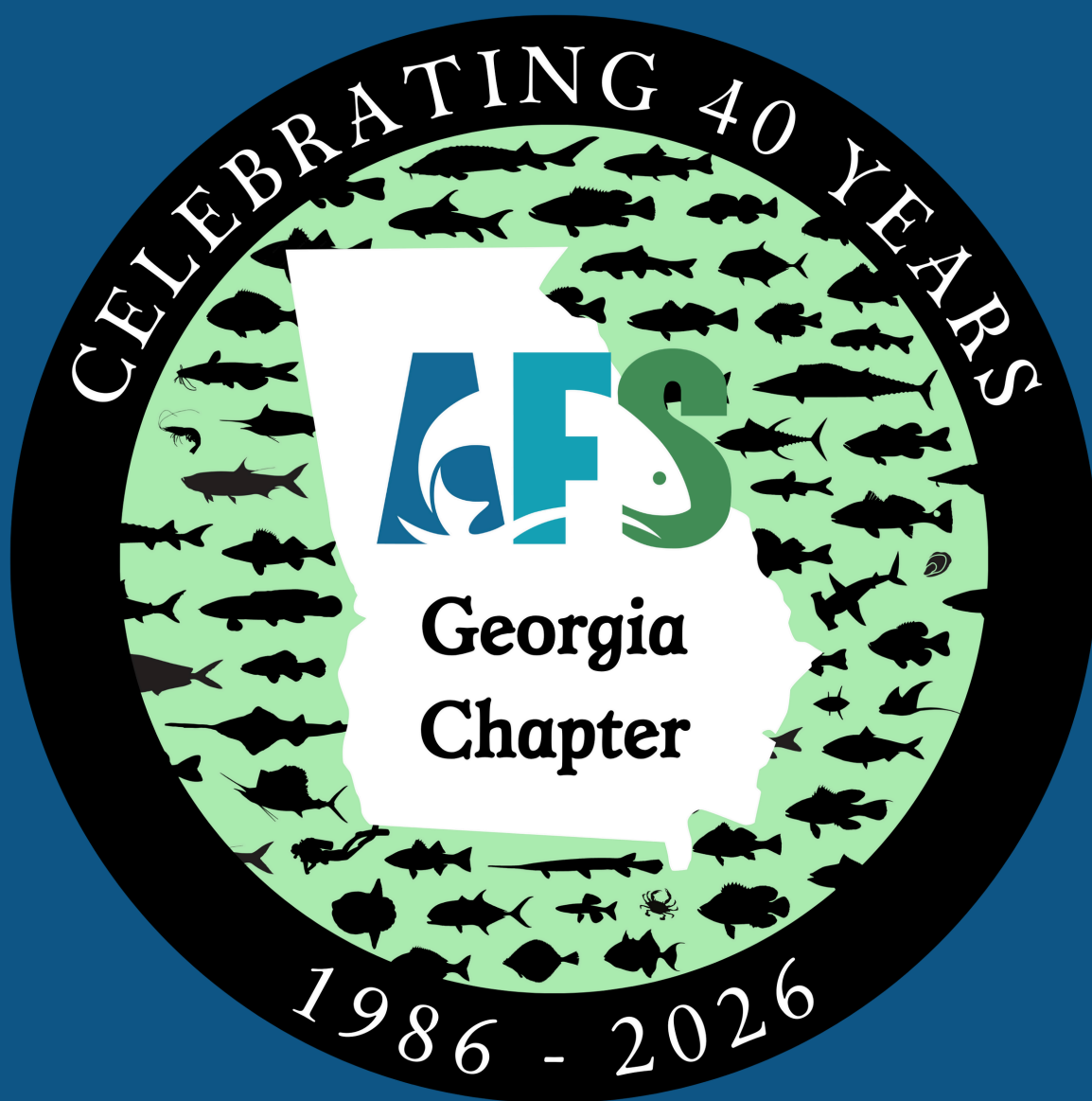


Under the Dock

January-February 2026



Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the
American Fisheries Society

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Mark Your Calendar

- **January 9**
 - GA AFS Annual Meeting Abstracts Due
- **January 16**
 - GA AFS Meeting Hotel Reservations
 - Last day for room block rate
- **January 23**
 - GA AFS Meeting Early Bird Registration
 - SDAFS Abstracts due
- **January 24**
 - SDAFS Early Bird Registration ends
- **February 3 - 5**
 - Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting
 - Villas by the Sea, Jekyll Island
- **March 5 - 8**
 - SDAFS New Orleans, LA
- **August 30 - September 3**
 - AFS 156th Annual Meeting
 - Columbus, OH

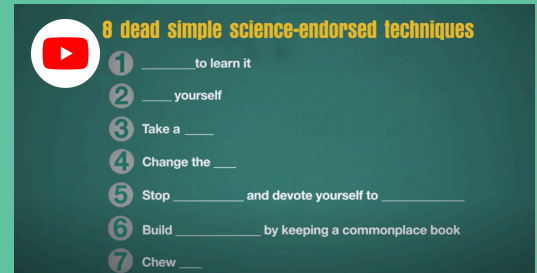
OUR MISSION

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.).



Do you have an idea for an article?

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

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

DOCKSIDE

The Value of Aquatic Invasive Species Education for Fisheries Management

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) pose one of the most significant and persistent threats to fisheries resources in North America. By altering food webs, degrading spawning and nursery habitat, competing with native species, and introducing novel pathogens, AIS directly undermines fisheries conservation and management objectives. Given that human activities, including recreational boating, angling, aquaculture, and the use of bait, frequently contribute to aquatic invasions, education is a crucial and cost-effective instrument in the field of fisheries management (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA], 2024a; U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], n.d.).



Educating anglers and boaters is the initial and most crucial action fisheries professionals can take to prevent the introduction of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). Initiatives like the popular "Clean, Drain, Dry" campaign are vital outreach tools, directly addressing the main ways AIS spread between different watersheds. Studies evaluating aquatic invasive species outreach programs demonstrate that behavior-focused education increases compliance with best management practices and reduces risky actions that lead to species transfer (Jensen, 2010). These preventative efforts align closely with the American Fisheries Society's emphasis on science-based management and conservation of native fish assemblages.

AIS education also provides substantial economic and ecological benefits to fisheries programs. Once an invasive species becomes

established, long-term control can require sustained funding and personnel resources, often with limited success. Globally, aquatic invasive species impose billions of dollars in economic losses annually, including declines in commercial and recreational fisheries and increased management costs (Cuthbert et al., 2021). From a fisheries management perspective, investing in education and prevention is far more efficient than responding to established invasions, allowing agencies to allocate limited resources toward habitat restoration, population monitoring, and sportfish management (Lovell, 2005).



Early detection and rapid response further underscore the value of AIS education for fisheries professionals. Anglers, guides, and field technicians are frequently the first to encounter new species introductions. Education that equips stakeholders to recognize, document, and report suspected AIS observations effectively expands agency monitoring capacity. Programs supported by NOAA Sea Grant and state fisheries agencies demonstrate that informed citizens play a vital role in identifying new infestations while

management options remain viable (NOAA Sea Grant, 2024).

Beyond operational benefits, AIS education fosters stewardship and strengthens partnerships between fisheries agencies, professional societies, and the public. Outreach efforts that clearly communicate the impacts of AIS on fish populations, angling opportunities, and aquatic ecosystems help build public support for regulations such as bait restrictions, transport prohibitions, and decontamination requirements. This shared understanding improves voluntary compliance and enhances the effectiveness of fisheries regulations (National Invasive Species Information Center [NISIC], n.d.).

Effective management of aquatic invasive species (AIS) is fundamentally dependent upon education. While regulatory frameworks and technological innovations hold significance, education serves as an indispensable complement. Legislation and enforcement mechanisms attain significantly greater efficacy when the public is apprised of their objective in safeguarding aquatic resources. By cultivating informed decision-making, encouraging collective responsibility, and sustaining enduring behavioral modification, AIS education persists as a foundational element of successful management.

**HEALTHY WATERS DEPEND ON EDUCATED
STEWARDS.**

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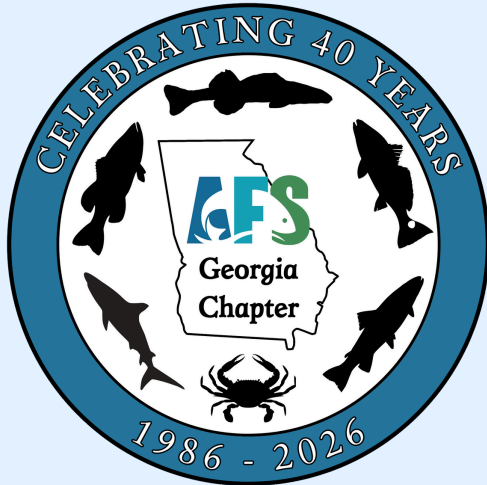
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NEWS & UPDATES

Georgia AFS Celebrates 40th Anniversary



Celebrating its monumental 40th anniversary in 2026, the Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society stands as a beacon of dedication to the conservation and advancement of Georgia's aquatic resources. Over four decades, the Chapter has remained resolutely committed to its core mission: improving the conservation and sustainability of our fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.

