PROGRAM

Southern Division
American Fisheries Society

Galveston Island, Texas
January 24-27, 2019

Hosted by the
Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

at
Moody Gardens
SDAFS Registration is on the First Floor of the Convention Center.

Presentation Loading will take place next to Registration.

All meeting rooms except for Ivy and Vine are on the second floor of the Convention Center.
SDAFS 2019 Annual Meeting Organizing Committee

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:
Dan Daugherty, General Meeting Chair
Ken Kurzawski, Scheduling and Logistics

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:
Alice Best, Program Chair
Allison Pease, Symposia
Chris Mace, Oral Session
Jake Norman, Poster Session
Lynn Wright, Continuing Education

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Tom Lang, Chair
Randy Rushin, Tradeshow and Exhibits
Stephen Curtis, Auction and Raffle
Stephanie George, Auction and Raffle
Ben Yeager

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Annette Sudyka

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Niki Ragan-Harbison
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George Guillen, Local Arrangements
Debbie Wade, Publicity and Advertising
Michele Nations, Social Media
Josh Perkin, Student-Mentor Lunch
Jessica Baumann, Camtasia Recording
Nicole Rankin, Best Student Presentation
Judging and Student Volunteer Coordinator
Alice Best, Artist and Graphic Designer

2017-2018 Texas Chapter Officer and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT
Michael Homer

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Dan Daugherty

PAST PRESIDENT
Randy Rushin

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Awards
Michele Nations

Continuing Education
Lynn Wright

Editorial
Dan Daugherty

Endowments
Dave Terre

History
Michele Nations

Internet
John Taylor / Sarah Haas

Issues
Mark Webb

Membership
Debbie Wade

Newsletter Editor
Kevin Storey

Nominating
Dan Bennett

Pond Management
Greg Binion

Publicity/Exhibits
Stephen Curtis / Stephanie George

Scholarship Committee
Jennifer Butler

Student Activities
Josh Perkin
I would like to extend a warm, Texas welcome to the participants of the 27th Annual Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society (SDAFS) at Moody Gardens in Galveston, January 24-27, 2019. This represents the third opportunity for the Texas Chapter to host this meeting, with the previous two being held in San Antonio. Texas has more culture, history, and cuisine to share with you, and our Texas Chapter planning team has worked diligently with local partners to provide an excellent venue, meeting program, and social activities during your stay.

Galveston, and its namesake island and protected port, offers a rich history, from shipwrecked Spanish explorers (Cabeza de Vaca and crew), to occupying pirates (Jean Lafitte), temporarily serving as the capitol of the Republic of Texas (1836), being bloodied by a Civil War battle (January 1863), witnessing the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at the Harbor Pier (June 19, 1865; precursor of Juneteenth celebrations), and welcoming multiple waves of European (mostly German and Czech) immigrants. During the 19th century, Galveston’s port and financial district were known as the center of trade for Texas and one of the most economically-important port cities on the Gulf coast. In September 1900, the island city was devastated by a hurricane that killed between 6,000 – 8,000 inhabitants, still holding the notorious distinction as the nation’s worst natural disaster on record. Following the storm, a seawall was built to protect the city from storm surges and major infrastructure investments were made further inland to convert Buffalo Bayou into the Houston Ship Channel. Galveston is home to six historic districts containing one of the largest and historically significant collections of 19th-century buildings in the U.S., with over 60 structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places, maintained by the National Park Service.

Galveston Bay and associated estuaries offer a diversity of recreational and commercial fish and shellfish industries, even in the face of significant industrial development. The bay complex has experienced numerous ecological restoration projects to make it more resilient to anthropogenic and environmental changes. While you are here, we encourage you to learn more about the area and take advantage of all the opportunities that Galveston and the Moody Gardens facility have to offer, including beaches, restaurants and pubs, museums, aquaria, exhibits, historical architecture, state and city parks, and a host of other activities.

We know that you will have an excellent experience, and if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please connect with one of the Texas Chapter’s Planning Committee members or a SDAFS officer. Thanks, and enjoy your visit!

Craig Bonds
SDAFS President
Howdy! On behalf of the Texas Chapter, I’d like to welcome you to the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society at Moody Gardens Hotel & Resort here in Galveston, TX. Our chapter is honored to host this gathering of fisheries professionals, students, and enthusiasts to network and share the innovative projects and research that have been occurring in fisheries. This meeting would not have been possible without your attendance as well as the generous support of our sponsors, tradeshow exhibitors, presenters, and our volunteers – thank you.

During this year’s meeting, numerous committees will be meeting, 13 continuing education workshops will be provided, and 215 presentations and 86 posters will be given among 10 symposia and technical sessions. While we have a busy program for the next four days, the Planning Committee has also integrated opportunities for pleasure and networking with our meeting socials, exhibitor tradeshow, and banquet in conjunction with the other primary aspects of the meeting – we hope you enjoy what has been planned.

During your stay, please be sure to take advantage of the local attractions on-site as well as on the island. If you are an ornithology enthusiast, Galveston offers some of the best birding experiences in the country. Should you have any questions about the meeting, please be sure to visit the registration area for assistance.

