

# MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Registration

1:00 Welcome and opening remarks by Ken Weathers, AFA President and Gina LoGiudice, Program Chair and President-elect

## SESSION 1

### COASTAL/MARINE

**Moderator: Ben Ricks, Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries**

1:10 COASTAL ALABAMA SUBMERSED AQUATIC VEGETATION MAPPING PROGRAM

Carl Ferraro ([carl.ferraro@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:carl.ferraro@dcnr.alabama.gov)). ADCNR-State Lands Division-Coastal Section.

1:30 AGE DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE ESTIMATES OF ADULT RED DRUM *Sciaenops ocellatus* IN OFFSHORE WATERS OF THE NORTH CENTRAL GULF OF MEXICO

Crystal L. Hightower\* ([Clouallenhightower@gmail.com](mailto:Clouallenhightower@gmail.com)), Sean P. Powers, Matthew W. Johnson. Department of Marine Sciences, University of South Alabama.

1:50 CROSS SHELF DISTRIBUTION OF COASTAL SHARKS IN THE NORTHERN GULF OF MEXICO

Andrea Kroetz\* ([akroetz@disl.org](mailto:akroetz@disl.org)), J. Marcus Drymon, John Dindo & Sean Powers. Department of Marine Sciences, University of South Alabama.

2:10 PREDATOR AVOIDANCE BY AGE-0 RED SNAPPER *LUTJANUS CAMPECHANUS*, ON ARTIFICIAL REEFS IN THE NORTHERN GULF OF MEXICO

Peter A. Mudrak\* ([pam0007@auburn.edu](mailto:pam0007@auburn.edu)) and Stephen T. Szedlmayer. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture, Auburn University

2:30 CONTROL OF INVASIVE APPLE SNAILS IN THE THREEMILE CREEK DRAINAGE

Ben Ricks\* ([Ben.Ricks@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Ben.Ricks@dcnr.alabama.gov)) and Andy Ford. ADCNR-Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

2:50 Break

## SESSION 2

### SPECIAL SESSION: TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN

**Moderator: Brook Fluker, University of Alabama**

3:10 DID THE TENNESSEE RIVER ONCE FLOW DIRECTLY INTO THE GULF OF MEXICO? INSIGHTS FROM THE SPECKLED DARTER *Etheostoma stigmaeum*

Karen Persons\* ([geoichthyologist@gmail.com](mailto:geoichthyologist@gmail.com)). University of Southern Mississippi.