This significant milestone of 40 years is not merely a marker of time but a testament to the collective efforts, expertise, and passion of countless individuals. The Chapter reaches this anniversary with a profound and deep appreciation for the myriad contributions of all its members—from the pioneering founders who established the Chapter's foundational principles to the current students and professionals who drive its initiatives forward today. Their tireless work, dedication to scientific excellence, and commitment to stewardship have been the bedrock of the Chapter's success and its enduring impact on the state's natural heritage.

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

~ Benjamin Franklin

Georgia's fisheries continue to face evolving environmental and societal pressures, and the work of fisheries professionals is more important than ever. As environmental challenges intensify, the chapter's role in uniting and supporting fisheries professionals will remain essential to safeguarding our aquatic resources for generations to come.

Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting Villas by the Sea Hotel Reservations

[Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting](#)



Additional photos and information
about Villas by the Sea



Villas by the Sea Resort & Conference Center

**Reservations must be received by Jan. 16 for
the room block rate**

**Reservations can be made by calling
912 - 635 - 2521 and mention Group Code
"559135"**

- Tax exempt documentation due prior to check-in
- Hotel check-in begins at 4pm
- Rate is per room night, tax, and resort fee
- Group rate is good 3 days prior and 3 days after conference rates



ROOM RATES

	Islandside	Oceanside	Oceanview
Mini-Villa/Studio	\$119	N/A	N/A
One Bedroom	\$129	\$139	\$169
Two Bedroom	\$169	\$179	\$199
Three Bedroom	\$199	\$209	\$229

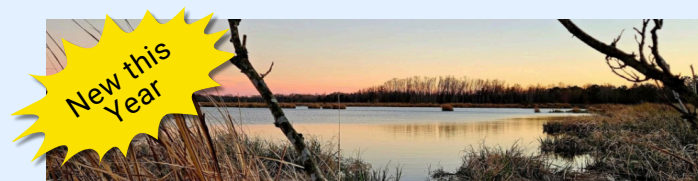
Some villas have a second floor entrance. Make sure you ask when making a reservation if you need a first floor entrance.

Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting

Abstract Submissions

The deadline to submit your abstract for the Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting is January 9th. We welcome topics including, but not limited to, fisheries management, aquatic invasive species, fish health, aquaculture, endangered species, genetics, human dimensions and socioeconomics, population dynamics, aquatic habitats, and other topics germane to marine and freshwater finfish and shellfish and their respective fisheries and environments. This is a wonderful opportunity to share your knowledge and research with fisheries professionals and students.

Please use the same form for submitting your abstract or lightning talk. General session presentations, special symposium and poster presentations require an abstract. **Lightning talk** submissions do not require an abstract. We however do require a brief summary of your presentation.



2026 Abstract/Lightning Talk Submission

Use this form to submit your special symposium abstract, oral presentation/poster presentation abstract, or for submitting the information for your lightning talk submission.

This form is collecting emails to send you a copy of your response.

* Indicates required question

Abstract/LT
Submission Form



IMPORTANT

SPECIAL NOTE

Oral presentations are 15 minutes (10 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for Q&A) unless your presentation is a Lightning Talk or part of the symposium.

Tips for Preparing and Delivering Powerful Presentations

Visit this web page for ideas and tips when designing your PowerPoint or poster presentations. Includes additional information about public speaking, sample judging forms, and more.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Visit the Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting website for abstract guidelines and examples of lightning talks.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Lightning Presentation Parameters



- Open to professionals only
- Can include more than one speaker
- Time limit is 5 minutes plus 2 minutes for Q&A
- An abstract is not required
- There will be no limit on the number of slides for the lightning talks. We do not want to limit the creative ways people can take their PPT presentations to the next level.

Looking for Chapter Information?

We try our best to keep the website current and informative. Your first source for information about Georgia AFS and its events should be the website. We use social media to post current events, job openings, reminders, and announcements.

Anyone planning to attend the Georgia AFS annual meeting should look over:

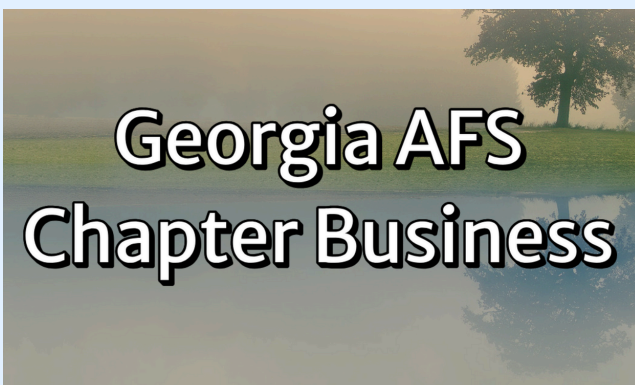


- List of annual meeting events
- Registration and Hotel information
- Abstract submission instructions
- Link for meeting program

Attention students - we are planning a pizza social on Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 6pm, for all students. This is a free event sponsored by one of our donors.



- Early preparation for the meeting
- Information for presenters
- Networking tips
- Volunteering guidelines and sign-up form



- Business meeting agenda
- Chapter elections information
- Previous meeting minutes
- Leadership meeting notes
- Survey results (with responses to suggestions)
- Resource center for chapter leaders

Georgia AFS 2026 Officer Candidates



The Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is pleased to introduce the candidates for the upcoming officer elections. Each nominee brings a strong record of professional service, leadership, and dedication to advancing fisheries science and management in Georgia. Collectively, these candidates represent a broad range of expertise across research, management, education, and outreach, and have demonstrated a

clear commitment to supporting the Chapter's mission and its members. Their willingness to serve reflects both a respect for the Society's traditions and a forward-looking vision for strengthening professional development, student engagement, and collaboration within the fisheries community. Members are encouraged to review the candidates and participate in the election process to help guide the future leadership of the Georgia Chapter.



Candidate for Georgia AFS President-Elect
Caroline Cooper
Fish Biologist, Georgia DNR WRD

Online voting begins
January 15



Candidate for Georgia AFS Recording Secretary-Treasurer
Laura Wenk
Fisheries Technician 3, Georgia DNR WRD

Reminder - you must be a 2026 member of the Parent Society and Georgia AFS to vote for chapter officers.

[Click Here](#)



AFS Membership

[Click Here](#)



GA AFS Membership

Candidate Statement from Caroline Cooper



My name is Caroline Cooper, and I am honored to be considered for the position of President-elect for the Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. I am currently a fisheries biologist with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, working in southwest Georgia on Lakes Blackshear, Walter F. George, and Seminole, as well as the Cordele Fish Hatchery and Silver Lake PFA. My professional background includes experience in fisheries monitoring, education and outreach, and conservation across the state of Georgia.

I have been a member of Georgia AFS since 2016, when I attended my first Chapter meeting as a college freshman. After completing my undergraduate degree at Young Harris College, I worked with GA DNR's Stream Survey Team as a seasonal technician, where I traveled throughout the state and gained hands-on experience with Georgia's diverse aquatic resources. Following two field seasons, I pursued a master's degree at Clemson University, where my thesis focused on the distribution of Bartram's Bass in the Upper Savannah River Basin. I began working full-time with GA DNR in 2022 as a biologist at the Go Fish Education Center, before transitioning into my current role.

Georgia AFS has played a significant role in my professional development by providing opportunities for learning, networking, and mentorship. From my first meeting onward, I have benefited from the strong sense of community within the Chapter and the willingness of members to share knowledge and support early-career professionals.

My desire to serve as President-elect stems from a strong interest in giving back to an organization that has given me so much. I am motivated to support Georgia AFS's mission by helping foster an inclusive, engaged Chapter that continues to provide meaningful professional development opportunities for students and professionals at all career stages. If elected, I hope to contribute to increased member engagement, continued support for students and early-career biologists, and opportunities for collaboration across agencies, academia, and the private sector.

I encourage you to participate in the election and would be grateful for the opportunity to serve as your President-elect. Thank you for your consideration and continued support of Georgia AFS.