Again, thank you for joining us this year!

Michael Homer Jr.
Texas Chapter President

A note on safety from our hosts at Moody Gardens

First Aid and Medical Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, call 911 and provide your location. After 911 has been contacted, inform Hotel Security of the emergency. Hotel Security will work with the Mobile Security Officer to direct emergency personnel to the location of the emergency. Hotel Security will respond with a first aid kit and an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). AEDs are located in the Hotel, Convention Center, Aquarium, Visitors Center/Palm Beach, Mobile Security Unit, Colonel Paddlewheeler, and Golf Course.

In the event of an non-emergency injury or incident, inform the Security Department via phone or ask a staff member for assistance.

Hotel Security Office (409) 683-4400 or ext. 4400 using an in-house phone
Hotel Operator (409) 683-4000 or ext. 0 using an in-house phone

If an emergency requires evacuation the audio system will broadcast a message with instructions. If instructed, please exit the building in an orderly manner through the nearest fire exit. Evacuation Assembly Areas have been established at the Oleander Bowl, Vietnam Memorial Circle, and Central Parking Lot. Please do not reenter the building unless a Hotel Manager or a Security Officer instructs you to do so.

Galveston Urgent Care & Hospital Information

West Isle Urgent Care
2027 61st Street
Galveston, TX 77551
(409) 744-9800

UTMB Emergency Room Galveston
901 Harborside Drive,
Galveston, TX 77555
(409) 772-1191
Open 24 hours/7 days week
Dining

In-house options:

Café in the Park features a wide variety of breakfast, lunch, and dinner options from classic burgers to jumbo gulf shrimp, along with breakfast and lunch buffets during the conference. Open daily from 6:30 am to 10:00 pm.

Lobby Bar provides a great alternative for lunch, dinner, and drinks, with a full-service menu. Open 11 am to 12 pm Thursday, 11 am to 1 am Friday and Saturday.

Shearn’s Seafood and Prime Steaks is an upscale, premiere dining destination in Galveston. Open 5:30 to 10 pm. Please note that a dress code does apply (see www.moodygardenshotel.com/shearns).

Moody Brews café features Starbucks beverages and grab-and-go food items. Open daily at 7:00 am.

Expo Hall Concessions will offer a variety of food and beverage options immediately outside of the tradeshow hall. Open daily 7am - 4pm Friday to Saturday.

Off-site options:

Galveston Island is home to a wide variety of quality restaurants. Simply use your smartphone to narrow down your choice! Please note that many of these options will require a 10-15 minute drive, so plan accordingly.

Getting Around

Galveston Island Trolley provides easy transportation around Galveston Island on two loops with transfer available at 21st Street and Seawall Blvd. The Seawall Shuttle loop stops outside the Moody Gardens Hotel every 30 minutes and costs $1.00. The trolley operates from Monday - Thursday 11:00 m to 7:00 pm and Friday - Sunday 10:00 am to 10:00 pm.

Island Transit operates a bus system on Galveston Island seven days a week; however, hours are limited. Information on routes, times, and fares can be found at http://www.galvestontx.gov/393/Transportation.
Local Attractions

Moody Gardens has several great attractions, including the Aquarium Pyramid (which will host the Thursday night Welcome Social), the Rainforest Pyramid with Amazon river fishes exhibit, the Colonel Paddlewheel Boat, as well as a ropes course and zipline for those that need to get up and move! Moody Gardens is also home to a 3D theater with the largest movie screen in Texas, as well as the 4D Special FX Theater. All Moody Gardens attractions are within walking distance of the hotel and the hotel can provide transportation for those with limited mobility. Visit www.moodygardens.com/attractions for more information.

Fishing

January 2019 Fishing Report: Fishing from Galveston stays good most of the year. Wade fishing from the bay-side has been good for Spotted Seatrout and Red Drum. Fishing from the larger jetties on the gulf-side have been yielding bull Red Drum and Sheepshead. Smaller beach-side jetties and fishing piers have been good for a variety of fish species. Almost everything this time of year can be caught on medium-light tackle with live or artificial shrimp under a popping cork.

Galveston Island State Park provides bay and beach fishing access. Fishing piers and jetties dot the beach along the seawall and provide angler access to the entire surf line. The Galveston Fishing Pier and the 61st Street Fishing Pier are commercial fishing piers on the gulf that provide bait, tackle, and refreshments. Seawolf Park is a popular free fishing location at the Mouth of Galveston Bay which is also home to WWII submarine the USS Cavalla and the destroyer escort USS Stewart. Galveston is also home to many private charter fishing boats and party boats, see https://www.galveston.com/fishingcharters/.

A Texas Fishing License is required to fish from shore or boat in Galveston (except in Galveston Island State Park). Licenses can be purchased on the island at Academy or Walmart, or online at: https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/licenses/online_sales/.
Local Attractions

Galveston Island State Park (https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/galveston-island): spans the breadth of Galveston Island from bay to beach. Head down to the park to see what the undeveloped coastline of Texas looks like, enjoy some of the best birding on the island, walk on a quiet beach, or catch a local redfish! Texas Fishing Licenses are not required if you are fishing within State Park boundaries.

