



Georgia
Power

Gold

The University of Georgia

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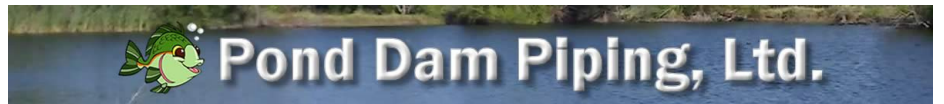


SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & NATURAL RESOURCES



GEORGIA
AQUARIUM

Silver



Marine Extension and
Georgia Sea Grant
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



Bronze



NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL

In-Kind
Donation

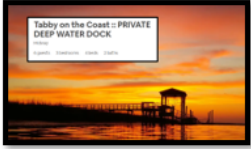


Northeast Georgia Health System, Inc.™

Thank you for your Support!

GAAFS 2022 Fundraising Donors

Click on image to visit website





Chapter Spotlight

Chalisa Fabillar

Chalisa has been with GA DNR for nearly 6 years. She started at the McDuffie Public Fishing Area and Hatchery as a technician and is now the Area Facilities Manager. In short, she directs the production of warmwater fish so that they can be stocked in Georgia's managed PFA lakes for the public to catch.

Chalisa currently serves as the chairperson for the Chapter student awards committee. This committee is responsible for judging student oral and poster presentations.



What inspired you to choose a career in fisheries science?

As a child, I was inspired by Jacques Cousteau and wanted to be a marine biologist. But somewhere between middle school and high school, I forgot about marine biology. I blame Dr. Bruce Saul for reminding me! He took me with him for fieldwork on St. Catherine's Island during my undergraduate studies. He'd been doing monthly fish diversity and abundance surveys and needed labor to pull seines and trawl nets. I was excited to finally be able to help but questioned whether he might be trying to kill me with that first beach seine. It was full of wrack and just so ridiculously heavy. Then it seemed to take forever to go through all the detritus to find all the little fishes. But I loved it! I left that trip knowing I had to figure out a way to do it for a living.

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

I went to Augusta State University and studied biology. I loved the small class sizes because it gave me the chance to be more involved and do fieldwork with several professors. Besides the many weekends spent hauling nets and trawls with Dr. Saul, I got to trap and catch spiders to study the bacteria they carry and tag, and track gopher tortoises. Interestingly, I did the gopher tortoise work here at McDuffie PFA, where I'm now the facilities manager.



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

Find people working in the field, introduce yourself, and ask to help them with their work. Put yourself out there! The best way to learn about the science is to do the science. There are so many people working in fisheries and so many ways to gain experience too. Try for as many experiences and perspectives as you can get. Fisheries is a broad term with lots of disciplines and objectives that include academic research projects, conservation efforts, and fisheries management.

Chapter Spotlight Continued

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

I enjoy that much of my work requires me to be outside and changes frequently. Each season brings its own objectives and challenges. In spring the challenge is to keep up with all the different treatments needed to maintain water quality for fingerling production. Then summer is spent keeping up with the growing season on the public fishing area grounds, aka mowing season. Fall is harvest season. Everyone loves helping with harvests and seeing how the fish have grown over the past several months.

The biggest challenge is just keeping our equipment in good working order. Things break often, but that's also somewhat expected when you're doing the work.



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

I don't have one project, but rather I am trying to prioritize those things needed to help me reach two big goals. My goals are first to help us increase productivity in the hatchery and then better serve the public on the public fishing area. We were able to get our hatchery electrical system renovated this year and updated many of our hatchery protocols recently. Both are steps towards increasing our productivity, but we have a lengthy list of infrastructure projects to continue working on. For the latter goal we're strengthening our connections with our community. We're doing that by increasing opportunities for our local scouting groups, kayak fishing groups, veterans service groups, and senior citizens groups to come utilize our area.



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

There isn't one big single moment that stands out, but rather a collection of things. For me the memories and relationships made on the pond's edge are invaluable. These run the gamut and are all rewarding in their own way: from the kids that catch their first fish with us, to the anglers who catch their personal bests, to the volunteers who give of themselves to help make this place a success, to the scouts who complete badges and Eagle projects, to the high schoolers who do their senior projects with us, to those who struggle with PTSD and other challenges who find peace with us, and the students who come through the education center. All these are different ways this place makes a difference and I get to be a part of that. I am proud to be a part of ensuring those memories will get made for a long time yet.



Chapter Spotlight Continued



How has being a member of the Georgia Chapter AFS benefited you?