Candidate Statement from Laura Wenk



My name is Laura Wenk, I am a Fisheries Technician 3 for Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR). I have been working with GA DNR since 2021 assisting with the management of sport fish of the southwest region's reservoirs. During this time, I have had opportunities to assist and gain new knowledge and experience with other projects around this region, from telemetry studies to standardized sampling for threatened and endangered mussels. Prior to my career with GA DNR, I graduated from James Cook University with a degree in Marine Biology and Ecology. I had aspired to work with sea turtles, as I have been always very interested in conservation, and I spent four years as a seasonal technician monitoring nesting beach at Loggerhead MarineLife Center. I then got the opportunity to move into the fisheries world though when I was offered the position with GA DNR and given the relevance and ability to expand my knowledge even more, I jumped into this pool we call Fisheries.

Since then, I have been a part of GA AFS, even giving a presentation at my first ever GA AFS meeting in 2022 on a small study in which I analyzed 30 years of GA DNR's standardized sampling to determine if there were changes in health of catfish species. In 2024 I started as co-chair of the Membership and Student Affairs, where I assist Adam Fox work on improving the Student-Mentor Luncheon at the GA AFS conferences and help gather new ideas on how to improve student attendance. From attending other conferences, I have brought ideas back from their luncheons to ours that made the 2025 luncheon flow better than some previous years. And we are continuing to try new aspects, which I am excited about, with the 2026 luncheon based on last year's attendance feedback. My hope is to create an environment, all be it brief and with a lure of free food, where the students are the focus set out to gain the most insight and form new connections with possible career avenues.

I love steppingstones, as to me it builds a better understanding and connection to the goal or job at hand. I had been kindly nominated to be president-elect in 2023, however, at the time I had only one GA AFS meeting under my belt and was new to the fisheries profession. So, I felt that I couldn't do the job or the GA AFS Chapter justice because I didn't have a full grasp of everything yet. Since then, I have been assisting more with GA AFS to build my understanding of our chapter and the fisheries profession as a whole. By running for Recording Secretary-Treasurer I get to learn from Dawn and assist Rebecca on how to best help our chapter continue to grow and be the best AFS chapter.

I implore my fellow members to consider participating in committees or other factors of the GA AFS Chapter, as this chapter is for us and with minimal participation and new ideas this chapter will not continue to grow as it has. If elected, I would gratefully contribute my detail-oriented abilities and time management skills to the role. I appreciate the consideration, and whether I get elected or not, look forward to seeing this chapter thrive into the future.

Georgia DNR WRD Director Ted Will Retires

Ted Will's retirement marks the conclusion of a distinguished career defined by steadfast leadership, strategic vision, and an unwavering commitment to the conservation of Georgia's natural resources. As Director of the Wildlife Resources Division, he consistently demonstrated an ability to balance the diverse needs of Georgia's wildlife professionals, outdoor enthusiasts, and the broader public. His tenure was characterized by the advancement of science-based management, the strengthening of agency partnerships, and the expansion of programs that support hunting, fishing, boating, and wildlife conservation statewide.

Throughout his 25-year career with DNR, Will served in a wide range of roles, Fisheries Biologist, Region Supervisor, Assistant Chief, Chief of Game Management, Assistant Director, and ultimately Director. No matter the title, his leadership and passion for conservation left a lasting impact.

Ted's work has left a lasting legacy that will benefit future generations. Georgia's outdoor resources are stronger, more resilient, and better managed because of his service. As he retires, the Georgia AFS community extends its sincere appreciation and congratulations. His contributions will continue to shape Georgia's natural heritage for years to come, and his impact will be remembered with deep respect and gratitude.



Chris Harper Named New Director of Georgia DNR WRD



Chris Harper has been appointed as the new Director of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Division (WRD), marking an exciting new chapter for the agency and Georgia's natural resource community. With a career at WRD, Harper offers exceptional leadership, technical expertise, and a profound commitment to science-driven natural resource management. His comprehensive experience in various program areas, combined with his strong operational knowledge and collaborative style, makes him highly qualified to lead the Division.

Chris has consistently shown an ability to unite staff, stakeholders, and partners around shared conservation goals. His strategic mindset, integrity, and dedication to public service have earned him broad respect within the agency and among Georgia's outdoor constituencies. As Director, he will play a pivotal role in advancing initiatives that support healthy fish and wildlife populations, expand access to outdoor recreation, and safeguard Georgia's natural resources for future generations.



His appointment reflects both his professional accomplishments and the confidence placed in his ability to lead with vision, balance, and accountability. The Georgia AFS community offers its sincere congratulations to Chris on this well-deserved achievement. His leadership will undoubtedly strengthen WRD's mission and contribute meaningfully to Georgia's longstanding conservation legacy.

Successful Georgia FW Fishes ID Workshop

Georgia AFS partnered with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to host a Georgia Freshwater Fishes Identification Workshop on December 17–19. Led by Dr. Brett Albanese and our team of expert instructors from Georgia DNR, the University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, and the University of North Georgia, the workshop delivered rigorous, high-quality training in fish identification.

The curriculum focused on Georgia's diverse freshwater fishes, emphasizing ecologically and numerically important families such as minnows, suckers, catfishes, sunfishes, and darters. Participants also received instruction on identifying endangered species and understanding their associated river basins, highlighting the management relevance of accurate identification.

The workshop integrated classroom lectures with extensive hands-on laboratory sessions, where participants examined preserved specimens and applied identification techniques with direct instructor support. Custom identification cards highlighting key diagnostic features further enhanced participants' ability to distinguish among closely related species.

Thank you all who made this workshop a success!

Brett Albanese	Tiffany Penland	Zack Brock
Andrew Taylor	Jess Rath	Jay Shelton
Wesley Gerrin	Josh Ha	Richard Childers
Sarah McNair	Emma Browning	Jackson Sibley
Andrew Jung	Rebecca Brown	Jonathon Pritchard
Amanda George	Scott Robinson	Kim Morris-Zarneke

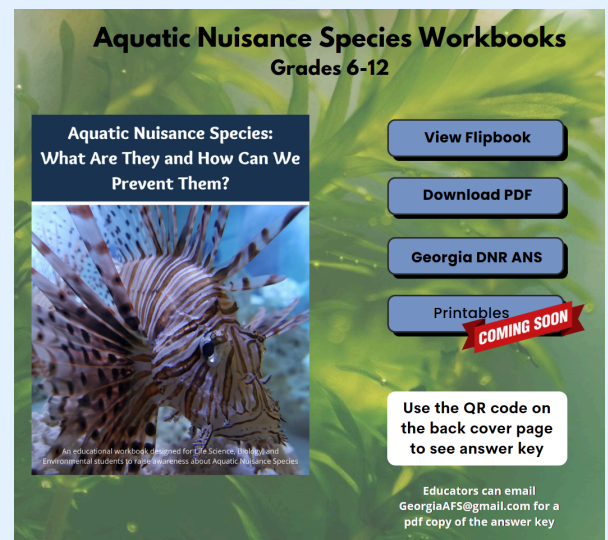
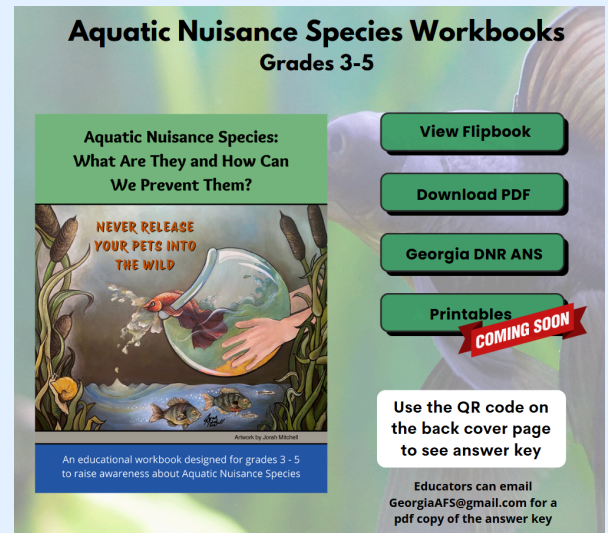


Georgia ANS Workbooks

Georgia AFS collaborated with the Georgia DNR Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Coordinator and the UGA Warnell Aquatic Outreach team to revise and update the Georgia ANS Workbooks. A key component of the revision process was the incorporation of direct feedback from educators who use the materials and from students who engage with them.

The **elementary workbook** is designed for students in grades 3–5 and uses interactive activities and age-appropriate terminology to introduce fundamental concepts related to aquatic ecosystems and the threats posed by invasive species. The **advanced workbook** targets students in grades 7–12 and is aligned with the Georgia curriculum standards for Life Science, Biology, and Environmental Science courses. This workbook explores more advanced ecological principles, as well as the biological and economic impacts of aquatic nuisance species.