The Seawall and the Great Storm: In 1900 the Island of Galveston was devasted by the Great Storm, a hurricane which remains the deadliest in U.S. history. In response, the Galveston community raised the island and built a seawall to protect itself from future storms. Now the seawall provides excellent views of the gulf, access to beaches, and a popular walking and jogging route. Renting a bike or pedal-powered surrey to cruise along the top of the seawall is a tradition among many Texans visiting Galveston. Multiple rental companies can be found on Seawall Blvd. To learn more about the Great Storm of 1900, visit the Pier 21 Theater for the daily showing of The Great Storm or visit the Rosenberg Library’s exhibit on the storm.

The Strand Historic District (www.downtowngalveston.org): Strand Street was once the center of commerce in Galveston and is now home to shops, galleries, and restaurants, all housed in historic buildings.

Texas Seaport Museum and the Elissa (https://www.galveston.com/texasseaportmuseum/): The Texas Seaport Museum tells of the rich legacy of seaborne commerce and immigration in Galveston, once known as the “Wall Street of the Southwest” for its roll in trade, and “The Ellis Island of the West” for the 133,000 immigrants that came through the port to settle Texas and the American West. The Seaport Museum is also home to the celebrated tallship Elissa a fully restored barque from 1877, which is open to visitors daily.

The Bryan Museum (https://www.thebryanmuseum.org/): The Bryan Museum, located in the historic Galveston Orphans Home, houses The Bryan Collection which is one of the world’s largest collections of historical artifacts, documents, and artwork relating to Texas and the American West.

Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier (www.pleasurepier.com): More than 40 years after the original Pleasure Pier was destroyed by Hurricane Carla, the new Pleasure Pier is a world-class amusement park for all ages. The Pleasure Pier features family-oriented attractions including rides, midway games, a wide selection of food venues, and retail shops—all suspended over the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.
Exhibitors, Posters, TCAFS Auction, and Breaks

This year we’ve combined our exhibitors, posters, TCAFS fundraising auction preview, and breaks in one place!

Check out Exhibit Hall A to relax and converse in the soft chair lounge seating areas, enjoy each session’s break refreshments, and recharge your phone, laptop, or iPad at one of the charging stations.

Don’t miss the awesome auction item preview tables to support TCAFS! Our live auction and raffle supports the TCAFS Scholarship Endowment and will take place Saturday night after the banquet.

Thank you to Tim Dietz with Get A Bid Auctions for hosting our Live Auction! For more info go to: www.getabidauctions.com - TDLR 17887

Exhibitors
A. Mossback Fish Attractor
B. Miller Net Company
C. Smith-Root
D. BioSonics Inc.
E. Water Monitoring Solutions
F. Pond King
G. Fishiding
H. Texas Alliance for America’s Fish and Wildlife
I. Hydro Glow
I. Pond Boss
J. Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership (Donated by Bass Pro Shops)
K. American Fish Tree
L. Vemco
M. Lochow Ranch Pond & Lake Management
N. Sonotronics
O. USFS/USFWS
P. Leaky Canoe Art Studio
Q. Biomark
R. Pentair Aquatic Eco-Systems
S. Oregon RFID
T. Midwest Lake Electrofishing Systems
Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, 23 January 2019
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Registration Convention Center (1st Floor)

Thursday, 24 January 2019
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration Convention Center (1st Floor)
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Presentation Loading Convention Center (1st Floor)
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM Exhibits and Poster Set-up Expo Hall A

SDAFS Technical Committee Meetings
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Catfish Floral Hall A1
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Morone Wisteria
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Reservoir Floral Hall A2
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Warmwater Streams Rose
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Pollution Tulip
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Alligator Gar Jasmine

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Break Floral Hall Lobby (2nd Floor)
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch On your own

Friday, 25 January 2019
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Registration Convention Center (1st Floor)
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM Presentation Loading Convention Center (1st Floor)
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM Exhibits, Posters, and Breaks Expo Hall A

Continuing Education Workshops
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM BioBase Habitat Mapping Floral Hall A1
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Acoustic Telemetry Floral Hall A2
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Finfish Age Estimation Rose
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Reservoir Habitat BMPs Wisteria
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Improving Communication with Stakeholders and Policy Decisions Tulip
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Nature, Wildlife, and Landscape Photos Jasmine
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Fish Kill Investigation Methodology Ivy 1
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM Leading at all Levels in AFS Ivy 2
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Alligator Gar Research Techniques Vine 1

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Break Expo Hall A
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch On your own
Friday, 25 January 2019

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM  **Continuing Education Workshops**
SDAFS Past President's Lunch  Viewfinders Terrace 9th Floor
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  BioBase Mapping Demo  Moody Marina
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  Fish Kill Investigation Exercise  Expo Hall Marina
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  Uncomfortable Conversations  Tulip
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  Effective Peer Review  Ivy 2
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM  Social and Traditional Media Tactics  Floral Hall A2
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM  Getting Hired (for Students)  Jasmine
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM  **Break**
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  SDAFS Business Meeting  Expo Hall A
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM  Trade Show and Poster Social  Expo Hall A