Being a member of the Chapter has allowed me to broaden my understanding of all that's going on in fisheries, meet new people, and encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone. I really appreciate the posters and presentations, especially from enthusiastic students! Additionally, I think many problems are just a conversation away from finding a solution. These conferences provide the perfect medium for brainstorming and problem solving with other people in the field. This can be a challenge for me though. While I like people, groups are hard. To make the most out of the conferences, I really have to practice putting on my extrovert hat.

What is your favorite fish and why?

Oyster toadfish for entirely sentimental reasons. They are so ugly they're cute too. But to my kiddo and me, they look like a Pout Pout Fish. Also because of the old Gullah-Geechee man who called them dogfish. When asked why, I swear that old man refrained from calling me an idiot when he said, "because they bark and they bite."



What is your favorite quote?

At the risk of getting myself in trouble, the first quote that comes to mind is one from the Dalai Lama. He said, "Learn the rules so that you know how to break them effectively." As a former "why" child this quote speaks to my need to understand things. I'm not very good at doing things "just because" or "because that's the way we've always done it". I think it's important to understand the reason and logic behind things. Only then can we set the stage for making progress and improvements.

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

Oh man, I feel like I'm an open book. But one odd thing about me I guess is I'm scared to walk under coconut trees. Seriously though, have you ever heard how hard a coconut hits when it falls and hits the sand? Nope, not going to fall on me.



DID YOU KNOW?

WHAT IS THE LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH IN THE WORLD?

On June 13th of this year fisherman on the Mekong River in Cambodia caught what the Guinness World Records identified as the world's largest freshwater fish.

The female giant freshwater stingray (*Urogymnus polylepis*) weighed approximately 300 kg (661 lb) and had a total length of 3.98 m (13 ft) with the tail included.



But wait...

The largest accepted record of a beluga sturgeon (*Huso huso*) is 3,463 lbs. The largest freshwater fish recorded in North America is the white sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) at 1799 lbs.

Is it because the beluga and white sturgeon are anadromous fish so they cannot be considered a "pure" freshwater fish?



FYI

The largest freshwater fish recorded in Georgia is a blue catfish that weighed just a tad over 110 lbs.

White sturgeon caught on the Fraser River last year measured 11½ feet with a girth of over 4½ feet. It was estimated to have weighed 890 pounds.



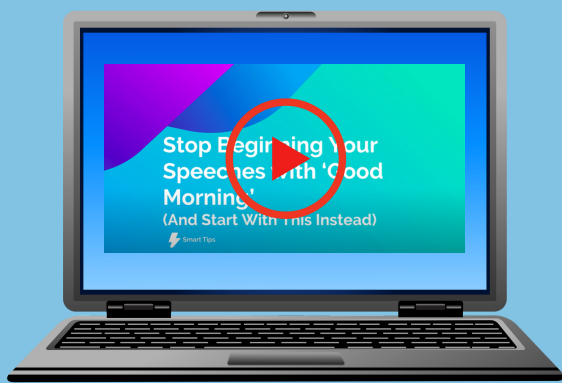
COFFEE BREAK

What do the words "dink" and "pirogue" have to do with red drum? Jay Shelton takes you on a Cajun sleigh ride in this podcast.



BUBBA'S SHORT VIDEO PICK

Stop Beginning Your Speeches with Good Morning and Thank You and Start with This Instead



BUBBA BASS RECOMMENDS

HOT SUMMER DAYS require some indoor activities. Consider visiting a museum or aquarium this month. **Click** on the image to visit their website.

Plan a visit to the largest aquarium in the United States and third largest in the world.



The TN AQ also has a 3D Imax theater.



The High Museum will not disappoint. Even those who are not much into art will enjoy this museum.



HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA

Check out the special lectures at Tellus.



Lots to see at GFEC!



Safety Tip

from Bubba Bass

MIX AND LOAD PESTICIDES PROPERLY

Injuries can occur when chemicals are being mixed.

Follow ALL safety precautions when using pesticides.

- Before you begin to mix the chemical, **READ THE LABEL**
- Before handling pesticides put on protective clothing and gear and use a respirator if indicated
- Mix the pesticides outdoors where there is good ventilation and light
- Stay upwind of the pesticide to avoid contaminating yourself
- Measure accurately and **USE ONLY** the amount of pesticide on the label
- When removing concentrated material from a container keep the container below eye level to avoid splashing or spilling the pesticide into your face and eyes
- **STOP IMMEDIATELY** if you splash or spill a pesticide! Remove any contaminated clothing and wash thoroughly and clean up the spill using the emergency spill kit



Using Chemicals in Pond Management

https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/B%20866_4.PDF

Fish of the Month

Freshwater Drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*)

Freshwater drum occurs in North and Central America. In Georgia, occurs in the Tennessee and Coosa River basins. They feed on mollusks, crustaceans, insects, and fishes. And yes...they taste good.



