

# Under the Dock

July-August 2025



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the  
American Fisheries Society

Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



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## **Mark Your Calendar**

- **July 21-22**
  - R Workshop
  - UGA Warnell, Athens
- **August 10 - 14**
  - AFS 155th Annual Meeting
  - San Antonio, TX
- **October 20 - 21**
  - Georgia Resiliency Conference 2025
  - Jekyll Island Convention Center
- **October 26 - 29**
  - SEAFWA (Biloxi, MS)
- **December 17 - 19**
  - Fish ID Workshop
  - Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center, Mansfield
- **February 3 - 5, 2026**
  - Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting
  - Villas by the Sea, Jekyll Island
- **March 5 - 8, 2026**
  - SDAFS New Orleans, LA

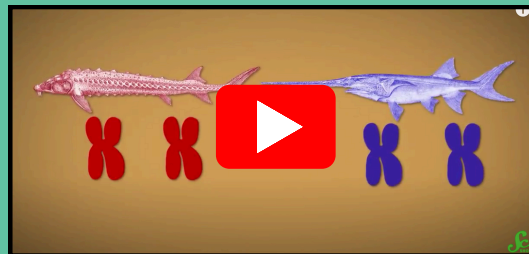
## **OUR MISSION**

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 images with a play button 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.).



**Bubba Bass**

Do you have an idea for an article?

We welcome a broad range of submissions that address research and ideas relevant to marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their respective fisheries and environments. Articles range from 250 to 1200 words.

Contact us at [GeorigaAFS@gmail.com](mailto:GeorigaAFS@gmail.com) if you have questions. We also welcome suggestions for an aquatic species to highlight, safety tips, and ideas for the sections *Did You Know* and *Fin and Games*.



# DOCKSIDE

## Navigating Team Dynamics Across Diverse Personalities

In today's diverse and interconnected world, working in a team with individuals who have different personalities is both a challenge and an opportunity. A successful team is often composed of members with varying temperaments, perspectives, and work styles. These differences can create obstacles if not managed well, but they can also lead to innovation, efficiency, and stronger problem-solving when effectively harnessed. Understanding how to navigate personality differences is essential for achieving team success.

### Understanding Different Personalities

Every team is made up of unique individuals with distinct personalities. Some people are extroverted and thrive in social interactions, while others are introverted and prefer working independently. There are also people who are highly detail-oriented and structured, while others are more creative and spontaneous. Personality frameworks such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and the Big Five

Personality Traits categorize people based on their tendencies, helping to explain how they interact with others.

### WHAT IS THE MBTI ASSESSMENT?

LEARN MORE >

While personality differences can sometimes lead to misunderstandings or conflicts, they also contribute to a team's strength by offering diverse perspectives and skills. For example, an analytical, logical thinker may help ensure projects are well-structured, while a creative, big-picture thinker may inspire innovation and out-of-the-box solutions. Recognizing the value in different personality types allows teams to leverage each member's strengths effectively.





## Challenges of Working with Different Personalities

When people with diverse personalities work together, conflicts may arise from differing work styles and communication habits. Misunderstandings are common—for example, while some individuals are direct and assertive, others may be more passive or reserved. Differences in decision-making, such as relying on logic versus emotion, can also lead to disagreements.

Maintaining healthy team dynamics can be challenging. Dominant personalities may unintentionally overshadow quieter members and limit their participation in conversations. Team members who are highly independent might struggle to work with teammates who favor a more collaborative style. If left unaddressed, these dynamics can cause frustration, lower productivity, and weaken team cohesion.



## Strategies for Effective Teamwork

To successfully work with a diverse group of personalities, teams should focus on communication, adaptability, and mutual respect.

### Encouraging Open Communication:

Clear and respectful communication helps minimize misunderstandings. Teams should foster an environment where everyone feels safe sharing their ideas and concerns. Active listening, where individuals genuinely consider each other's perspectives, helps prevent conflicts and promotes collaboration.

### Building Mutual Respect:

Regardless of differences, team members should recognize and appreciate each other's strengths. Encouraging an inclusive culture where all contributions are valued can foster a more productive and positive work environment.





### **Assigning Roles Based on Strengths:**

Understanding individual strengths and assigning tasks accordingly can maximize efficiency. For example, detail-oriented individuals might excel in project planning, while creative thinkers may generate innovative ideas.

### **Developing Flexibility and Compromise:**

Being open to different working styles and finding common ground helps teams function smoothly. Flexibility allows for additional adjustments that accommodate diverse personalities, ensuring everyone can contribute effectively.

### **Fostering Team-Building Activities:**

Activities that encourage bonding and mutual understanding can help team members appreciate each other's personalities outside of work tasks. This strengthens relationships and improves teamwork.

## **The Benefits of a Diverse Team**

Despite the challenges, working with a team of diverse personalities has many advantages. Different perspectives lead

to better problem-solving and decision-making. A mix of personalities also brings creativity and innovation, as ideas are examined from multiple angles. Furthermore, teams that embrace diversity tend to develop stronger adaptability and resilience, making them more effective in handling challenges.