Saturday, 26 January 2019

7:00 AM – 5:00 PM  **Registration**
Convention Center (1st Floor)
7:00 AM – 5:00 PM  Presentation Loading
Convention Center (1st Floor)
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  Exibits, Posters, and Breaks  Expo Hall A
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  Symposium/Contributed Presentations
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM  Symposium/Contributed Presentations  Expo Hall A
10:00 AM – 10:20 AM  **Break**
Expo Hall A
11:00 AM – 1:20 PM  Lunch  On your own
12:00 PM – 1:20 PM  Student-Mentor Lunch  Café in the Park
1:20 PM – 5:00 PM  Symposium/Contributed Presentations
3:00 PM – 3:20 PM  **Break**
Expo Hall A
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  Women's Leadership Group  Hotel Room 154
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM  TCAFS Business Meeting  Floral Hall A1
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM  Pre-Banquet Social  Moody Ballroom South Foyer
7:00 PM – 10:00 PM  Banquet, Auction, and Raffle  Moody Ballroom

Sunday, 27 January 2019

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM  **TCAFS Past-President's Breakfast**
Monarch Room - Café in the Park
7:00 AM – 10:00 AM  Presentation Loading  Convention Center (1st Floor)
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  Exhibit and Poster Take-down  Expo Hall A
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM  Symposium/Contributed Presentations
10:00 AM – 10:20 AM  **Break**
Floral Hall Lobby (2nd Floor)
12:00 PM  Adjourn
Symposia

Note: Organizers of symposia with an asterisk (*) are pursuing the option of peer-reviewed publication of manuscripts associated with papers presented.

Advances in the Conservation and Management of North American Gars*
Contact: Nate Smith (nate.smith@tpwd.texas.gov)
Subsequent to their designation as vulnerable in a review of conservation status of North American fishes in 2008, great efforts have been undertaken to understand the biology of the Alligator Gar. This symposium aims to disseminate this information in support of applied management and restoration of Alligator Gar populations across North America. While the focus is on Alligator Gar, we are also considering presentations aimed at management of other species in the family Lepisosteidae. Presentations (oral and poster) will include research related to life history, biology, ecology, culture, and management of gars. We also encourage submission of associated manuscripts for publication in a special section of North American Journal of Fisheries Management.

American Eel Research and Conservation in the Gulf of Mexico: What Are We Doing and Where Are We Headed?
Contact: Stephen Curtis (stephen.curtis@tpwd.texas.gov)
American Eel (Anguilla rostrata) in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM) and associated drainages are understudied. With the evolving worldwide demand for freshwater eels, American Eel have received increased attention as a species of commercial harvest in recent years. Much of our recent efforts to understand the life history of American Eel have been focused on the eastern coast of North America. Gulf of Mexico American Eel present unique challenges and opportunities for fisheries researchers and managers as we work to better understand their distribution and abundance, life history and movement patterns, and population structure within the GoM region. This symposium looks to share some of the methods and approaches being used to assess the status of American Eel throughout the greater GoM, Southeast United States, and Caribbean to better inform and coordinate research frameworks and conservation actions.

Best Student Presentation Symposium – Oral or Poster
Contact: Nicole Rankin (nicole_rankin@fws.gov)
The Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society supports awards for Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster at the annual SDAFS meeting. Students interested in competing for the Best Student Presentation or the Best Student Poster should select the appropriate symposium at the time of abstract submission. Finalists for the Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster will be selected based on submitted abstracts and notified prior to the meeting. Finalists selected for the Best Student Presentation Symposium will present on Saturday, 26 January 2019. Submissions for Best Student Poster will be judged during the Poster Session on Friday, 25 January 2019.

Charismatic and Enigmatic Megafauna*
Contact: John Mohan (jmohan@tamu.edu)
Aquatic megafauna exhibit diverse life history strategies, and play important trophic roles in marine ecosystems. The behavior and ecology of megafauna are often enigmatic, as many are characterized by low abundances, high longevity and a propensity for long-distance movements. Advanced research techniques, including the use of electronic instrumentation, genetic primers, and natural chemical biomarkers have increased our understanding of megafauna behavior, population structure, and responses to environmental and anthropogenic stressors. This symposium will focus on current research in aquatic megafauna ecology and management including: 1) life history information such as age, growth, reproduction and feeding ecology; 2) population dynamics including migration patterns, population connectivity and stock structure; and 3) behavioral and physiological responses to environmental and anthropogenic stressors. Studies employing traditional fishery dependent and independent datasets, advanced electronic tags (acoustic & satellite telemetry), and innovative natural tags (genetics, stable isotopes, trace elements) with results directed at management applications, are especially encouraged.
Symposia Continued