- 3:30 SURVEY OF THE BEAR CREEK SYSTEM FOR FISH SPECIES OF MODERATE TO HIGHEST CONSERVATION CONCERN, 2007-09  
Tom Shepard\* ([tshepard@gsa.state.al.us](mailto:tshepard@gsa.state.al.us)), Pat O'Neil, Stuart McGregor, Brett Smith, and Cal Johnson. Geological Survey of Alabama.
- 3:50 SURVEY OF KEY CAVE AND THE STATUS OF THE ENDANGERED ALABAMA CAVEFISH *Speoplatyrhinus poulsoni*  
Bernard R. Kuhajda\* ([bkuhajda@bama.ua.edu](mailto:bkuhajda@bama.ua.edu)) and Brook L. Fluker. Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alabama.
- 4:10 SYSTEMATICS OF THE TENNESSEE RIVER ENDEMIC, BLENNY DARTER *Etheostoma blennius*  
W. Patrick McKinney\* ([wpmckinney@una.edu](mailto:wpmckinney@una.edu)), Logan S. McDaniel, Damien J. Simbeck and Jeffery M. Ray. Department of Biology, University of North Alabama.
- 4:30 **Special Guest Speaker**  
**SMALLMOUTH BASS FISHING ON PICKWICK AND WILSON RESERVOIRS**  
Steve Hacker ([smouth@hiwaay.net](mailto:smouth@hiwaay.net)). Bass Fishing Guide (since 1989 on Pickwick and Wilson; supplier of brood fish for State smallmouth bass hatchery program in Carbon Hill).
- 6:00 **Poster Session and Social at the hotel**  
**Microsatellite DNA markers for population-genetic studies of *Micropterus punctulatus* and *Micropterus cataractae* as well as species identification of two suspected hybrid micropteryids in Halawakee Creek and Osanippa Creek, Alabama**  
Nathan V. Whelan\*, View-Hune Teoh, Phillip M. Harris, Steven M. Sammons, Michael J. Maceina.  
\*University of Alabama, Department of Biological Sciences, Box 870345, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487, [nwhelan@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:nwhelan@crimson.ua.edu)
- A limnological survey of Alabama's water for cyanobacterial toxins**  
RajReni Kaul, Michael Chislock, Kristin Adamson, Gina LoGiudice, and Alan Wilson. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University
- Comparison of standard metabolic rates in the Tennessee cave salamander *Gyrinophilus palleucus* and the spring salamander *Gyrinophilus porphyriticus***  
Brock Huntsman\* and Michael Venarsky. University of Alabama, 201 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Bevell Building, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 [brockhunts@gmail.com](mailto:brockhunts@gmail.com)
- The first record of the exotic oriental weatherfish *Misgurnus anguillicaudatus* in Alabama**  
Brook L. Fluker\*, View-Hune Teoh, and Bernard R. Kuhajda. The University of Alabama, Department of Biological Sciences, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0345, [blfluker@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:blfluker@crimson.ua.edu)
- Life history of the obligate cave crayfish *Orconectes australis***  
Venarsky MP<sup>1</sup>\*, Huryn AD, Kuhajda BR, Benstead JP, University of Alabama, Dept. Of Biological Sciences, 201 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, A122 Bevell Building, Box 870206, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487, [mpvenarsky@bama.ua.edu](mailto:mpvenarsky@bama.ua.edu)
- Aquatic species conservation in the Mobile River Basin – the North River strategic habitat unit**  
Stuart W. McGregor\*, Patrick E. O'Neil, and E. Anne Wynn, Geological Survey of Alabama, P.O. Box 869999, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35486-6999 [smcgregor@gsa.state.al.us](mailto:smcgregor@gsa.state.al.us), and Jeffrey R. Powell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## **Age and growth of North America's freshwater mussel fauna: conservation and management implications**

Andrew L. Rypel<sup>1,2</sup> and Wendell R. Haag<sup>2</sup>. <sup>1</sup>Biology Department, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, U.S.A., [andrewrypel@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewrypel@yahoo.com) <sup>2</sup>US Forest Service, Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, Oxford, MS, U.S.A.

## **Coastal movement of Gulf sturgeon throughout northwest Florida**

Frank Paruka<sup>1</sup> Michelle Duncan<sup>2</sup>, Paul Lane<sup>1</sup>, Beth Wrege<sup>3</sup>, and J.J. Isely<sup>4</sup>. <sup>1</sup>United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 1606 Balboa Ave., Panama City, FL 32405. <sup>2</sup>National Marine Fisheries Service, Panama City, FL 32408. <sup>3</sup>Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Clemson University, SC 29634. <sup>4</sup>USGS South Carolina Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit, Clemson University, SC 29634

## **ADEM Field Operations Display:**

**State of Alabama Water Quality Monitoring Strategy; summary: Brief overview of ADEM monitoring strategy goals and water quality monitoring programs.**

**Water Quality Monitoring Stations; summary: Brief overview of State regulations for water quality and ADEM water quality monitoring that is under development.**

### **Ambient Air Quality Monitoring in Alabama**

Bonnie Hamiter and Ranse Williams. Field Operations Division-Montgomery; Alabama Department of Environmental, 1350 Coliseum Blvd, Montgomery, AL 36110

**Thursday, February 18, 2010**

7:00 - 8:30 Full Breakfast Buffet

## **SESSION 3 RESERVOIR**

**Moderator: Joey Slaughter, GA Power**

8:00 REVIEW OF THE LARGEMOUTH BASS POPULATION IN WILSON RESERVOIR BEFORE, DURING AND FOLLOWING IMPLEMENTATION OF A 15-INCH MINIMUM SIZE LIMIT.