When managed well, diverse teams can achieve outstanding results. By fostering effective communication, flexibility, and mutual respect, teams can turn personality differences into a powerful advantage. Instead of seeing diversity as a challenge, teams should view it as a source of strength that drives success.

## **Conclusion**

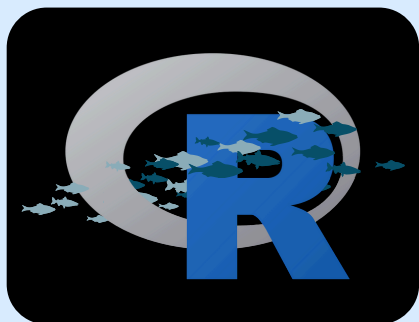
Teamwork thrives on diversity. Rather than roadblocks, varied personalities present chances for learning, innovation, and improved problem-solving. When teams embrace these differences, communicate openly, and value each person's unique input, they transform potential challenges into a strategic edge. Ultimately, the most effective teams aren't homogenous; they leverage their members' distinct qualities to achieve shared objectives. 🐼

# Teamwork



# NEWS & UPDATES

## 2025 R Programming Workshop is July 21 and 22



Georgia Chapter of AFS is partnering with the UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources to host an R programming workshop at the University of Georgia. Led by Dr. Brian Irwin and his team of volunteers, the workshop will offer participants a valuable opportunity to strengthen their R programming skills through hands-on learning and expert guidance.

Each workshop participant should bring a laptop with R and RStudio already installed. There is power and Internet at all seats in the classroom. Participants can bring their own data to get feedback on for visualization or potential analyses.

**Who Should Attend:** We expect to cover a variety of content while having multiple volunteer instructors & teaching assistants available, so R beginners are certainly welcome!

**Location:** UGA Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, Room 1-304

### **Cost:**

- **Professionals:** \$35 for AFS members, \$40 for Georgia AFS members, and \$60 for non-members
- **Students:** \$20 AFS and/or Georgia AFS members and \$35 for non-members
- *Non-members can join Georgia AFS (\$10 annual dues) using our [e-Store](#)*

**Other:** Participants are responsible for arranging their own hotel accommodations; Breakfast, lunch, and dinner are on your own.

**Link for Workshop Information and Registration:** [Georgia AFS R Programming Workshop](#)

*The workshop web page includes the registration form, information about the workshop, instructions on how to load R and R Studio to your laptop, directions to UGA Warnell, parking on UGA campus, and hotel information.*



# Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting

## *The Science Behind Sustainable Fisheries: Bridging Management, Policy, and Conservation*



We want to invite you to join us for the 40th Georgia AFS annual meeting at Jekyll Island's [Villas by the Sea](#) on February 3 - 5, 2026. The Georgia AFS Planning Team has been busy working on ideas to provide all our participants with a worthwhile meeting experience.

Visit the 2026 Georgia AFS Annual Meeting web page for information about:

- Meeting Registration Rates
- Abstract Submission
- Lightning Talks
- Hotel Information
- Award Nominations
- Student Awards Information

2026 GA AFS  
Annual Meeting



## Georgia AFS 2026 Awards Nomination Process

The award nomination process for professional awards and Fisheries Conservationist of the Year has changed. The Professional Awards Subcommittee met during the Spring and revised the nomination process based on feedback from members.

The nomination form has been revised for nominators to answer each question individually about their nominee and to submit a short summary of their nominee's outstanding achievements, performance, and contributions. The questions help focus the nominator's submission on specific aspects of the nominee's qualifications and contributions relevant to the award criteria.

The questions provide a standardized framework, requiring all nominators to provide the same type of information about their nominees. This makes it easier for the judging panel to compare candidates consistently and objectively.



# **Georgia AFS Awarded 2024 AFS Outstanding Small Chapter Award**

We are pleased to announce that Georgia AFS has been selected by the American Fisheries Society as the recipient of the 2024 Outstanding Small Chapter Award. This is our third time receiving this award in the last four years. This continued recognition is no doubt a testament to the cohesion and impact of our Chapter as well as the hard work and dedication of our members to keep us moving forward.

Georgia AFS President, Jackson Sibley, will accept the award for the chapter during the 2025 AFS Annual Meeting in San Antonio.



**Without continual growth and progress, such words as  
improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.**

~ Benjamin Franklin



# **Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting Special Symposium**

## ***The Role of Science in Shaping Natural Resources Policy and Regulation***

**Objective of Symposium:** Provide education regarding how fisheries science informs policy and how policy informs fisheries science

**Speaker Prompt:** Fisheries policies are designed to manage fishing activities, ensure sustainable fish populations, and promote the biological, economic, and social well-being of aquatic communities. We invite you to contribute your expertise to an engaging symposium exploring the critical role of scientific understanding in the development and implementation of natural resources policy and regulation. This symposium aims to highlight how rigorous scientific inquiry, data analysis, and evidence-based findings can inform effective and sustainable management of our natural world.