Congratulations on Your Promotion to Management: Considerations for New Supervisory Biologists
Contact: Cecil Jennings (jennings@uga.edu)
The aim of this symposium is to provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of mid-level managers in natural resource organizations to mid-career biologists considering applying to a supervisory position or those who have been recently-promoted to such a position. The information presented will cover a range of non-scientific topics (e.g., personnel, budgets, procurement, safety) with which the new supervisor will have to contend, and do so without formal training in those areas. The need for this type of information is great as many state, federal, and NGO natural resource agencies nationally are facing large-scale retirements as the last of the baby boomers reach retirement age. Accordingly, many mid-level biologists at these agencies will be recruited to fill the recently or soon-to-be vacated supervisory positions, but without the benefit of formal training in this area as these topics are seldom covered in graduate fisheries curricula. This symposium will introduce new and aspiring supervisors to the opportunities and challenges inherent in their new position as well as to a cadre of professionals from whom they can learn. The topics covered in this symposium will facilitate a smooth transition from mid-career biologist to a supervisory biologist and will help fulfill agency mission in natural resource stewardship.

Embracing the Fisheries Opportunities in the Urban Landscape
Contact: Niki Ragan (niki.ragan@tpwd.texas.gov)
As populations continue to shift toward growing metropolitan areas, the number of urban fisheries - and their importance - is increasing. Urban fisheries' accessibility and proximity to large portions of the population present increased angling and recreational activities to urban residents. However, urban fisheries also face challenges that traditional fisheries do not, including perceived and genuine absence of fishing opportunities, environmental challenges associated with urbanized watersheds, impeded access for anglers and resource managers, and atypical levels of fishing pressure. Resource managers, recreation specialists, and angling advocates are finding new opportunities to overcome challenges like these while connecting urban residents to fishing resources and angling. This symposium brings together ideas and approaches for addressing fisheries management, expansion, and promotion in urban centers.

Morone Biology and Management
Contact: Jake Norman (jake.norman@tpwd.texas.gov)
An overview of current research and management topics dealing with Striped Bass, Hybrid Striped Bass, White Bass and other pertinent Morone species within the Southeastern US. Presentation topics will include stocking procedures, sampling methods, angler motivations/creel surveys, Striped Bass and Hybrid Striped Bass Culture, evaluating year class strength in wild Morone stocks, and others. The broad scope of this symposium will help biologists incorporate new ideas into their respective state's Morone research and management and provide a great setting for biologist to discuss issues across the southeast region. While Morone culture has been deeply studied, there is a paucity of published research focused on Morone fisheries and associated management. This symposium will highlight what biologists already know and what information is still needed to improve our Morone fisheries across the US.

Small Impoundment Management: Addressing Multifaceted Objectives in Fisheries
Contact: Marcos De Jesus (marcos.dejesus@tpwd.texas.gov)
Southern states are experiencing a population boom. More people are targeting southern states and their large cites to pursue new opportunities. As fishing competes with other fast-paced activities in growing communities, fisheries professionals are challenged to keep recreational fishing relevant in the coming years. More concerning, population growth has outpaced license sales in many states. It is important to serve our existing anglers; however, it’s also important to generate new anglers and increase future license buyers. With today's time and money constraints, fishing opportunities need to be affordable and close to home. Small impoundments (< 200 hectares) are usually optimal for anglers looking for these attributes. With many operated publicly, state conservation agencies can partner to manage these systems to provide optimal fishing experiences. Issues like pond aging, limited fish habitat and access, population dynamics, and angler recruitment, reactivation, and retention are among many that are addressed by fisheries professionals across southern states. The private industry and university researchers have also approached similar issues in ways that could transpose to public small impoundment management. This symposium will provide a venue to share localized management approaches with the fisheries community to help address defined challenges we face as small impoundment managers.
Symposia Continued

Recovering America’s Wildlife Act: The Grand Vision and Funding for Conservation
Contact: Tom Lang (tom.lang@tpwd.texas.gov), Tim Birdsong (Timothy.Birdsong@tpwd.texas.gov)
Sponsor: AFS Fish Habitat Section
Fish and wildlife face a myriad of threats in the United States including loss of habitat, degradation of habitat, pollution, climate change, invasive species, and disease. Although Pittman-Robertson, DingellJohnson, and Wallop-Breaux have provided unparalleled funding or wildlife and sportfish restoration and have garnered many conservation successes, State Wildlife Action Plans collectively have identified nearly 12,000 species nationwide that are in need of conservation attention and action. These species of greatest conservation need are at-risk of moving onto the threatened and endangered species lists. The Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America’s Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources (a nonpartisan panel of 26 national leaders representing conservation organizations, the energy industry, outdoor recreation retailers, sportsmen’s group, and governmental agencies) was organized to develop recommendations for securing dedicated funding that would fully provide for our nation’s fish and wildlife species. The panel developed a recommendation that would eventually become HR4647 the bipartisan “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act” sponsored by Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.) and Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.). If passed this Act would dedicate $1.3 billion annually in existing revenues from the development of energy and mineral resources on federal lands and waters to the currently unfunded Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Account. These funds would then be distributed to the state natural resource agencies to implement State Wildlife Action Plans which are designed to conserve at-risk species and keep them off of the threatened and endangered list. This symposium will provide a detailed examination of HR4647 and its current status, include reviews of multiple State Wildlife Action Plans and their important activities that would be funded through this Act, review of AFS and our partner’s efforts to support the Act, and ways that AFS members, Sections, and Chapters can help to support this visionary bill that could change the future of fish and wildlife indefinitely.

Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Enhancement
Contact: Tom Lang (tom.lang@tpwd.texas.gov), Jeff Boxrucker (jboxrucker@sbcglobal.net)
Sponsors: Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership, AFS Fish Habitat Section, Mossback Fish Attractor, and Bio Base
Reservoirs provide a plethora of tremendously important societal benefits including but not limited to water supply, flood control, hydropower, ecosystem services, and recreational activities including boating, hunting, and fishing. However, over time, the ability of reservoirs to provide significant benefits diminishes as habitat impairments intensify. Fisheries managers are uniquely positioned to recognize evidence of reservoir aging-related impacts early in their expression through their regular fisheries population and habitat assessment duties. Thus, while construction of reservoirs was typically conducted with fisheries as an afterthought, fisheries managers are increasingly finding themselves leading the charge to restore reservoirs. This dynamic provides great opportunities for fisheries resource interests to be a primary concern in restoration efforts but also brings challenges like developing and managing partnerships and volunteers, and fundraising efforts. The Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership (RFHP), one of 20 Fish Habitat Partnerships comprising the National Fish Habitat Partnership, has been providing granting and networking opportunities to fisheries professionals and lay users of reservoir resources since 2010. A tremendous number of partnership efforts among fisheries management agencies, municipalities, corporations and anglers have occurred. Habitat restoration efforts, best management practices, Friends of Reservoirs Chapter efforts, outreach, education, fundraising, and research efforts will be discussed as well.
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<th>Authors</th>
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<td>David Norris, Giancarlo Coppola, Mike E. Colvin, Marcus A. Lashley, Leandro E. Miranda</td>
<td>Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Enhancement</td>
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<td>The Effect Of Feed Level Zinc Methionine On The Performance Of Farm Raised Catfish During Oxygen Stress</td>
<td>Joshua Stone, Heather Mathewson, Barry Lambert, Dale Tiemann</td>
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<td>Morphological, Histopathological, And Molecular Identification Of An Echinochasmus Sp. Metacercaria In Farm-Raised Catfish Production Systems In Northeast Mississippi</td>
<td>Thomas Miles, Justin Stilwell, Ethan Woodyard, Alvin Camus, Matt Griffin, Thomas Rosser</td>
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<td>Microplastics In Mississippi River Watershed Fishes</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Angler Doppler Radar: Spatial Mapping Using Residence Data From Creel Surveys</td>
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| 31 | Impact Of Land Use Practices On Fisheries Ecology Of Two Rivers In North Central Texas.  
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35. Water Quality Assessment Of The Upper Neches River Watershed  
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36. Do Chubs Change Their Spots? Using Natural Markers To Track Small Fish In Big Rivers  
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37. Pigmentation As A Potential Stress Indicator In Paddlefish  
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   Charismatic and Enigmatic Megafauna

38. Niche Segregation Among Sunfishes (Lepomis Spp.) In An East Texas Urban Stream  
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39. Updated Checklist And Drainage Basin Keys For Inland Fishes Of Texas  
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40. Evaluating Length Bias In Three-Pass Depletion Backpack Electrofishing  
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41. Assessment Of The Sulphur River Basin Fish Communities  
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45. Effect Of Formalin Preservation On Fish Morphology Over Time: Implications For Morphological Studies  
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47. Mapping The Current Range Of Species In Genus Macrobrachium Across Texas  
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48. Verifying Genomically-Informed Ecological Niche Models  
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**Saturday, January 26th, Oral Presentations**

LUNCH (on your own)