Hard copies of the elementary workbook were printed for distribution to teachers and students through Georgia DNR outreach efforts aimed at increasing public awareness of the ecological and economic consequences of ANS. In addition, Georgia AFS has made both workbooks available on its website as downloadable PDFs and interactive flipbooks for use by educators statewide.



Visit the **Georgia AFS Education Materials** website for these workbooks and other materials.



Job Hunting? Prepare Yourself to be the Best Candidate for the Job

Adequate preparation for a job interview is essential because it directly influences how effectively a candidate communicates their qualifications, professionalism, and fit for the role. Interview preparation allows individuals to clearly articulate their skills, experiences, and accomplishments while aligning them with the organization's mission, values, and needs. Researching the employer demonstrates genuine interest and initiative, which employers consistently value. Preparation also builds confidence, reducing anxiety and enabling candidates to respond thoughtfully to both expected and unexpected questions. Practicing responses helps ensure clarity and conciseness, minimizing the risk of rambling or overlooking key points. Additionally, being prepared allows candidates to ask informed questions, signaling engagement and long-term interest in the position. From appropriate attire to punctuality and familiarity with the interview format, preparation reflects reliability and respect for the employer's time. Ultimately, thorough interview preparation increases the likelihood of making a strong, positive impression and securing opportunities for career advancement.

Georgia AFS Career Resources

Preparing for a job interview is one of the simplest ways to set yourself apart from other candidates.

Careers in Fisheries

Information for those considering a career in fisheries

Tips for navigating your fisheries career path

[CLICK HERE](#)

Jobs & Internships

Website sources

Job Postings

Internships

Summer/Seasonal Jobs

[CLICK HERE](#)

Resume & Interviewing Tips

Resume Tips

Interviewing Tips

Mock Interview Materials

Resources

[CLICK HERE](#)

A well-prepared candidate is far more likely to make a strong first impression and turn an interview into a job offer.

Responses to Member Requests

Georgia AFS members asked for an easier way to find the Georgia AFS online store. The online store has been added to website under the tab "Who We Are." Just click on the door of the store.



Georgia AFS members asked for resume writing tips. We did our research and added these tips to the website. Follow the tips and guidelines provided to help you stand out against all other candidates.



2026 Georgia AFS Art and Photo Contest

A banner for the Georgia AFS Art and Photo Contest. It features a landscape photo of a pond and trees. The text "Georgia AFS Art and Photo Contest" is at the top, and the Georgia AFS logo is in the center. Below the banner, the text "Visit the website for the art and photo contest entry guidelines" is written in white on a black background. At the bottom, there is a white button with a globe icon and the text "Visit Website".

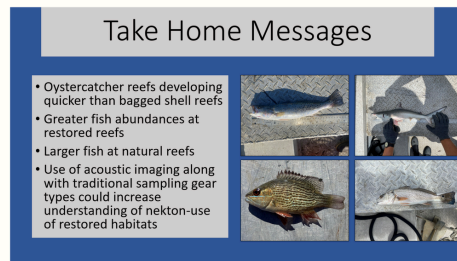
We were asked to allow chapter members to vote on their favorite art and photograph contest entries. A scoring system was developed to include both judges scores and popularity votes to determine the overall winner. The average score from the panel of judges count 60% of the total and the popularity vote will count 40%.

Example

Entry #1	
Score Calculation	
Panel of judges average = 35/50	$35 \times 0.60 = 21$
Popularity vote = 30	$30 \times 0.40 = 12$
Total Score = 33	

Preparing and Delivering Powerful Presentations

Whether you present your research as a PowerPoint or a poster, following these three steps will help ensure your message is communicated effectively.

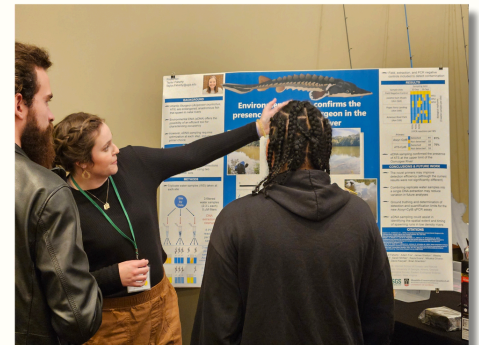


A successful presentation communicates understanding, not volume of information.

- Concise narrative
- Eliminate unnecessary details
- Frame results in terms of *why they matter*

Well-designed visuals allow the audience to grasp the research quickly, even without verbal explanation.

- Readable fonts and sufficient white space
- Use figures, graphs, and tables
- Minimize text and avoid clutter



Strong delivery demonstrates mastery of the research and builds credibility with the audience.

- Rehearse multiple times
- Practice explaining the research
- Anticipate likely questions

Visit the Georgia AFS website for tips on preparing and delivering powerful presentations.

CLICK HERE



Tips for PowerPoint Presentations

Designing Your PowerPoint

- It is easier for audience members with dyslexia if you select familiar sans serif fonts such as Arial or Calibri with adequate spacing between letters. Avoid using all capital letters and excessive italics or underlines. Choose a [font size](#) that is easily visible by all audience members in the ballroom.
- Use color blind-safe colors. Most issues for colorblind people come from the prevalence of red-and-green combinations as a pair of opposites in design. The first rule of making a [palette for colorblind](#) – avoid combining red and green.
- Use sufficient contrast for text and background colors. Bright slide backgrounds can make text harder to read. Choose an off-white or cream background. The text should be dark, with lots of space around the letters. A dark background and white text also work.
- Provide adequate white space, avoid clutter, and visually highlight sections with borders, colored headings, and white space.
- Do not use a laser pointer during your presentation. Laser pointers can be a distraction or you risk alienating your audience members when more than one screen is used to display your presentation. A well-placed arrow, [circle](#) or other animation built into your slide will often show something more effectively.
- Be creative with your slides to capture the attention of the audience, but don't overdo it. Avoid any transitions or animations that will distract your audience. Consider how you can use [Morph](#) in PowerPoint to highlight sections of your presentation.

Presentation Tips

- Be aware of your time limit. Rehearse your presentation so you have time for both your presentation and time for questions from the audience.
- Have a bottle of water at the podium in case you need it.
- Talk to your audience, not at them.
- Speak loudly and clearly.
- It is okay to move away from the podium.



Visit the [Georgia AFS YouTube Channel](#) or [Website](#) for additional tips and guidelines for presenting your research

Tips for Poster Presentations

Designing Your Poster

- The title should be informative and effectively capture the attention of the audience.
- All sections should be clearly laid out, moving from top left to bottom right.
- Do not go overboard on the use of colors. Remember to avoid using red and green colors when possible to be considerate of audience members with color-blindness.
- It is easier for audience members with dyslexia if you select familiar sans serif fonts such as Arial or Calibri with adequate spacing between letters. Avoid using all capital letters and excessive italics or underlines.
- Your poster should be attractive, balanced, and not cluttered. Leave open space around your text boxes and images to make it easier to read.
- Use high-resolution photographs and do not forget to credit who took the photo. Your photos should be checked to ensure there is no indication of not following safety protocols.
- Do not include your abstract. A poster is an abstract of your research.
- Posters with less text are more inviting and easier to absorb. Avoid using long paragraphs. Use bullet points and/or short direct statements.
- Review [good and bad examples of research posters](#) to help guide you to create a great research poster.

Presenting Your Poster

- Smile and make eye contact with interested individuals who approach your poster and then introduce yourself and your poster.
- Have a 2-3 minute “elevator pitch” that touches upon the basic components of your poster that focuses on your results. Practice. Practice. Practice.
- Be excited about your research.
- Use your poster as a visual tool. Point to areas of interest to keep your audience focused and engaged.
- Ask if your audience has any questions at the end.
- Have your contact information ready. You might consider printing business cards with your name, phone number, and emails (school and personal).
- Don’t forget to thank people for visiting your poster.

Reeling in Reminders



Program Committee

We are using a Google Form to submit [abstracts](#) for the annual meeting. This will make it easier for us to organize and manage submissions. Follow the instructions provided on the form. [Tips for Delivering Powerful Presentations](#) (oral/poster)

Planning Committee

Pay attention to deadlines for [early registration](#) (January 23) and for making your hotel reservations. Room block rates for [Villas](#) ends January 16. Make your reservation before that date. Check the website for additional deadlines and meeting information ([Georgia AFS 2026 Annual Meeting](#)).