Phil Ekema ([phil.ekema@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:phil.ekema@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

8:20 HISTORY OF BLACK BASS MANAGEMENT AT HARRIS RESERVOIR

Michael P. Holley ([Mike.Holley@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Mike.Holley@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

8:40 15 WITH 14; THE LARGEMOUTH BASS FISHERY AT DEMOPOLIS RESERVOIR AFTER 15 YEARS WITH A 14-INCH MINIMUM LENGTH LIMIT

Jay Haffner ([Jay.Haffner@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Jay.Haffner@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

9:00 DESCRIPTION OF THE BLACK BASS AND CRAPPIE FISHERIES ON BOB WOODRUFF (JONES BLUFF) RESERVOIR

R. Graves Lovell ([graves.lovell@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:graves.lovell@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

9:20 REVIEW OF TRENDS IN THE LARGEMOUTH BASS AND CRAPPIE FISHERY ON WILLIAM DANNELLY (MILLERS FERRY) RESERVOIR

David Armstrong ([david.armstrong@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:david.armstrong@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries.

9:40 SECRETS OF THE CONECUH: GANTT AND POINT A RESERVOIRS

Ken Weathers ([Ken.Weathers@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Ken.Weathers@dcnr.alabama.gov)). Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, 3520 Plaza Drive, Enterprise, Alabama 36360.

10:00 Break

## SESSION 4 CONTRIBUTING PAPERS

**Moderator: Tonya Mayberry, Alabama Department of Environmental Management**

10:20 CYANOBACTERIA BLOOMS AND ASSESSMENT IN GPC RESERVOIRS

Tom Broadwell ([tlbroadw@southernco.com](mailto:tlbroadw@southernco.com)). Georgia Power Company

10:40 POTENTIAL FOR TROPHIC COMPETITION BETWEEN INTRODUCED SPOTTED BASS AND NATIVE SHOAL BASS AND LARGEMOUTH BASS IN THE FLINT RIVER, GEORGIA

S.M. Sammons\* ([sammosm@auburn.edu](mailto:sammosm@auburn.edu)). Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.

11:00 HATCH DATES AND GROWTH RATES OF THREE SPECIES OF AGE-0 BLACK BASS IN THE FLINT RIVER, GEORGIA.

Matthew R. Goclowski\* ([mrg0005@auburn.edu](mailto:mrg0005@auburn.edu)) and Steven M. Sammons. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.

11:20 THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ADVANCED OXIDATION TECHNIQUES COUPLED WITH SONICATION IN DEGRADING ENVIRONMENTAL ESTROGENS IN WASTEWATER

Bryan S. Arwood ([arwood@uab.edu](mailto:arwood@uab.edu)). Department of Biology, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

11:40 ADEM WATER QUALITY MONITORING: CURRENT STATUS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Fred Leslie ([fal@adem.state.al.us](mailto:fal@adem.state.al.us)). Alabama Department of Environmental Management

12:00-1:30pm Lunch (on your own)

## SESSION 5 AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY

**Moderator: Andrew Henderson, Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries**

1:40 STATUS OF NONINDIGENOUS RED SHINER (*Cyprinella lutrensis*) IN ALABAMA

Heath Haley\* ([haleyth@auburn.edu](mailto:haleyth@auburn.edu)), Carol Johnston and Emily Hartfield. Department of Fisheries, and Allied Aquaculture, Auburn University.