We are particularly interested in presentations that:

- **Demonstrate direct linkages** between specific scientific research and the evolution or design of natural resources policy or regulations.
- **Showcase methodologies** for translating complex scientific data into actionable policy recommendations.
- **Explore case studies** where scientific consensus or emerging scientific understanding has significantly influenced policy outcomes.
- **Address challenges and opportunities** in integrating scientific knowledge into diverse policy frameworks.
- **Focus on the application of scientific principles** to address specific environmental or resource management issues (e.g., water quality, biodiversity conservation, sustainable fisheries, land use planning).

***Visit the annual meeting web page for more information***

**2026 GA AFS  
Annual Meeting**





# Georgia AFS December 2025 Fish ID Workshop

You will not want to miss the Fish ID Workshop in December. Brett Albanese and our all-star team has begun planning this workshop that will take place at the new Joe Tanner Discovery Center located at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center. Workshop participants will learn how to identify a diversity of Georgia freshwater fish species.



This marks the first time Georgia AFS has partnered with Georgia DNR to host a workshop at the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center. Lodging and meals will be included in the registration fee. The center offers on-site accommodations and a cafeteria for participants.

Mark your calendars for December 17 - 19. The current plan for the workshop is to start the afternoon of December 17 and end by noon on the 19<sup>th</sup>. We will have door prizes and more for our participants. Registration will be limited to 30 people. Registration will begin in August.



## Draft 2025-2029 AFS Strategic Plan



The emphasis of the 2025-2029 draft Plan is to outline Goals and Strategies to help AFS move forward over the next 5 years. The document is available for review on the [AFS website](#). If you have comments about the draft Plan, please submit them to Julie DeFilippi Simpson ([julie.simpson@accsp.org](mailto:julie.simpson@accsp.org)) by July 30, 2025. After the comment period, the Plan will be updated as appropriate and presented to the Governing Board for its final approval.



# UGA Warnell Fisheries Science News



UGA Warnell Director of Communications, Aubrey Pawlikowski, joined us on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Steve Harvey Mentoring Camp for Young Men and took pictures and spoke with some of our volunteers. Her pictures captured the spirit of the event and you will see many of her photographs in this newsletter and posted on the Georgia AFS social media platforms. In addition to sharing her photographs, Aubrey wrote a wonderful article for the UGA Warnell Fisheries News. Take a few moments and read her article, [\*Reeling in Confidence\*](#).

## Thank You to All of the Volunteers Who Helped with the Harvey Foundation Mentoring Camps

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who helped create lasting memories for the young ladies and gentlemen attending the Harvey Foundation Mentoring Camps on June 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. A total of 51 volunteers generously shared their time and talents—leading learning stations, discussing careers in natural resources, and teaching both campers and their chaperones the art of fishing. Their dedication and enthusiasm were the key to our success in making these camps meaningful and memorable.

**Special thanks to the following organizations for their support**



**Warnell School of Forestry  
& Natural Resources**  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA





# Two Fun-Filled Events





# Our Volunteers Are the Best!



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell





# Steve Harvey Young Men Mentoring Camp



Photo credit: Aubrey Pawlikowski/UGA Warnell



**Marjorie Harvey Girls Who Rule the World Mentoring Camp**





## FYI

### **Students - Are you a member of AFS? Georgia AFS?**

Joining a professional organization offers students valuable opportunities to grow both personally and professionally. AFS and Georgia AFS provide students with access to networking events, mentorship, and career resources that can help them explore job opportunities and gain insights into their chosen field. Membership often includes conferences, workshops, and publications that keep students informed about current trends and best practices. Being involved also demonstrates commitment and initiative—qualities that stand out to future employers.

#### **Become more involved with AFS and Georgia AFS**

- Join an [AFS Committee](#)
- Join an [AFS Section](#)
  - Join the [AFS Student & Early Career Subsection](#)
- Join a [Georgia AFS Committee](#)
  - The [Membership & Student Affairs Committee](#)
  - The [Communications Committee](#)
  - The [Environmental Concerns Committee](#)

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### **Interviewing Resources**

#### [Interviewing Tips](#)

*The interviewing tips web page is the work of several fisheries professionals who have years of experience interviewing potential candidates for various fisheries jobs.*



# Membership Dues

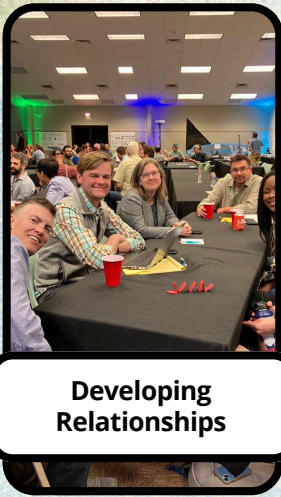
The Georgia AFS mission is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals. Your paid membership helps us achieve that mission.

Georgia AFS  
Annual Membership Dues

**\$ 10**

**JOIN NOW**

What are some benefits of becoming a member of Georgia AFS?



**Developing  
Relationships**



**Leadership  
Opportunities**



**Supporting Aquatic  
Conservation**



**Enhancing Your  
Resume**



**To vote on Chapter business/elections you must be a member of AFS.**

## AFS Membership Information

Membership in an AFS Chapter does not automatically make someone a member of the American Fisheries Society. To serve as an officer of Georgia AFS you need to be a member of AFS.