Interesting facts

- Flattened teeth at the back of the throat will crush hard shells, spitting out the shell fragments and swallowing the soft tissue.
- The characteristic drumming or croaking sound is produced by the air bladder in sexually mature freshwater drum males.
- It is the only freshwater fish on which the lateral line, a sense organ used to detect motion in the water, runs right through the tail.
- Grow up to about 37 inches (95 cm) and weigh up to 54 lbs. (24.7 kg)
- Is the only North American member of its family that lives in freshwater for its entire life.
- Other names: sheephead, shepherd's pie, gray bass, Gaspergou, grinder

Fin and Games

Often times movies get the science wrong. Can you find these movie goofs?

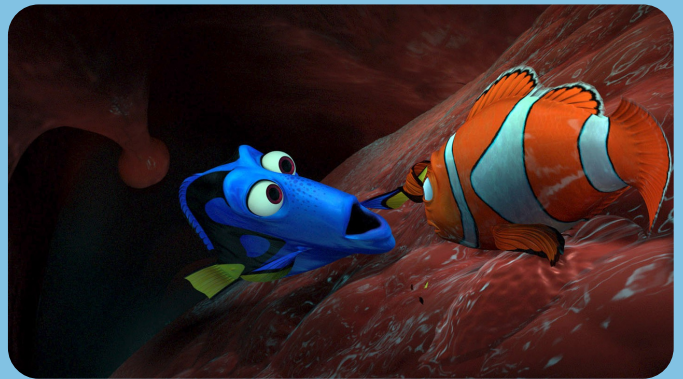
1.



2.

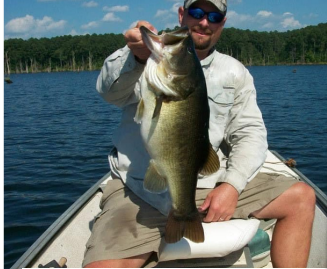


3.



Answers on last page

Tim Bonvechio



Steve Sammons



The Brent Hess



Bryan Fluech



Andrew Taylor

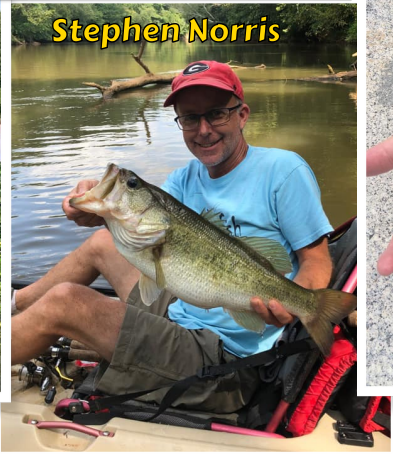


Chattahoochee Bass

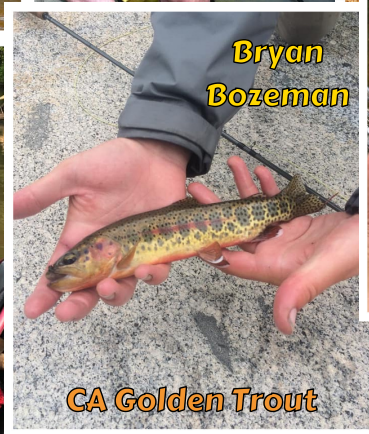
Jay Shelton



Stephen Norris



Bryan Bozeman



CA Golden Trout

Favorite Catch

The Book Shelf

PROFESSIONAL SECTION



Methods for Fish Biology, 2nd edition

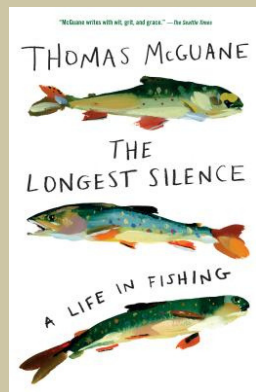
Edited by Stephen Midway, Caleb Hasler, and Prosanta Chakrabarty

This new edition was designed to cover topics ranging from taxonomy to physiology to applied ecology—and everything in between. Standard information (such as histological techniques) has been updated and reinforced, while topics like stable isotopes and ecotoxicology are new additions.

[Learn More Link](#)



ADULT NON-FICTION SECTION



The Longest Silence: A Life in Fishing

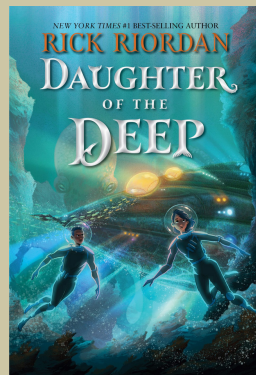
By Thomas McGuane

The forty pieces in The Longest Silence take the reader from the tarpon of Florida to the salmon of Iceland, from the bonefish of Mexico to the trout of Montana.