Student-Mentor Lunch (Cafe in the Park)
**Saturday, January 26th, Oral Presentations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:20 PM</td>
<td>Floral Hall A2</td>
<td>Using Artificial Habitat Structures To Supplement Natural Brush Fish Attractor Sites&lt;br&gt;Marcos J. De Jesus</td>
<td>Resilience Exemplified - Using Artificial Habitat Structures To Supplement Natural Brush Fish Attractor Sites&lt;br&gt;Christopher Biggs&lt;br&gt;Thomas Kwak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:40 PM</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>Evaluating The Market Potential And Economic Feasibility Of Marine Baitfish Aquaculture&lt;br&gt;Prong Nguyen</td>
<td>Genetic Population Structure Of Alligator Gar In Texas&lt;br&gt;Henry Hershey&lt;br&gt;Jeff Quinn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>An Overview Of Arkansas Game And Fish Large Scale Fisheries Habitat Projects&lt;br&gt;D. Colton Dennis</td>
<td>Insights On High-Profile Tournament Bowfishers&lt;br&gt;Jason Schodley&lt;br&gt;Autor J. Vale</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:20 PM</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>Louisiana Artificial Reef Effort: An Evolving Framework&lt;br&gt;Sean Kinney</td>
<td>Preliminary Assessment Of American Eel Demographics At The Toledo Bend Hydropower Project, Sabine River, Gulf Of Mexico&lt;br&gt;Drew Dutterer&lt;br&gt;Arturo J. Vale</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:40 PM</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>Reservoir Fisheries Enhancement Projects In Georgia&lt;br&gt;Scott Robinson</td>
<td>Essential Nursery Habitat Of An Iconic Estuine-Dependent Spotfish In Apalachicola Bay, FL Using Regression Trees And Spatial Hot Spot Analysis&lt;br&gt;David A. Gandy</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>Break (Expo Hall A)</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Floral Hall A1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:20</td>
<td>Assessment Of Fish Habitat Associations In The Trinity River-Lake Livingston Ecosystem, Texas</td>
<td>Influences Of Sampling Method And Season On Florida Largemouth Bass Genetic Introgression At Chickamauugh Reservoir, Tennessee</td>
<td>Advances in the Conservation and Management of North American Gars</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>Reservoir Fish Habitat Enhancement Opportunities In The Ferc Relicensing Process</td>
<td>A Plan For Enhancing Trophy Largemouth Bass Fisheries In Virginia Reservoirs Via Stocking</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:20</td>
<td>Creating And Keeping Volunteer Armies</td>
<td>Stock Enhancement Of Puerto Rico Reservoirs Before And After Hurricane Maria — Challenges And Opportunities</td>
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<td>4:40</td>
<td>Development And Application Of A Politically Strategic Partnership Expansion Matrix For Influencing State Reservoir Reinvestment Policies</td>
<td>Examining 21 Years Of American Shad Hatchery Contributions To The Spawning Stock In The James River, Va</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00-7:00 PM</td>
<td>TCAFS Business Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM– 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Pre-Banquet Social</td>
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<td>7:00-10:00 PM</td>
<td>Banquet, Auction, and Raffle</td>
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Saturday, January 26th, Oral Presentations
## Sunday, 27th, Oral Presentations