- 2:00 HEARING AND THE EFFECT OF NOISE ON ALABAMA FISHES  
Daniel E. Holt\* ([holtdan@auburn.edu](mailto:holtdan@auburn.edu)) and Dr. Carol E. Johnston. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture, Auburn University.
- 2:20 PHYLOGEOGRAPHY OF THE ROCK DARTER SPECIES COMPLEX IN THE MOBILE BASIN, *Etheostoma Rupestre* (TELEOSTOMI: PERCIDAE)  
Alexis M. Janosik\* ([amjanosik@gmail.com](mailto:amjanosik@gmail.com)) and C.E. Johnston. Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University.
- 2:40 SOUND PRODUCTION AND REPRODUCTIVE BEHAVIOR IN THE *Catonotus* DARTERS OF NORTHERN ALABAMA  
Patty Speares\* ([pas0004@auburn.edu](mailto:pas0004@auburn.edu)) and Carol Johnston. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture, Auburn University.
- 3:00 Break
- 3:20 SYSTEMATICS OF THE COOSA BASS COMPLEX IN ALABAMA  
Carol Johnston\* ([Johnsc5@auburn.edu](mailto:Johnsc5@auburn.edu)), Winston Baker, and Rebecca Johansen. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.
- 3:40 THE LAST STAND OF THE ALABAMA SHOAL BASS: CONSERVATION STATUS OF SHOAL BASS IN ALABAMA TRIBUTARY STREAMS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER  
Steven M. Sammons\* ([sammosm@auburn.edu](mailto:sammosm@auburn.edu)). Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.
- 4:00 CONSEQUENCES OF LOW-HEAD DAMS TO CRAYFISH ASSEMBLAGES AND GENE FLOW IN ALABAMA STREAMS  
Emily E. Hartfield\* ([hartfee@auburn.edu](mailto:hartfee@auburn.edu)), Michael M. Gangloff, Scott R. Santos, and Jack W. Feminella. Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University.
- 4:20 DISPERSAL ABILITY AND GENETIC VARIABILITY IN TWO CLOSELY RELATED SPRING-DEPENDENT DARTERS, *Etheostoma boschungii* AND *E. tuscumbia*  
Brook L. Fluker\* ([bfluker@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:bfluker@crimson.ua.edu)), Bernard R. Kuhajda, and Phillip M. Harris. Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alabama.
- 4:40 FINDINGS FROM 22 YEARS OF FISH COMMUNITY MONITORING IN TENNESSEE VALLEY STREAMS OF ALABAMA  
Charles F. Saylor ([cfsaylor@tva.gov](mailto:cfsaylor@tva.gov)). U. S. Tennessee Valley Authority.

## Friday, February 19, 2010

7:00 - 8:30 AM Full Breakfast Buffet

### SESSION 6 AQUACULTURE

**Moderator: Greg Whitis, Alabama Cooperative Extension System**

- 8:20 PARTITIONED AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS: FIRST YEAR RESULTS OF A COMMERCIAL SPLIT POND IN WEST ALABAMA  
Gregory N. Whitis ([whitign@auburn.edu](mailto:whitign@auburn.edu)), Extension Aquaculturist, Alabama Cooperative Extension System.
- 8:40 CURRENT NUTRITION RESEARCH WITH FLORIDA POMPANO (*Trachinotus carolinus*)  
D. Allen Davis\* ([davisda@auburn.edu](mailto:davisda@auburn.edu)), Waldemar Rossi Junior and Mayra L. González-Félix. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.
- 9:00 A REVIEW OF REMEDIATION TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE PRODUCTION OF THE PACIFIC WHITE SHRIMP (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) IN INLAND SALINE WATERS OF WEST ALABAMA  
Luke A. Roy\* ([royluke@auburn.edu](mailto:royluke@auburn.edu)), D. Allen Davis, I. Patrick Saoud, Claude E. Boyd, Harvey J. Pine, Chris A. Boyd, David B. Rouse, Martin Perez-Velazquez. Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures, Auburn University.
- 9:20 AQUACULTURE AS A TOOL TO TEACH MATH & SCIENCE TO K-12 STUDENTS: BARRIERS AND OPPORTUNITIES  
David J. Cline ([clinedj@auburn.edu](mailto:clinedj@auburn.edu)). Extension Aquaculturist, Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Break
- 9:40 Break
- 10:00 THE IMPACT OF THE DOUBLE CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) ON AQUACULTURE AND NATURAL FISHERIES: AN ALABAMA PERSPECTIVE  
Jerry J. Feist ([Jerry.J.Feist@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Jerry.J.Feist@aphis.usda.gov)). USDA- Wildlife Services
- 10:20 *Aeromonas hydrophila*, AN EMERGING THREAT TO THE US FARM RAISED CATFISH INDUSTRY  
William G. Hemstreet ([hemstwi@auburn.edu](mailto:hemstwi@auburn.edu)), Fish Health Biologist, Alabama Fish Farming Center
- 10:40 AFA Business Meeting
- 11:30 Meeting Adjourned