[Learn More Link](#)



YOUNG ADULT SECTION



Daughter of the Deep

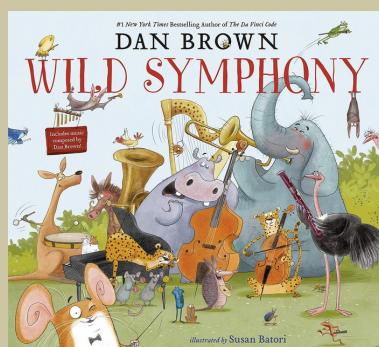
By Rick Riordan

Ana's freshman year culminates with the class's weekend trial at sea, the details of which have been kept secret. She only hopes she has what it'll take to succeed. All her worries are blown out of the water when, on the bus ride to the ship, Ana and her schoolmates witness a terrible tragedy that will change the trajectory of their lives.

[Learn More Link](#)



EARLY READER SECTION



Wild Symphony

By Dan Brown, Illustrator Susan Batori

Written in verse, the whimsical Maestro Mouse guides you through the forest, savannah and ocean, all while sharing life lessons that resonate at every age.

[Learn More Link](#)



FISHY NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Smithsonian

AS THE OCEAN HEATS UP HUNGRIER PREDATORS TAKE CONTROL

In a new field study published online June 9 in Science, Smithsonian scientists discovered predator impacts in the Atlantic and Pacific peak at higher temperatures. The effects cascade down to transform other life in the ocean, potentially disrupting balances that have existed for millennia.

Simon Fraser University

PROACTIVE APPROACHES NEEDED TO ENABLE ECOSYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE

"From restoring connectivity to reducing local stressors to conserving future habitats—all of these proactive approaches can help the ecosystems that we rely upon to adapt to climate change."

US Fish and Wildlife Service

How Boating and Fishing Manufacturers Support Conservation and Recreation

For more than half a century, America's fishing equipment manufacturers have shared a partnership with state and federal biologists through the Dingell-Johnson Act — a partnership that uses excise tax to fund remarkable fisheries conservation and recreation. Each year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (WSFR) distributes millions of dollars in grants funded through this excise tax paid by manufacturers.

University of Miami

SHARKS MAY BE CLOSER TO THE CITY THAN YOU THINK, NEW STUDY FINDS

Unlike big land predators, the ocean's top predators don't avoid urban areas

The Fish Site

US RESEARCHERS MOVE TO ENHANCE FARMED BASS DIETS

The US stands out as the top producer for hybrid striped bass – and researchers with Texas A&M are looking into different nutrition strategies to improve the fishes' health while identifying substitutes for fishmeal.

PBS News Hour

A 'COPI' FILLET? ILLINOIS HOPES NEW NAME FOR 'INVASIVE CARP' WILL CONVINCE DINERS

Turning carp into a popular household and restaurant menu item is one way officials hope to rein in a decades-old invasion threatening native fish, mussels and aquatic plants in the Mississippi and other Midwestern rivers, as well as the Great Lakes.

Science

IN CAMBODIA, RESEARCHERS DOCUMENT THE WORLD'S LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH

Thanks to local fishers, a team of scientists on an expedition in Cambodia to tag Mekong River fish has discovered the largest freshwater fish ever documented—a 300-kilogram giant stingray that stretches nearly 4 meters from nose to tail.

AFS INFORMATION



What Do Fish Mean to Us?

Perspectives Above and Below the Water

The American Fisheries Society, President Leanne Roulson, the AFS Western Division, and the Washington – British Columbia Chapter are excited to host the 152nd AFS Annual Meeting, August 21-25, 2022, in the second-largest city in Washington State, Spokane.

We will bring together professionals from across North America and countries around the world under the theme of “What Do Fish Mean to Us?”.

<https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/>



SOUTHERN DIVISION AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY MEETING

FEBRUARY 1 - 5, 2023

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA



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

https://units.fisheries.org/va/annual_meeting/2023-sdafs/

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 about fish/fisheries/ and science. 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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Rebecca Brown
Jamie Roberts
Marion Baker
Kevin Cavallaro
Jim Page
Brent Hess

Answer to Fin and Games
1. Bloat (the porcupine fish should not be in the same aquarium as Jacques (the cleaner shrimp). Porcupine fish eat shrimp)
2. Nigel the pelican has nostrils. Pelicans do not have nostrils. They breathe through their beaks.
3. Whales do not have a uvula. Only humans have a uvula.