Consider joining the American Fisheries Society (AFS), the world's largest professional organization for fisheries scientists.







# GEORGIA RESILIENCY CONFERENCE 2025

October 20 - 21, 2025  
Jekyll Island Convention Center

The Georgia Resiliency Conference is hosted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and brings together more than 430 leaders and experts from the public, private, nonprofit and academic sectors to collaborate, raise awareness of work across the state, highlight progress and identify opportunities to do more. They are focusing on two areas:

- What does a changing climate mean for Georgia?
- What can we do about it?

Conference Website



Planning for the Georgia Resiliency Conference 2025 is currently underway. Please check the conference website, social media, or visit their website and sign up for email updates.



Call for Posters  
Deadline August 31



Sponsor 2025 Georgia  
Resiliency Conference



Keynote Speaker  
Wayne Clough



Registration will open in  
July of 2025.



# 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.

SOLITUDE  
LAKE MANAGEMENT



With over 50 years of experience, their experts partner with communities, golf courses, municipalities, and private landowners to help them attain their dream waterbody. As the nation's leading lake management company, they have dedicated local teams in every region of the country to address your unique challenges and goals.

Solitude believes clean, beautiful lakes promote good health, happiness, and meaningful experiences. Discover how they can help sustainably enhance your lake.

**VISIT THEIR WEBSITE**



**FOLLOW THEM ON FACEBOOK**





# Georgia AFS Contests for Members

## Georgia AFS Trash2Art Contest



*2025 Trash2Art Contest 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Winner, submitted by Laura Wenk*

The Georgia AFS EXCOM wants to invite you to participate in our Georgia AFS Trash2Art Contest. This is an opportunity to upcycle trash and create a two-dimensional or three-dimensional art piece representing fish and aquatic ecosystems.

Artwork will be scored on:

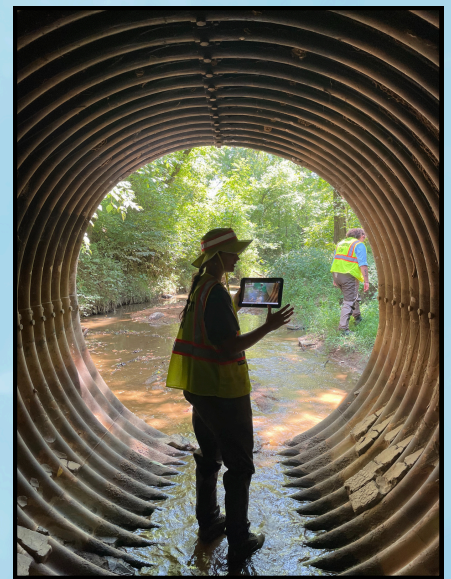
- Relevance to fisheries or aquatic ecosystems
- Creativity and Originality
- Use of discarded or repurposed material
- Artistic skill and execution

## Georgia AFS Photo Contest

The Georgia AFS photo contest is a great way to interact with our fisheries community and showcase the talent and creativity of our chapter members. The theme for 2026 is “Human-Water Connection.”

Photos will be scored on:

- Relevance to the theme
- Visual and emotional impact
- Cultural or ecological storytelling
- Caption clarity and informativeness
- Technical quality



*2025 Photo Contest 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
“Tools of the Trade” submitted  
by Andrew Taylor*

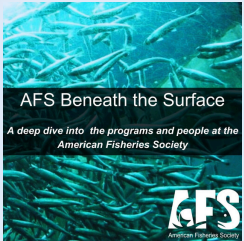


**Georgia AFS**  
**Art and Photo Contest**  
**Rules and Guidelines**



# Plugged In

Take a break and listen to your favorite podcast or try one of the podcasts listed below.



## AFS Emerging Leaders Program

What's an ELMA? To find out more, I went to Drew Holloway and Patrick Cooney, who are both former participants in the Emerging Leaders Mentorship Awards (ELMA) program. Drew and Patrick are currently serving as the ELMA committee chairs, working to mentor the current class of ELMAs and passing on lessons to the incoming class.



## Weather Loach!

We've got a fascinating story for you about the discovery of nonnative Weather Loaches in Georgia! You'll want to get to know these butt-breathing, temperature tolerant fishes and the cool work being done to understand their distribution and impact. Our guests are researchers from the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources: Wesley Gerrin and Sarah McNair!



## Chasing North Carolina Walleye: Secrets from the Edge of Their Range

Ben and Corey head west to explore one of North Carolina's best-kept fishing secrets, Walleye. Join them as they sit down with wildlife biologist Powell Wheeler and local fishing guide Don LaTulipe to dive into the spring spawning Walleye run and how to find them.



## Groundfish Trawls and Regional Framework Models

Alanna chats with SMAST masters student Keith Hankowsky to discuss his work conducting groundfish trawl surveys in the southern New England wind farm area. They talk about developing regional framework models, the importance of learning a statistical programming language in modern fisheries science, and some of Keith's favorite groundfish.