Membership and Student Affairs Committee

Students must sign-up for the Student-Mentor luncheon. Any student who forgot to check the box on the registration form can email Rebecca Brown to add you to the list. GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com

Vote Auditor

Thanks to our nominating committee we have excellent candidates for Georgia AFS President-Elect and Recording Secretary-Treasurer. Only members of the parent society (AFS) can vote for officers. You may vote early (electronically) or on-site at the annual meeting. Voting begins January 12, 2026 and ends 12:00 PM EST on February 4, 2026.

Fundraising Committee

There is still time to donate an item for the [annual fundraiser](#). Contact Rebecca Brown (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com) or Zack Brock (zack.brock@dnr.ga.gov) if you have something you would like to donate.

Membership Dues

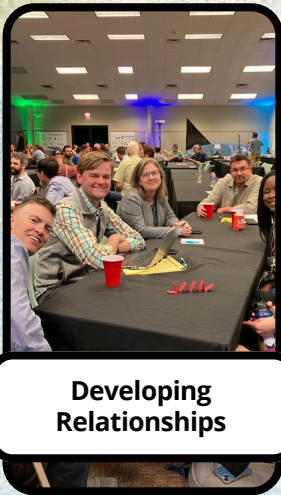
The Georgia AFS mission is to improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals. Your paid membership helps us achieve that mission.

Georgia AFS
Annual Membership Dues

\$ 10



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



**Developing
Relationships**



**Leadership
Opportunities**



**Supporting Aquatic
Conservation**



**Enhancing Your
Resume**



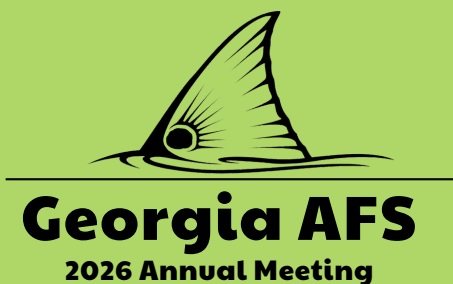
To vote on Chapter business/elections you must be a member of AFS.

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.





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

Helpful Links

[Registration](#)

[Abstract Submission](#)

[Special Symposium](#)

[Lightning Talks](#)

[Hotel Reservations](#)

[411 for Students](#)

[Presentation Tips and Guidelines](#)



Volunteering

[Volunteer Form](#)

[Volunteer Guidelines](#)

Have Questions

GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com

Welcome

Georgia AFS invites you to join us at the Villas by the Sea on Jekyll Island for our 40th annual meeting.

The theme "The Science Behind Sustainable Fisheries: Bridging Management, Policy, and Conservation" emphasizes the essential role of science in supporting healthy fish populations and aquatic ecosystems. It highlights how sustainability in fisheries depends on integrating three interconnected pillars:

- Science-based management, which uses data and research to guide harvest limits, habitat protection, and population monitoring;
- Informed policy, which translates scientific findings into regulations and governance frameworks that protect resources while supporting economic and recreational interests;
- Conservation efforts, which aim to preserve biodiversity, restore degraded habitats, and ensure long-term ecosystem resilience.

By bridging these areas, the theme calls attention to the need for collaboration among scientists, resource managers, policymakers, and conservationists to develop effective strategies that ensure fisheries remain productive, diverse, and resilient for generations to come.



Renovating Culverts for Aquatic Connectivity and Flood Control

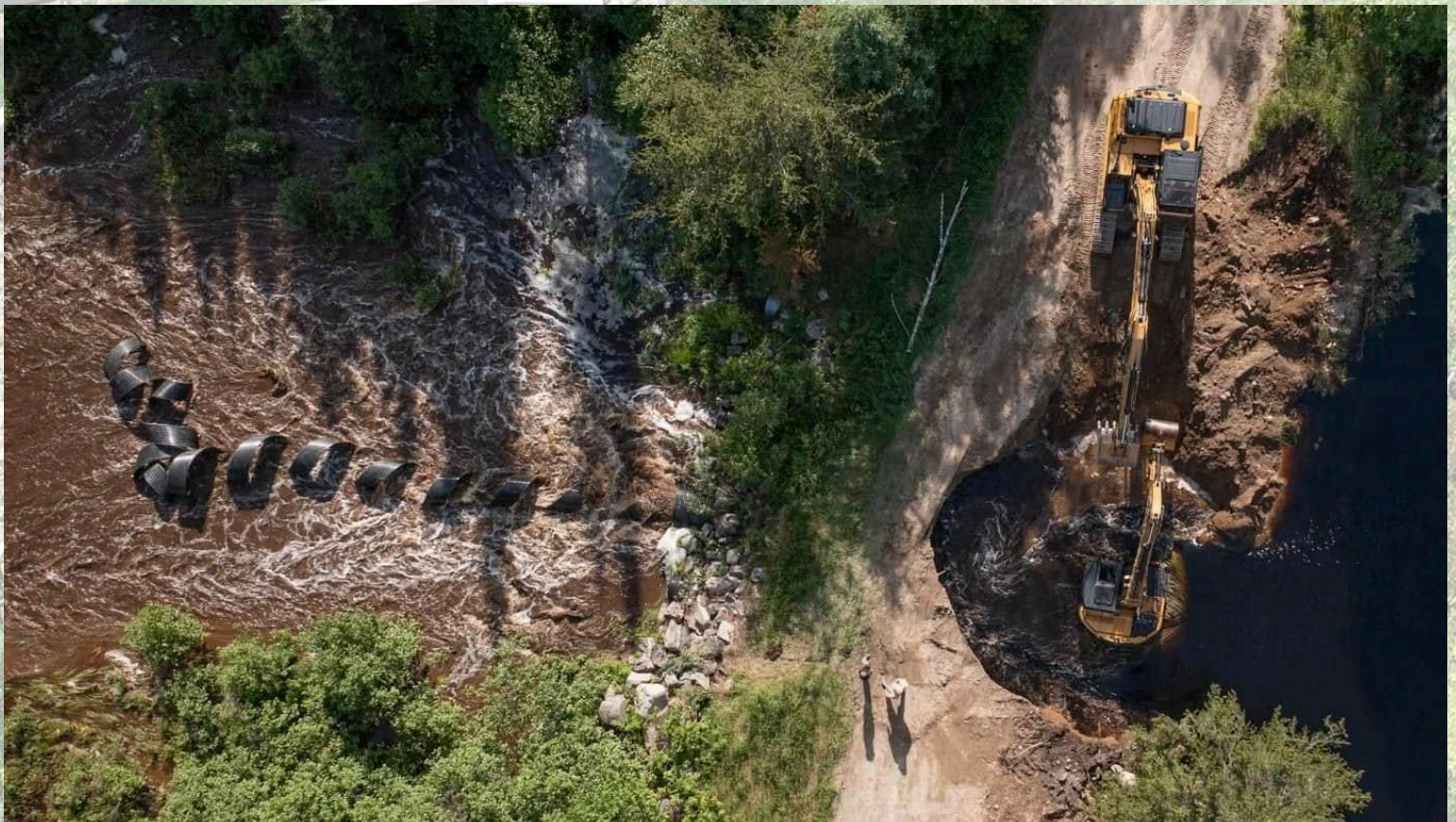
Modernizing culverts is a critical infrastructure priority that yields both ecological and public safety benefits. Culverts were traditionally designed primarily for stormwater conveyance and roadway stability (Federal Highway Administration [FHWA] 2014). Many older culverts do not meet modern needs for aquatic connectivity or flood resilience, creating barriers for fish passage and increasing the risk of infrastructure failure during high-flow events (Headwaters Economics 2021).

Outdated culverts often fragment stream networks and restrict the movement of fish and other aquatic organisms. Barriers such as perched outlets, shallow depths, excessive water velocities, shallow depths, and smooth substrates can prevent fish from accessing critical spawning, rearing, and refuge habitats. For migratory and potamodromous species alike, these barriers disrupt life cycles, reduce genetic exchange, and ultimately diminish population resilience (U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] 2023). Modern culvert designs, including stream-simulation culverts and open-bottom structures, mimic natural channel conditions and allow fish to move freely throughout the stream network, supporting healthier and more connected aquatic ecosystems (FHWA 2015).



The benefits of modernized culverts extend well beyond aquatic organisms. Flood control and infrastructure resilience are equally compelling drivers for culvert replacement. Many existing culverts were designed using historical rainfall data and outdated hydraulic standards that underestimate current storm intensity and frequency (FHWA 2014). Undersized culverts are prone to clogging, overtopping, and structural failure, leading to road washouts, property damage, and public safety hazards (Headwaters Economics 2021). Modern designs emphasize increased hydraulic capacity, improved debris conveyance, and alignment with natural stream processes, thereby reducing the likelihood of failure during extreme flow events.