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Floral Hall A1</th>
<th>Floral Hall A2</th>
<th>Rose</th>
<th>Wisteria</th>
<th>Jasmine</th>
<th>Ivy 1</th>
<th>Ivy 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Recovering America’s Wildlife Act</td>
<td>Contributed</td>
<td>Embracing the Fisheries Opportunities in the Urban Landscape</td>
<td>Contributed</td>
<td>Considerations for New Supervisory Biologists</td>
<td>Contributed</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:20 AM</td>
<td>Situational Examination Of Major Fish And Wildlife Funding Legislation Efforts Tom Lang</td>
<td>Toledo Bend Reservoir Spillway Repair: Moving Fish And Water On A Large Scale Sean Kinney</td>
<td>Keeping Fishing Relevant For Today’s Urban Anglers Mark Webb</td>
<td>Family Education In Neighborhood Fishing Ponds Michael Scherer</td>
<td>Assessing Temporal Shifts In Lotic Fish Community Structure In The Upper Red River Basin Trevor Stark</td>
<td>Help Wanted: How Guidance For Replacing Yourself And Others Cecil A. Jennings</td>
<td>A Cryptic Invader: Snps Inform Asian Swamp Eel Management Andrew T. Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:40 AM</td>
<td>Overview Of The Texas Alliance And Statewide Efforts To Date Rachel Rommel</td>
<td>Texas Native Fish Conservation Areas Network: A Framework For Planning And Delivery Of Conservation Investments Through The Recovering America’s Wildlife Act Timothy Birdsong</td>
<td>Monitoring The Dispersal And Predation Of Stocked Rainbow Trout In An Alabama Tailwater Sarah Baker</td>
<td>Urban Fisheries Management In Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas Cynthia Fox Holt</td>
<td>Distributional Updates For The Calcasieu Painted Cayfish (Faxonius Hathawayi Black), A Louisiana Endemic Beau Gregory</td>
<td>When Not To Improve- Considerations For Personnel Management Robert Bringolf</td>
<td>The First International Snakehead Symposium – News From The Front(S) John S Odenkirk</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:40 AM</td>
<td>State Wildlife Action Plan Case Study: Conservation Of Prairie Rivers And Native Fishes In The Southern Great Plains Of Texas Kevin Mayes</td>
<td>Low-Frequency Electrofishing Of Riverine Habitats For Blue Catfish Ictalurus Fuscatus In The Arkansas River Charles Jordan</td>
<td>Understanding Respons- Es Of Stream Fish Assemblages To Urbanization In The Southeastern United States Emilee Briggs</td>
<td>Studying Life History Of The Tennessee Dace (Chrosomus Tennesseea) To Determine The Best Conservation Practices For The Endangered Laurel Dace (Chrosomus Taylor) Shawna Mitchell</td>
<td>Avoiding Common Pitfalls And Troubles When Navigating Purchasing And Procurement Systems Micheal S. Allen</td>
<td>Silver Carp Establishment In A National Wildlife Refuge And The Effect On The White River, Arkansas Fish Assemblage Michael Eggleton</td>
<td>The Legacy Of The Dead Zone For Demersal Fish Revealed By Natural Tags Benjamin Walther</td>
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<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>BREAK (Floral Hall Lobby, 2nd Floor)</td>
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<td>State Wildlife Action Plan Case Study: Multispecies, Watershed-Based Conservation Of Native Fishes In The Devils River, Texas</td>
<td>Sarah Robertson</td>
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<td>Round 2: A Four-Year Follow-Up Evaluation Of A Flathead Catfish Population Exposed To Hand Fishing</td>
<td>Dominik Chilpier</td>
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<td>Paddlefish Snagging At Fort Gibson Dam: A Unique Fishery In Oklahoma</td>
<td>Adam Geik</td>
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<td>Use The Freshwater Information Network (Fin) To Share Your Southeastern Fish Encounters With Others</td>
<td>Bernie Kuhajda</td>
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<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>State Wildlife Action Plan Case Study: Freshwater Mussel Conservation In Texas</td>
<td>Clint Robertson</td>
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<td>Evaluation Of The Use Of Alternative Plasma Biomarkers As Indicators Of Post-Release Mortality In Blacktip Sharks (Caranxxerus Limbarus)</td>
<td>Casey Zender</td>
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<td>Estimating Detection Probability Using Multiple Gears For Least Darter And Sympatric Spring-Associated Species.</td>
<td>Dusty Swedberg</td>
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<td>Legal Considerations: Managing Issues And Problems Without Exposure To Institutional Or Personal Liability.</td>
<td>Patricia Mazik</td>
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<td>11:20 AM</td>
<td>Wisteria</td>
<td>Restoring The State Fish Of Texas, Guadalupe Bass (Micropterus Treucli)</td>
<td>Ryan McGillicuddy</td>
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<td>Power Of Fishery-Independent Hooked Gear Surveys To Detect Abundance Trends In Reef Fish Populations</td>
<td>Heather M. Christiansen</td>
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<td>Practical Tool Or Shiny Penny? Using Fiber-Optic Distributed Temperature Sensing To Improve Evaluations Of Temperature Selection By Stream Fishes</td>
<td>Skyler Wolf</td>
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<td>11:40 AM</td>
<td>Jasmine</td>
<td>Activating Your Network For Conservation And Rawa</td>
<td>Richard Heilbrun</td>
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<td>A 26-Year Perspective On Spotted Sea Trout (Cynoscion Nebulosus) Age And Growth In The Western Gulf Of Mexico</td>
<td>Heidi Heilm-Ballew</td>
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<td>Making A Splash With Freshwater Snorkeling Education Programs</td>
<td>Craig Roghair</td>
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<td>Maintaining Morale Once You Become A Supervisor</td>
<td>Allen D. Martin</td>
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<td>Evaluating Asian Carp Movement In The Tennessee River With Focus On Prohibiting Lock And Dam Passage</td>
<td>Thomas Fanagan</td>
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<td>Population Characteristics And Simulated Exploitation Responses Of Common Carp (Cyprinus Carpio) In A Shallow, Eutrophic Lake</td>
<td>Apoll Lamb</td>
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<td>State Wildlife Action Plan Case Study: Freshwater Mussel Conservation In Texas</td>
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<td>Coastal Health Index For The Northern Gulf Of Mexico; How Fisheries Contribute To Measuring Ecosystem Health</td>
<td>Jenny Oakley</td>
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<td>Exploring Fisheries Aspects Of Large-Scale Habitat Restoration In Tampa Bay</td>
<td>Kailee Schultz</td>
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<td>12:00 PM</td>
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Annual Meeting of the
Southern Division American Fisheries Society
February 20-23, 2020        Little Rock, Arkansas

The Arkansas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society cordially invites you to attend next year’s Southern Division Annual Meeting in the Natural State.

Little Rock, nestled in the heart of the Natural State, offers down-home hospitality with big city flair. The Marriott Hotel in downtown Little Rock will be our hosts for the event. The Marriott is adjacent to Little Rock’s River Market district, which hosts abundant cultural, entertainment and dining options. Little Rock also offers excellent trolley service for nearby attractions. For those interested in an extended visit, the “Natural State” offers world-class fishing, hiking, whitewater, and cultural experiences. Arkansas also offers excellent state and national parks ranging from the Crater of Diamonds State Park, the world’s only public diamond mine, to the Buffalo River National Park, America’s first national river.

The 2020 SDAFS Annual Meeting will bring professionals together to network and share knowledge in fisheries science and management. Speakers will present a broad range of topics at the plenary session, technical symposia, and contributed oral and poster sessions. An array of continuing education courses will also be offered.

We hope you will plan on coming to Little Rock to partake in hospitality, friendship, networking and education.
Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors

Cattle Baron Captain >$10,000

Mossback Fish Attractor

River Trail Boss $5,000 - $9,999

Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation Southwest Region 2

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation Southeast Region 4

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Thank you to our TCAFS Student Scholarship Sponsors!

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San Antonio River Authority