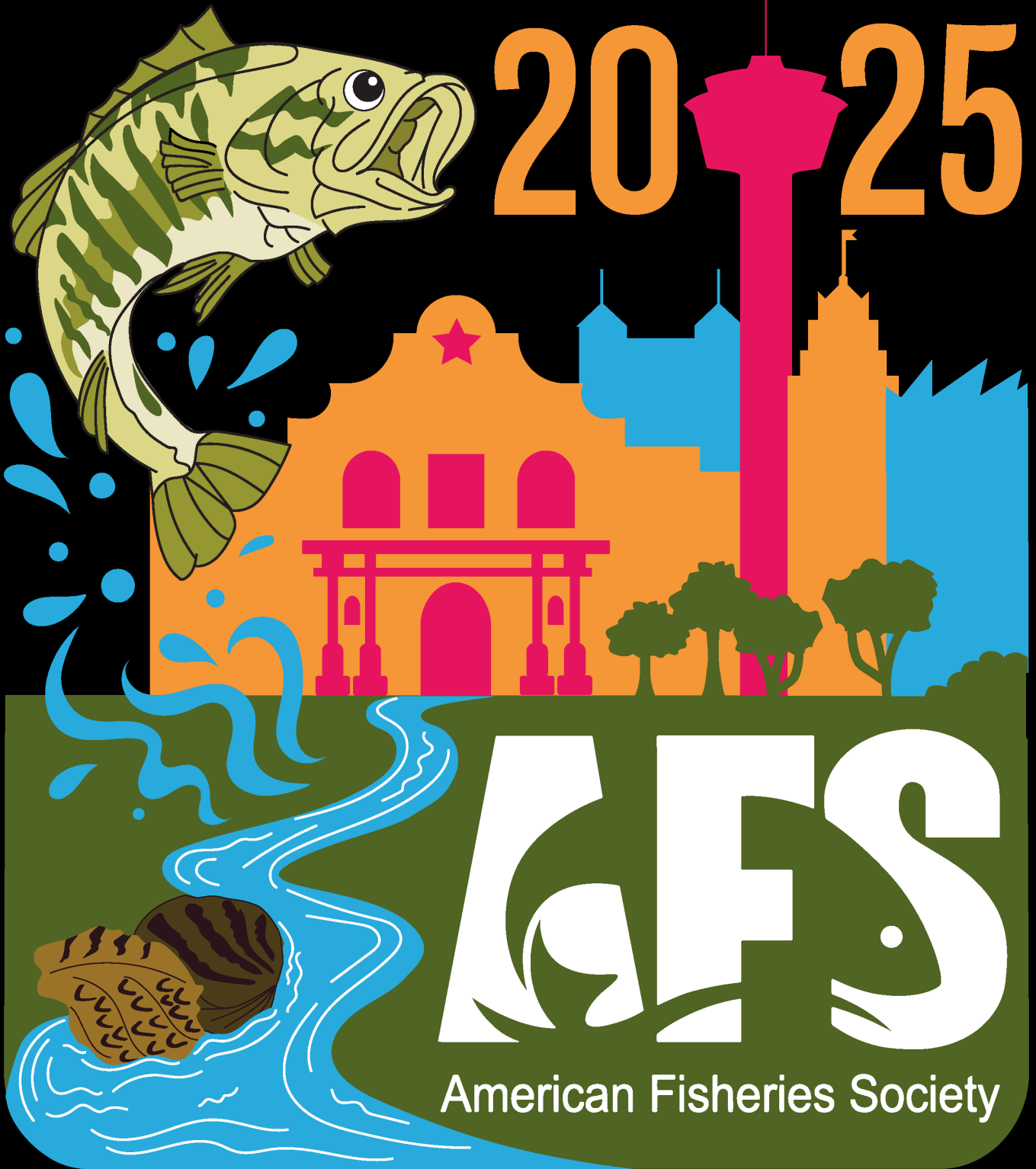
## How NOAA Satellites Monitor Ocean Health: Tracking Changes from Space

NOAA's use of satellite data to predict the weather is well known. Now, they are using satellites to track how the ocean is changing over time, and how that will impact fisheries and marine life. They can monitor the ocean's temperature, salinity, currents, and even microscopic organisms in the water.



# SAN • ANTONIO

# 2025



Meeting Information



# DID YOU KNOW?

## Oysters are a keystone species.

### Habitat Creation

- Oyster reefs provide complex three-dimensional structures that serve as critical habitat for a variety of marine life.
- These reefs support biodiversity, offering shelter and feeding grounds for fish, crabs, worms, and other invertebrates.

### Water Filtration

- A single oyster can filter up to 50 gallons of water per day, removing algae, sediments, and excess nutrients.
- This filtration helps maintain water clarity and quality, which benefits seagrasses and other aquatic life.

### Nutrient Cycling

- By filtering water, oysters help cycle nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus.
- This can reduce the risk of harmful algal blooms and eutrophication, which can suffocate marine ecosystems.

### Shoreline Protection

- Oyster reefs act as natural breakwaters, reducing wave energy and helping to prevent coastal erosion.
- They also help stabilize sediments, protecting coastal habitats like marshes and seagrass beds.