Importantly, modern culvert projects offer an opportunity to integrate ecological and engineering objectives rather than treating them as competing priorities. Stream-simulation designs, for example, accommodate extreme flows while preserving natural channel processes. Floodplain connectivity can be improved by sizing culverts to pass bankfull and overbank flows, reducing upstream flooding and downstream erosion (FHWA 2015). Over the long term, these designs provide greater long-term economic value by minimizing repair costs, extending infrastructure lifespan, and reducing emergency response expenditures following storm events.



In conclusion, modernizing culverts is a practical and forward-looking approach to addressing two pressing challenges: restoring aquatic connectivity and reducing flood risk. Investments in updated culvert design protect aquatic resources, safeguard transportation infrastructure, and enhance community resilience in the face of climate change (USGS 2023).



Bibliography

Federal Highway Administration. (2014). Hydraulic design of highway culverts (FHWA-HIF-14-016). U.S. Department of Transportation.

Federal Highway Administration. (2015). Aquatic organism passage at road-stream crossings: Synthesis and guide (FHWA-HIF-14-064). U.S. Department of Transportation.

Headwaters Economics. (2021). Why stream crossing standards matter: Reducing flood risk and improving aquatic connectivity.

U.S. Geological Survey. (2023). Effects of road crossings on stream hydraulics, geomorphology, and aquatic organism passage (Scientific Investigations Report 2023–5132).

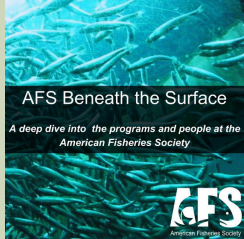
Additional Resources

[Georgia Stream Crossing Handbook](#)

[States must modernize stream crossing standards to protect communities from flooding](#)

Plugged In

Do you listen to podcasts while driving? Exercising? Did you know you can download podcasts to your phone and listen when you are traveling in areas with low or no cell service?



[Meet the 2025-2026 AFS President!](#)

Gary Whelan, 2025-2026 AFS President. Gary stopped by the podcast recent to share insights on his plan of work for the coming year and offer advice for students and early-career fisheries professionals.



[Lifelist Fishing How-Tos!](#)

Katrina and Guy do a deep dive into lifelist fishing including how to start from scratch, lessons learned, tips for parents who want to set their kids up for lifelisting success, and how this fun activity can open doors to deep friendships and fish-focused vacations (the best kind!). Guy also discusses his wearable seine and Katrina catches listeners up on "fanmail darter."



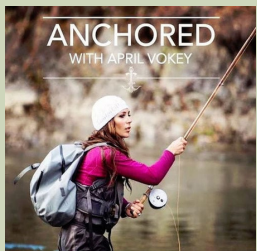
[Striped Bass Management and Partnerships](#)

Ben and Corey sit down with Chad Thomas of the North Carolina Marine and Estuary Foundation to discuss the importance of Striped Bass to coastal North Carolina. Listen in as they talk about Striped Bass management and the partnerships that make ongoing stocking efforts and research possible.



[AGFC's Black Bass Program](#)

Preston sits down with Jeremy Risley and Eric Naas from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Black Bass Program. They highlight many of the important projects that the Black Bass Program conducts and their innovative process to formulate their statewide Reservoir Black Bass Management Plan. They also discuss the immense excitement that is building for the upcoming Legacy Lunker Program. We hope that you enjoy this episode!



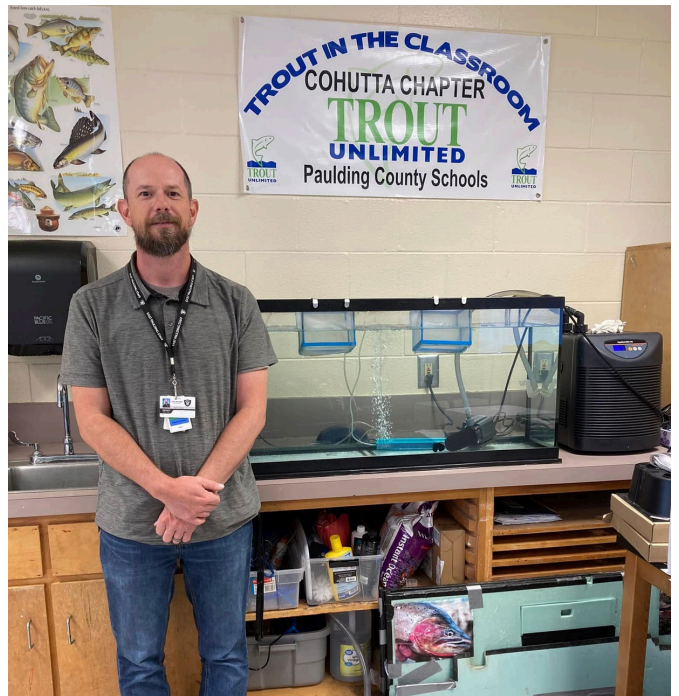
[A Beginners Guide to Getting Started in Fly Fishing](#)

This episode of Anchored is a little different. April recorded it while in steelhead camp this year, and her hope is that you'll share it with someone in your life who's thinking about getting into fly fishing but doesn't know where to start. It's based on an [ebook](#) she wrote a few years ago.

GEORGIA TROUT UNLIMITED BRINGS COLDWATER CONSERVATION INTO THE CLASSROOM

Georgia Trout Unlimited's Trout in the Classroom (TIC) program is a hands-on, year-long environmental education initiative that connects K-12 students with Georgia's coldwater ecosystems while fostering a strong conservation ethic. Implemented by local Trout Unlimited chapters in partnership with educators and fisheries professionals, TIC allows students to raise trout from eggs to fingerlings in a classroom aquarium while integrating real-world science into daily learning.

Throughout the school year, students care for live trout by monitoring water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and other water quality parameters essential for trout survival. As they observe trout development from eyed eggs through early life stages, students gain firsthand experience with fish biology, life cycles, and habitat requirements. This experiential approach reinforces STEM concepts while encouraging responsibility and critical thinking.



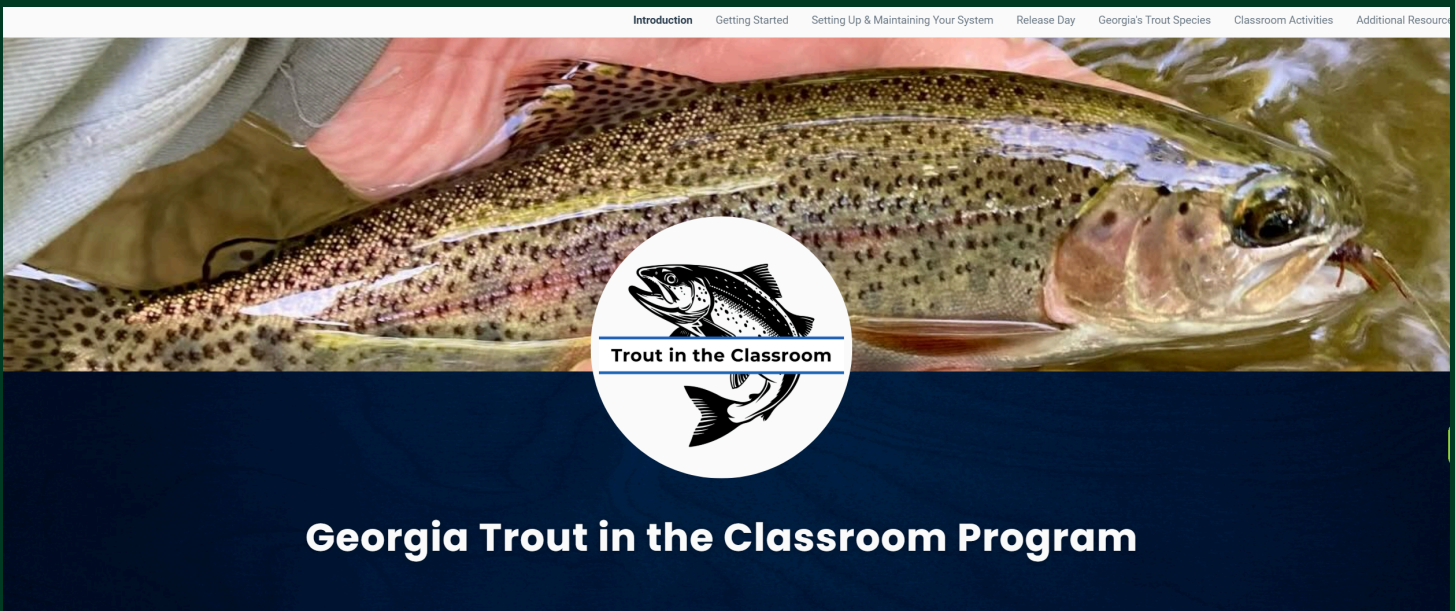
The program is intentionally interdisciplinary. Science lessons focus on aquatic ecology, watershed health, and the role of trout as indicator species for clean, cold water. Mathematics skills are strengthened through data collection, record-keeping, and growth analysis. Many teachers also incorporate language arts and art by having students write reflections, create presentations, or develop artwork inspired by their trout and local watersheds.

