



2017 Joint Annual Meeting of the Alabama and Mississippi Chapters of The Wildlife Society



Riley Center for Education & Performing Arts
2200 Fifth Street
Meridian, MS 39301

Thursday, September 7th

11:00 REGISTRATION
Coffee/Refreshments
Lunch non inclusive

12:00 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Adam Butler
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, & Parks
President, Mississippi Chapter, The Wildlife Society

Amy Silvano
Alabama Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries
President, Alabama Chapter, The Wildlife Society

12:15 KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Shared Issues: A National Perspective

Dr. Darren Miller
Science Advisor, Southern Timberlands Technology, Weyerhaeuser Company
National Vice President, The Wildlife Society

INVITED TALKS

1:00 **Shared Issues: A Southeastern Perspective**
Dr. Mark Smith
Associate Professor, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University
Southeastern Section Representative-Elect, The Wildlife Society

1:30 **The Changing Face of Wildlife User Demographics – Expansion of the “Tent”**
Charles “Chuck” Sykes
Director, Alabama Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division

2:00 **How Do We Expand the “Tent”: Strategies for More Effective and Inclusive Wildlife Conservation**
Adam Rhonke
Senior Extension Associate, Mississippi State University Extension Service
President-Elect, Mississippi Chapter, The Wildlife Society

2:30 CONTINUING EDUCATION EXCERSIES

Structured Decision Making

Hosted at the MSU Riley Center

Led by Dr. Barry Grand

Supervisor, U.S. Geological Survey, Southern Cooperative Research Units

Wildlife Tracking

Hosted at Camp Bianchi, 4818 North Park Drive, Meridian, MS

Led by Nick Sharp

Wildlife Biologist, Alabama Division of Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries

Team Building – 5 Stand Skeet Shoot Off

Hosted at Camp Bianchi, 4818 North Park Drive, Meridian, MS

Ken Kercheval, Boy Scouts of America

6:00 SOCIAL AND DINNER

Hosted at Brickhaus Bar & Grill, 2206 Front Street, Meridian, MS

Drink tickets and hor d'oeuvres

Friday, September 8th

* Denotes Student Presenter

8:00 **Do Feral Swine Alter the Island Biogeography of Native Wildlife in Agro-Ecosystem Forest Patches?** Matthew R. Ivey*, College of Forest Resources, Mississippi State University

8:20 **Evaluation of Scent Attractants for Baiting Wild Pigs;** Shannon M. Lambert*, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University

8:40 **Application of Whole Sounder Removal in an Agricultural Landscape;** Alex A. Lewis*, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University

9:00 **Economic Estimates of Wild Hog Damage and Control Among Young Forest Plantations in Alabama;** Micah Fern*, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University

9:20 **Using Gobble Count Surveys to Assess Male Wild Turkey Populations in Alabama;** Matthew B. Gonnerman*, School of Forestry and Wildlife Science, Auburn University

9:40 **Spatiotemporal Variation in Space Use by Eastern Wild Turkey in Mississippi;** Ryo Ogawa*, College of Forest Resources, Mississippi State University

10:00 BREAK / POSTER SESSION

10:30 CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETINGS (SEPARATE ROOMS)

12:00 LUNCH AT RILEY CENTER (PROVIDED WITH REGISTRATION)

- 1:00 **Climate-Forest Interactions of Spatiotemporal Dynamics of Wild Turkey Populations in Mississippi;** Dr. Guiming Wang, College of Forest Resources, Mississippi State University
- 1:20 **Effects of Drought Body Mass, Productivity, and Fetal Sex Ratios of Female White-tailed Deer in Alabama;** Dr. William Gulsby, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University
- 1:40 **Reintroduction of Eastern Indigo Snakes into Conecuh National Forest: Lessons Learned;** James Stiles*, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University
- 2:00 **Individual and Temporal Variation of Overwintering Whooping Cranes at Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, Alabama;** Andrew Cantrell*, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Alabama A&M University
- 2:20 **Using Structured Decision Making to Balance Stakeholder Objectives for Red-cockaded Woodpecker Management;** Emily J. Brown*, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alabama
- 2:40 **Influences of Habitat Suitability on American Beaver Survival;** Dr. Isidro A. Barela, College of Forest Resources, Mississippi State University
- 3:00 STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS & CLOSING THOUGHTS
- 3:30 MEETING ADJOURN

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Methyl-Mercury Concentrations of Turtles in Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge, Alabama; Andrew W. Cantrell and Yong Wang. Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, 4900 Meridian St., Alabama A&M University, AL 35762

Private land use and wildlife in the Black Belt; Paige F. B. Ferguson, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alabama, Box 870344, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Investigating the effectiveness of wild pig legislation and policy in the U.S.; Andrew L. Smith, College of Forest Resources, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Aquaculture, Mississippi State University, MS 39762

Conservation of Gopher Tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) on Intensively Managed Pine Landscapes; Duston Duffie¹, Scott Rush¹, and Darren Miller². ¹Mississippi State University Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture, 775 Stone Boulevard, Mississippi State, MS 39762, ²Weyerhaeuser Company, P.O. Box 2288, Columbus, MS 39704

Chinese Privet in Bottomland Hardwood Forests: Evaluating Fire as a Control Method, Documenting Dispersal Pathways, and Understanding Effects on Native Species; James S. Cash, James A. Stiles, and Christopher J. Anderson, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, 3301 Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University, AL 36849

Wintering Dynamics of Gadwall in the Tennessee River Valley; Joshua M. Osborn¹, William D. Gulsby¹, Robert A. Gitzen¹, Jud Easterwood², and Heath M. Hagy³. ¹School of Forestry and Wildlife Science, Auburn University, 602 Duncan Drive, Auburn, AL 36849, ²Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 21453 Harris Station Road, Tanner, AL 35671, ³U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge, Stanton, TN 38069, USA.

Determinants of social groupings of elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) in northern Tanzania; Lyndsey Kowalczyk, College of Forest Resources, Mississippi State University, 75 BS Hood Dr, Mississippi State, MS, U.S.A.; School for Field Studies, 304 Karatu, Tanzania;

Ectoparasite Aggregation, Host Health, and Associated Pathogens in Alabama White-Tailed Deer; Shelby Zikeli, Seth Rankins, Dr. Stephen Ditchkoff, Dr. Sarah Zohdy, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University University, AL 36849.

Foraging Habits of Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) and Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) on Commercial Baitfish and Sportfish Farms in eastern Arkansas. Stephen A. Clements, Brian Davis, Brian S. Dorr, Katie C. Hanson-Dorr, Luke A. Roy, Anita M. Kelly, Carole Engle

Predation Risk of Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) on Commercial Catfish Production in the Mississippi Delta. Terrel W. Christie, Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture, Thompson Hall, Mississippi State University, MS 39759

An Update on Conservation Initiatives, Policies, and Growth of Southeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (SEPARC); Andrew W. Cantrell Department of Biology and Environmental Sciences, Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL 357562

PARKING DIRECTIONS FOR THE MSU RILEY CENTER (for those not using the hotel shuttle):