### Food Web Support

- Oysters serve as a food source for a variety of animals such as birds, fish, and sea stars.
- Indirectly supporting larger animals in the middle and higher trophic levels.

**Because of these critical roles, the loss of oyster populations can lead to cascading effects throughout the ecosystem, which is the defining characteristic of a keystone species.**





# **Fishy News**

## **Around the World**

*Click on title to access article*

### **FRESHWATER FISH IN U.S. CARRY INTRODUCED HUMAN-INFECTING PARASITES**

More than 90% of popular freshwater game fish in Southern California contained an introduced parasite capable of infecting humans, according to a new study from researchers at UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

### **DRUG POLLUTION ALTERS MIGRATION BEHAVIOUR IN SALMON**

A study, led by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, revealed that commonly detected environmental levels of clobazam – a medication often prescribed for sleep disorders – increased the river-to-sea migration success of juvenile salmon in the wild.

### **TACKLING PARASITE DEVASTATING FISH FARMERS AROUND THE WORLD**

Parasites called myxozoa infect fish populations with deadly diseases, leading to severe losses in types of fish including salmon and trout. Scientists are investigating the different ways the parasites control their genes could hold the key to understanding the parasite and devising treatments.

### **NEW STUDY REVEALS HOW COMPETITION BETWEEN ALGAE IS TRANSFORMING THE GULF OF MAINE**

As the ocean warms across its temperate regions, kelp forests are collapsing and turf algae species are taking over. This shift from dense canopies of tall kelp to low-lying mats of turf algae is driving biodiversity loss and altering the flow of energy and nutrients through reef ecosystems.

### **WHY EUROPE'S FISHERIES MANAGEMENT NEEDS A RETHINK**

So why does the EU continue to miss its sustainable fisheries targets, despite a wealth of scientific data and policy instruments? Researchers at GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel and Kiel University examined this question.

### **IS THE OCEAN GETTING DARKER?**

More than one-fifth of the global ocean – an area spanning more than 75million sq km – has been the subject of ocean darkening over the past two decades, according to new research.





## Leadership

*Great Leaders INSPIRE Others To  
Do Great Things*



Simon Sinek



## Communication

*How your brain responds to stories --  
and why they're crucial for leaders*



Karen Eber

## Fish Biology

*How Do Fish Breathe?  
Animal Science for Kids*

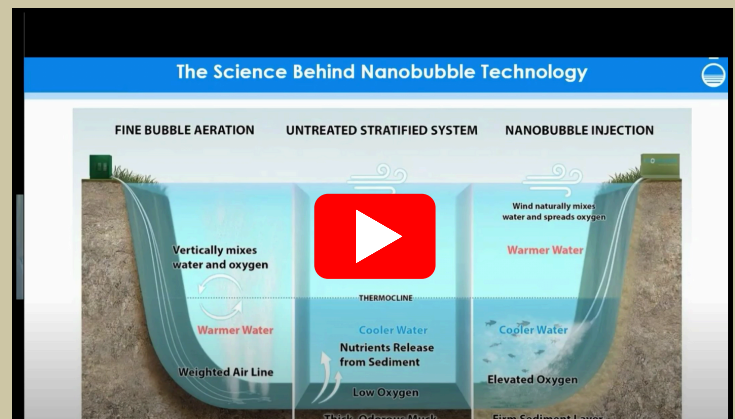


SciShow



## Pond Management

*What Are the Differences Between  
Nanobubble Technology and Aeration?*



Solitude Lake Management





## BUBBA BASS SAFETY TIP

### Insects!



To protect yourself from insect bites, use insect repellents containing EPA-registered ingredients like DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Wear loose-fitting, long-sleeved clothing and pants. Additionally, consider using permethrin-treated clothing and gear.



Learn to identify common sites where yellowjackets, wasps, and hornets like to build their nests. You want to avoid these areas if possible.



If you are stung, remove the stinger by scraping with a dull-edged item (like a credit card).



If you've been outdoors, check for ticks thoroughly, especially in areas like ears, waist, and legs.



If you have a history of severe allergic reactions to insect bites or stings, carry an epinephrine autoinjector and wear medical ID jewelry.

## Bubba's Friends (or maybe not): Day Octopus (*Octopus cyanea*)

The day octopus is a highly active and intelligent cephalopod that hunts during daylight hours on coral reefs and rocky coastlines. Known for its ability to rapidly change color and texture, it uses camouflage to sneak up on prey and evade predators. They live in both the Pacific and Indian Oceans, from Hawaii to the eastern coast of Africa.

- Can grow up to 3 feet across with arms fully extended
- Eats crabs, shrimp, small fish, and mollusks
- Live only about 1 to 2 years
- Known for problem-solving skills, memory, and learning through observation
- Lives along in dens it creates in crevices or holes in the reef
- Can squirt ink to distract predators and make a quick escape



**The Octopuses Are  
Making Fish Armies**

[Click to  
watch video](#)



# Fin and Games: Fish Tails

Identify the taxonomic fish Family. [Answers](#) on back page include common name of fish.