A defining feature of Trout in the Classroom is its emphasis on conservation and stewardship. Students learn how land use, pollution, and water management affect stream health and fisheries, helping them understand the importance of protecting aquatic resources. For many participants, the program provides their first meaningful connection to coldwater conservation.

The school year typically culminates in a field trip to a local stream, where students release the trout they raised under the guidance of educators and Trout Unlimited volunteers. This release event powerfully links classroom learning to the natural environment and leaves a lasting impression on students.

Through Trout in the Classroom, Georgia Trout Unlimited continues to invest in the next generation of conservationists by combining education, stewardship, and community engagement—one classroom and one watershed at a time.

The [TIC Resources](#) website can be found on the [Georgia AFS](#) website.



[Introduction](#) [Getting Started](#) [Setting Up & Maintaining Your System](#) [Release Day](#) [Georgia's Trout Species](#) [Classroom Activities](#) [Additional Resources](#)

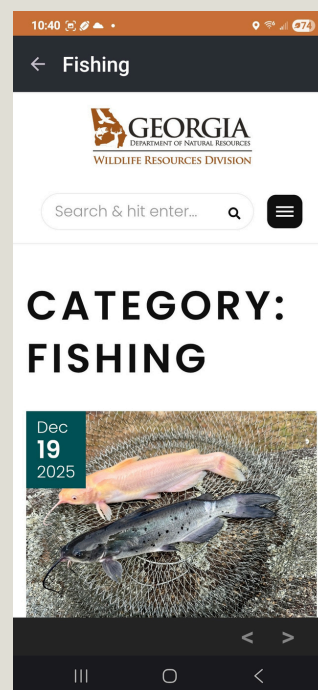
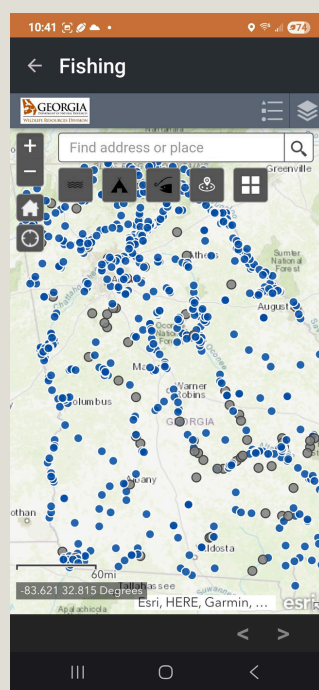
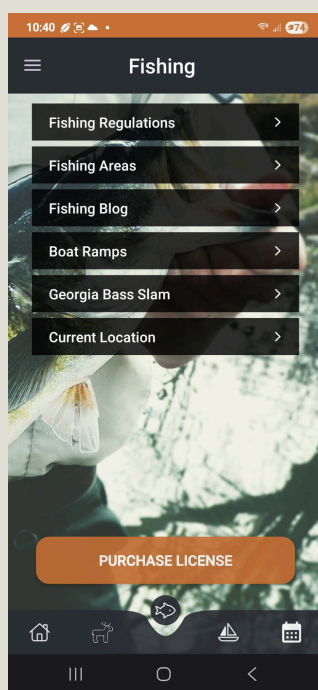
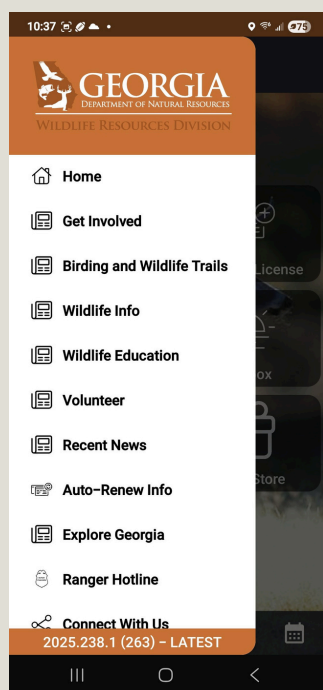
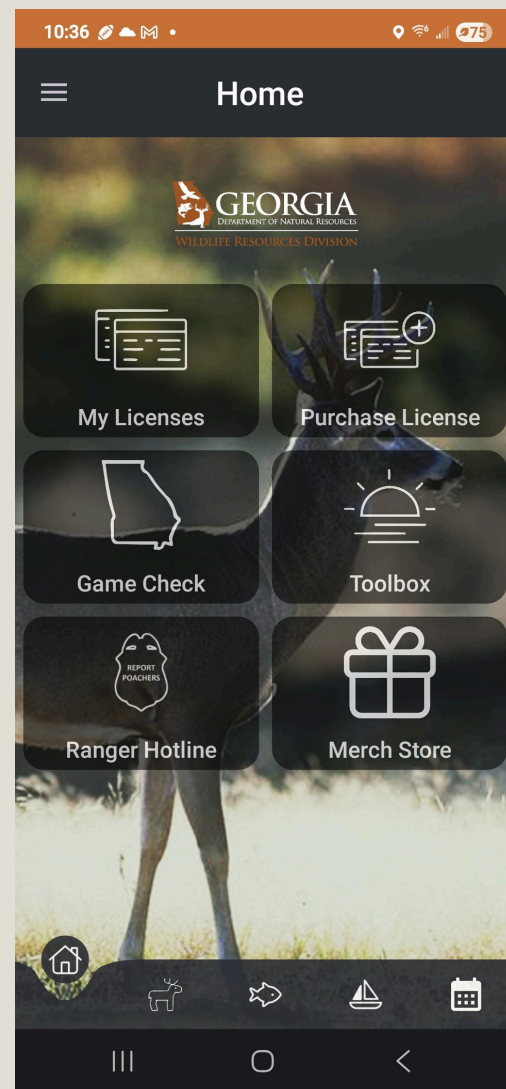
Georgia Trout in the Classroom Program

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!



What's Cooking?

Are you looking for some delicious budget-friendly fish recipes? We are too! Send us your favorite fish recipe (GeorgiaAFS@gmail.com). It must be budget-friendly - no saffron, white truffles or Matsutake mushrooms.



SMOKED TROUT AND SMOKED TROUT DIP

Provided by: Josh and Jacob Murauskas

Smoked Trout, Wet Brine Recipe (for ~1 gallon of brine for roughly 15 N. GA Rainbow Trout)

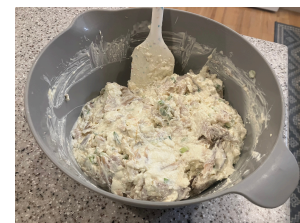
- 1 gallon cold water
- 3/4 cup kosher salt
- 1 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 1/2 cup maple syrup or honey
- 1 Tbsp garlic powder (optional)
- 1 Tbsp onion powder (optional)
- 1 tsp chili flakes or cayenne (optional, for heat)



Mix brine thoroughly, add fish and keep submerged (use a plate if needed) and refrigerated for 8-12 hours. Give each trout a quick rinse, pat dry, and lay them on the racks to air dry for 2-3 hours until tacky. Next, run your smoker at 140-160 F with alder, apple, or cherry (we like alder a lot for fish) for 4 hours, give or take. You want the fish to be firm, glossy, and lake, but not mushy - internal temp should be ~145 F. We have a "Little Chief" smoker and usually burn 3 trays of wood chips.

Smoked Trout Dip (4-5 cups of dip)

- 2 blocks (16 oz) cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups smoked trout (about 4-5 small whole trout, flaked and bones/skin removed)
- 1/2 cup sour cream or mayonnaise (or mix of both)
- 3-4 green onions, finely chopped
- Juice of 1 lemon (or 2-3 Tbsp bottled lemon juice)
- 1-2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- Black pepper to taste



Flake trout into a bowl, soften cream cheese (leave at room temp for half hour). Combine ingredients and mix, adding trout and onions last.

You can freeze some dip, but we recommend using it within a month or so. It's great for sandwiches or on crackers.