1



2



3



4



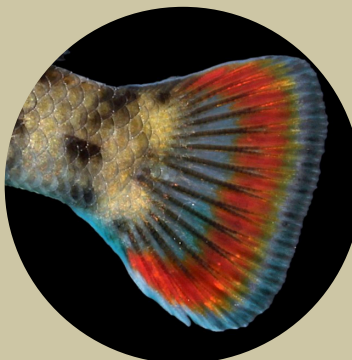
5



6



7



8



9

## Word Bank

Percidae

Alosidae

Cobitidae

Moronidae

Centrarchidae

Sciaenidae

Catostomidae

Paralichthyidae

Syngnathidae



# 2025 Georgia AFS Sponsors

*Thank you for your Support!*

## Platinum



## Gold



Warnell School of Forestry  
& Natural Resources  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



## Silver



## Bronze



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



## In-Kind Donation





# Georgia AFS 2025 Fundraising Donors

*Thank you for your Support!*



Vera Bradley



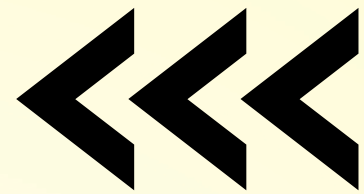
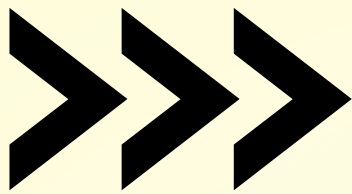
Alliance Theatre



HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA







## The benefits of being a member of the American Fisheries Society:

- **Build your professional network support:** you have access to more contacts, more resources, and more information; chances are, someone in AFS has “been there/done that”; you can participate in one of the AFS Sections to connect with others who are likeminded and/or working in the same niche you are
- **Demonstrate your professionalism:** your membership demonstrates a commitment and dedication to your profession; you serve as a role model for those entering the field as well as have an opportunity to share your own insights and expertise with peers and colleagues
- **Build your own skills:** AFS has opportunities for you to take on a leadership role that might not yet be available at work; participate in AFS workshops and webinars; present at conferences; write a newsletter article; become a mentor
- **Have a voice:** one of the important roles AFS is advocacy - that is, helping decision makers understand what members do in the workplace and why it is important; a larger group has a louder voice
- **Give yourself an advantage:** build your professional reputation and boost your credibility; build your resume; connect with more experienced professionals



## MORE ABOUT AFS



**AFS PUBLISHES  
JOURNALS**



**AFS ADVISES  
POLICY**

**Learn More**



**AFS HAS A VARIETY  
OF SECTIONS YOU  
CAN JOIN  
DEPENDING ON  
YOUR INTERESTS**



**AFS SUPPORTS THE  
HUTTON JUNIOR  
FISHERIES BIOLOGY  
PROGRAM**



# AFS/SDAFS MEETINGS

## Future AFS Annual Meetings



American Fisheries Society

- 2025 San Antonio, TX: August 10 – 14
- 2026 Columbus, OH: August 30 – September 3
- 2027 Pittsburgh, PA: September 26 – 30

## 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/](https://sd.fisheries.org/)

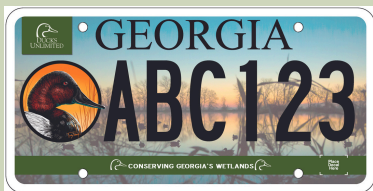
## Future SDAFS Meetings

- 2026 New Orleans, LA: March 4-7, 2026
- 2027 Alabama (Location and date TBD)
- 2028 Mississippi (Location and date TBD)



# General Information

## Support for Fisheries Conservation and Sustainability



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

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

*Click on the license plate for more information*

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



## Certified Fisheries Professional

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

[Frequently Asked Questions about certification](#)

[AFS Application Process and due dates](#)

## Pesticide Applicator License

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

[UGA Extension Pesticide Safety Education](#)

[Pesticide License Exam Study Videos](#)

## Job Hunting

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

[AFS Career Center](#)

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

[Georgia AFS Interviewing Tips](#)

## Internships

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

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

[GAAFS Internship listing page](#)

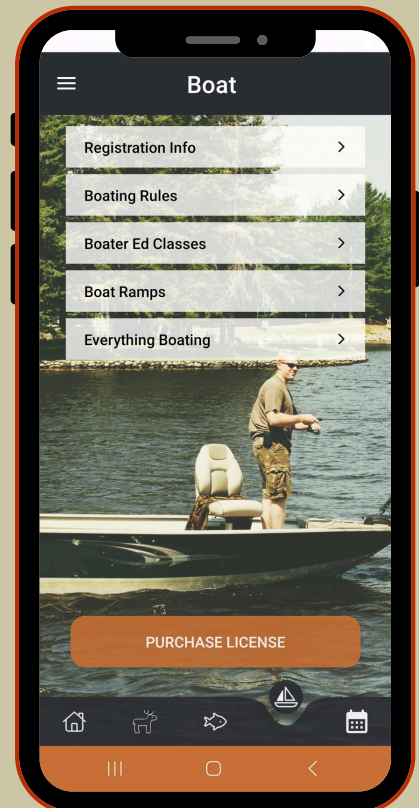
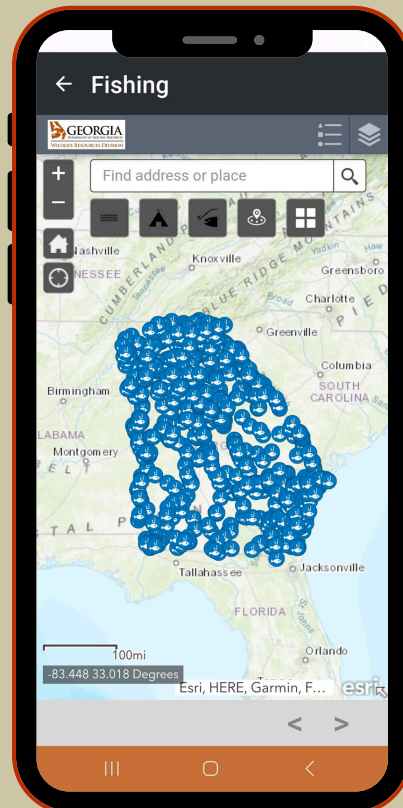
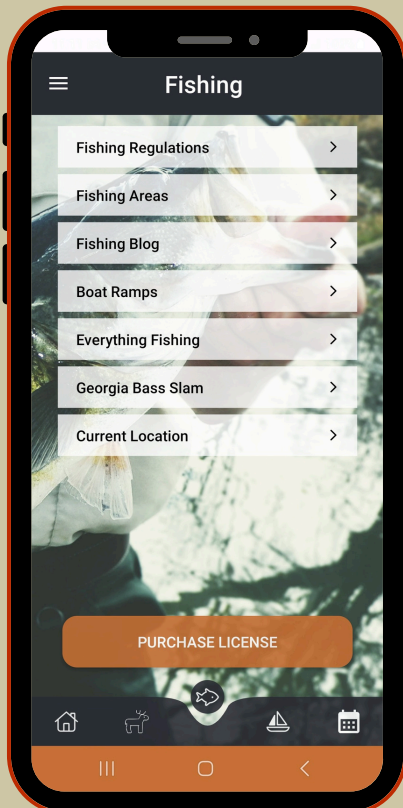
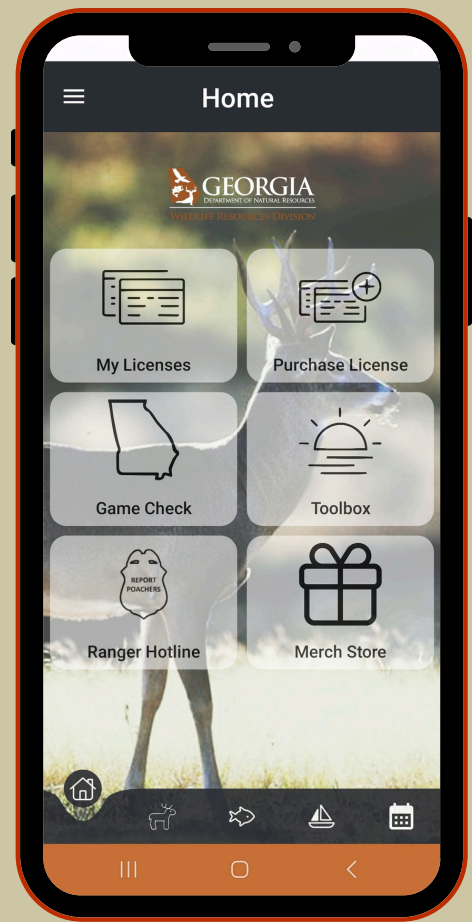


# Have you tried the Go Outdoors GA app?

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**





# GEORGIA AFS 2025-26 OFFICERS/EXCOM



## President

Jackson Sibley  
Ecologist  
Edwards-Pitman

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## President-Elect

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## Executive Secretary- Treasurer

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## Past - President

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# Science Worth Sharing. Stories Worth Telling.

The Chapter newsletter aims to highlight the exciting work of fisheries professionals and students, share details about upcoming meetings and events, and offer other valuable information relevant to the fisheries community. We encourage a wide variety of submissions related to research, ideas, and developments in marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish, along with their respective fisheries and environments. Contributions can range from a short paragraph to three pages in length. If you have an idea for an article but are unsure whether it's a good fit, feel free to reach out, we're happy to discuss it. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to, the areas listed below.

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

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

## Stay Connected

[GAAFS Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Bluesky](#)

### Newsletter Editorial Board

Rebecca Brown  
Jamie Roberts  
Marion Baker  
Kevin Cavallaro  
Jim Page  
Brent Hess  
Dawn Franco  
Camm Swift

### Answers to Fin & Games

1. Centrarchidae (Largemouth Bass)
2. Cobitidae (Oriental Weather Loach)
3. Moronidae (Striped Bass)
4. Alosidae (American Shad)
5. Sciaenidae (Red Drum)
6. Paralichthyidae (Southern Flounder)
7. Catostomidae (Sicklefin Redhorse)
8. Percidae (Etowah Darter)
9. Syngnathidae (Leafy Seadragon)