MARCH 5 - 8



Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
500 Canal Street



tinyurl.com/SDAFS2023

Abstracts Due January 23rd

CLICK HERE

Welcome to the 2026 Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society (SDAFS) Annual Meeting! We invite fisheries professionals, students, researchers, resource managers, and partners from across the region to join us in New Orleans for four days of learning, collaboration, and celebration of fisheries science.

REGISTER NOW

Held in one of the nation's most culturally rich and ecologically significant cities, this year's meeting will feature a wide range of symposia, technical sessions, workshops, and networking events focused on advancing fisheries research and management across the Southern Division.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2025, scientists described several fascinating new fish species.

Yale researchers discovered the two new species in isolated populations in the Mobile River drainage system. The new species are named the Gurley Darter (*Etheostoma gurleyense*) and the Birmingham Darter (*Etheostoma birminghamense*).



Rineloricaria buckupi, or Buckup's whiptail catfish, is a newly described, armored freshwater fish from the São João and Macaé river basins in southeastern Brazil. Buckup's whiptail catfish are covered in "armored" body plates and can reach about 7 inches in length. Their teeth are "strong," and their lips have "irregularly sized" bumps.

Three new to science species of snailfish were observed along the abyssal seafloor offshore of California. In late 2025, scientists announced three new deep-sea snailfish species from the Pacific: the bumpy, pink *Careproctus colliculi*, honoring its textured skin; the black, rounded-headed *Careproctus yanceyi* (dark snailfish); and the long, sleek black *Paraliparis em* (sleek snailfish).

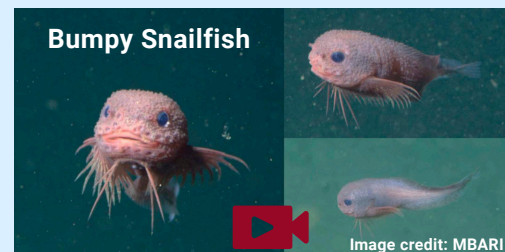


Photo credit: Sinchi Amazonic Institute of Scientific Research

Scientists in the Colombian Amazon have described a new fish species called *Priocharax rex*, only about 0.8 inches long. It is the largest known member of its tiny genus and carries a round wing-like flap of skin between its pelvic fins that no one had seen before in this group. *Priocharax rex* lives in a forest stream that feeds the middle reaches of the río Putumayo, in the far south of Colombia near the town of San Rafael.

Fishy News

Around the World

Click on title to access article

WHERE ARE THEY AND HOW DID THEY GET HERE? INVESTIGATING PFAS IN ALASKAN SALMON AND RAINBOW TROUT

NOAA NCCOS and NOAA Fisheries researchers collected salmon and rainbow trout to investigate PFAS presence in Alaskan fisheries and coasts, identify introduction pathways, and understand food web movement.

UMASS AMHERST BIOLOGISTS PROVIDE CATCH-AND-RELEASE INSIGHTS FOR STRIPED BASS

UMass Amherst biologists researched which catch-and-release practices significantly harm striped bass, finding that anglers' knowledge of best practices often doesn't translate to their actions on the water.

INVASIVE SPECIES MONITORING BASED ON EDNA MULTIPLEX PCR SEQUENCING

Researchers developed a novel and efficient approach for invasive species monitoring by combining multiplex PCR amplification with high-throughput sequencing.

OWLS AND LARKS AMONG FISH

In a comprehensive analysis of the activity patterns of wild fish, a research team involving the Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) has shown that fish – carp, trout, zander, and others have individual early and late risers.

OYSTER LARVAE ON DRUGS MOVE SLOWLY AND ARE STRESSED

The continuous discharge and prevalence of psychoactive drugs in surface waters raises concerns about potential risks to ecosystems and public health.

NEW ENVIRONMENTAL DNA TEST COULD HELP RARE HAMMERHEAD SHARKS FIGHT EXTINCTION

A scientist at Florida International University (FIU) has created a revolutionary test that can detect small, hard-to-find hammerhead sharks without ever spotting them in the water - a breakthrough that could help save species on the edge of extinction.



Bubba Bass

Video Picks

Leadership

4 types of leaders—and why great ones master them all | Jon Cobb



TEDxHarvard Square



Communication

The Secret to Great Public Speaking (No, It's Not Confidence) | Jess Ekstrom



TEDxSugar Creek Women

Conservation

Bridging the partisan gap | Tonya Bonitabus



TEDxSavannah



Fisheries

The Mysteries of Gar Fish



The MeatEater Podcast Ep. 793



BUBBA BASS SAFETY TIP

BLACK ICE



Roadways become very slippery when ice forms, leading to hazardous driving conditions and an increased risk of car accidents. Black ice is a dangerous wintertime hazard because black ice is difficult to spot. Melted snow or ice that refreezes may look deceptively like a dry road. And temperatures don't have to be below freezing for black ice to develop.

Ice commonly forms on highly shaded areas, infrequently traveled roads, bridges, and overpasses. Ice is also commonly found on roads that run around bodies of water such as lakes and rivers.



How to correct a slide on an icy road

Here are a few tips:

- As soon as your car begins to slide on ice, ease your foot off the gas pedal. Do not apply your brakes. If you push down on your brakes you make the slide worse.
- If your car does begin to skid on the ice, turn the steering wheel in the direction of the skid. For example, if the back of your car skids to the left then turn your steering wheel to the left.
- Leave plenty of space between your car and the other cars on the road.



Bubba's Friends: Altamaha Shiner (*Cyprinella xaenura*)

The Altamaha Shiner occurs nowhere else in the world except the Altamaha River basin, making it one of the state's true endemic fishes. Its range is primarily restricted to the Piedmont portions of the Ocmulgee and Oconee River systems, which makes it an important species for conservation and watershed-specific management. It thrives in flowing, high-quality riffle habitats, making it a strong indicator of watershed health.

- Maximum recorded length is 11cm
- Lays its eggs in small crevices or small cracks within rocks
- Breeding males are recognizable by a blue coloration on the sides and yellow to orange dorsal, caudal, and anal fins.
- Breeding males will develop prominent tubercles or bumps on the head and scales.

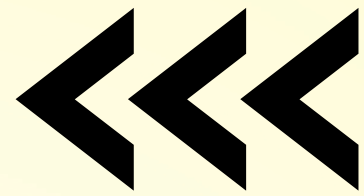
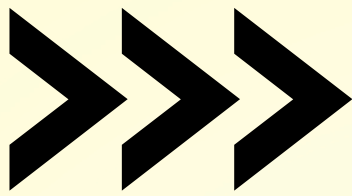


Photo Credit: Matt Hill

Fin and Games: Name the Movie

Below is a curated list of well-known and frequently quoted movie lines from films in which fish, fishing, or aquatic life play a central or memorable role.

1. "You're gonna need a bigger boat."
2. "Just keep swimming."
3. "Man is not made for defeat. Man can be destroyed, but not defeated".
4. "Always it was to be called a rod. If someone called it a pole, my father looked at him as a sergeant in the United States Marines would look at a recruit who had just called a rifle a gun."
5. "Anyway, like I was sayin', shrimp is the fruit of the sea."
6. "There are some fish you can't catch. It's not because they're faster or stronger than you, but because they're smarter."
7. "I wonder if it remembers me."
8. "Fish are friends, not food."
9. "Eventually, all things merge into one."
10. "Don't forget. The canary sings, but the eagle flies."
11. "But fishermen... All they care about is the fish, the river and the game we play. For fishermen, the only virtues are patience, tolerance and humility."
12. "Can you hear the Jack Whales singing?"
13. "When in doubt, paddle it out."
14. "Everyday a new adventure, that's my motto."



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



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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**

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AFS/SDAFS MEETINGS

Future AFS Annual Meetings



American Fisheries Society

- 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/

Future SDAFS Meetings

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

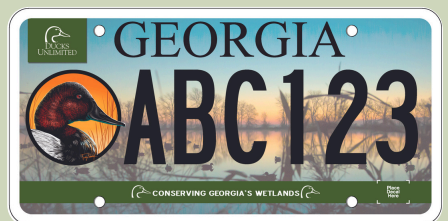
General Information

Support for Fisheries Conservation and Sustainability

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



Click on the license plate for more information



It is only \$25 more than the standard plate! (\$20 is a standard charge applied to all plates.) 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. For more information:

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

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](#)

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.

Stay Connected

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Newsletter Editorial Board

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

Answers to Fin & Games

1. Jaws
2. Finding Nemo
3. The Old Man and the Sea
4. A River Runs Through It
5. Forrest Gump
6. Big Fish
7. Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou

8. Finding Nemo
9. A River Runs Through It
10. Gone Fishin'
11. Salmon Fishing in the Yemen
12. Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou
13. Finding Dory
14. Big Fish