



2018 Annual Meeting of Mississippi Chapter of The Wildlife Society



MS Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum
115 E. 1st Street
Biloxi, MS 39530

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th

8:00 AM **REGISTRATION**
Coffee/Refreshments

9:00 AM **CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOPS**

- *Drone/UAV Use in Wildlife and Forest Management*
Location: Ground floor meeting room
- *Wildlife Handling and Diseases*
Location: Meeting area under museum

12:00 PM **LUNCH (Provided)**

1:00 PM **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
Adam Rohnke
Senior Extension Associate, Mississippi State University Extension
President, Mississippi Chapter of The Wildlife Society

1:15 PM **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

MDEQ Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill Restoration
Chris Wells
Chief of Staff, MS Dept. of Environmental Quality

INVITED TALKS

2:00 PM **Monitoring for Restoration Success: Who, What, When, and Where?**
Mark Woodrey
Assistant Research Professor, Mississippi State University
Research Coordinator, Grand Bay NERR

2:25 PM **Community Resilience at the Local Level: Opportunities + Partnerships = Impact**
Tracie Sempier
Coastal Storms Outreach Coordinator, AL-MS Sea Grant

2:50 PM **Panel Discussion**
Kathy Shelton
Conservation Resources Mgt. Biologist, MDWFP MS Museum of Natural Science

3:15 PM **BREAK & PREPARE FOR SHIP ISLAND CRUISE**

4:00 PM **SHIP ISLAND CRUISE & SOCIAL**
Location: Meet at dock on west side of Margaritaville Resort
**Food and drink provided on boat. Guests with ticket welcome.*

Island Activities (Attendees choice) (1-hour)

Marine Debris Shoreline Monitoring

Eric Sparks
Assistant Extension Professor, Mississippi State University Extension,
MS/AL Sea Grant

Coastal Bird Conservation and Responses to Habitat Restoration

Abby Darrah
Avian Biologist, Audubon Mississippi

8:00 PM **RETURN TO MARGARITAVILLE**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th

8:00 AM **SUBMITTED PAPERS– See Pg. 3**

9:30 AM **BREAK – Ground floor (Posters, vote, and silent auction closes)**

10:00 AM **AGENCY & ORGINIZATIONAL UPDATES**

Mississippi's Response to Chronic Wasting Disease

William McKinley
Deer Program Coordinator, MDWFP

Farm Bill Update

James Cummins
Executive Director, Wildlife Mississippi

11:00 AM **CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING & AWARDS**

National Update

Darren Miller, President-Elect, The Wildlife Society

Section Update

Kristine Evans, SE Section Representative

Chapter Report

MS TWS Officers and Board Members

Awards

MS TWS Officers and Board Members

12:00 PM **MEETING ADJOURN**

SUBMITTED PRESENTATIONS

^aundergraduate student presentation; ^b graduate student presentation; **bold font** denotes presenter

Topic Area: Coastal Issues

Room 1 – Ground Floor; Moderator – Murry Burgess

8:00 AM	<i>The Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program</i> Eric Sparks ^{1,2} , Sara Martin ¹ , Nigel Temple ¹ , Daniel Firth ¹ , Gillian Palino ¹ , Andrew Lucore ¹ , Matthew Virden ¹ , Haley Moss ¹ , and Amanda Jefferson ^{1,2} ¹ Mississippi State University; ² Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant
8:15 AM	<i>Addressing Marine Debris through Extension Programming</i> Eric Sparks ^{1,2} , Amanda Sartain ^{1,2} , Sarah Cunningham ¹ , and Caitlin Wessel ³ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium; ³ NOAA Marine Debris Program
8:30 AM	<i>High Resolution Dune Geomorphology to Inform Conservation Planning in the Northern Gulf of Mexico</i> ^b Wesley Burger ¹ , Kristine Evans ¹ , Paul Lang ² , Adam Skarke ¹ , and Guiming Wang ¹ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
8:45 AM	<i>Mississippi Sandhill Crane Conservation Update</i> Scott Hereford and Angela Dedrickson U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
9:00 AM	<i>Effects of Habitat Management on Forage Nutrient Absorption in Gopher Tortoises (<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>) of South Mississippi.</i> B. Nicole Hodges ¹ , Matthew G. Hinderliter ² , Lisa Y. Yager ³ , and Kathy R. Shelton ¹ ¹ MDWFP Museum of Natural Science; ² U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; ³ U.S. Forest Service
9:15 AM	<i>Gopher Tortoise (<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>) Head-Starting on the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.</i> Jim Lee The Nature Conservancy, Camp Shelby Field Office

Topic Area: Wildlife Research and Habitat Management

Room 2 – Second Floor; Moderator – Jennifer Sublett

8:00 AM	<i>Predation Risk of Double-crested Cormorants on Commercial Catfish Production in the Mississippi Delta</i> ^b Terrel Christie ¹ , Brian Davis ¹ , Brian Dorr ² , Katie Hanson-Dorr ² , Luke Roy ³ , Anita Kelly ⁴ , and Carole Engle ⁵ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center; ³ Auburn University; ⁴ University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff; ⁵ Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
8:15 AM	<i>Fine-scale Characteristics of Catfish Aquaculture Ponds Influencing Use by Piscivorous Avian Species in Northwest Mississippi</i> ^b Paul Burr ¹ , Jimmy Avery ¹ , Garrett Street ¹ , Bronson Strickland ¹ , Brian Dorr ² ¹ Mississippi State University; ² USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center
8:30 AM	<i>Initial Effectiveness of Swine Removal to Recover Vertebrate Species Richness</i> ^b DJ Steakley ¹ , Marcus Lashley ¹ , Garrett Street ¹ , Bronson Strickland ¹ , and Kurt VerCauteren ² ¹ Mississippi State University; ² USDA Wildlife Services

8:45 AM	<i>Flooding has a Dominant Influence on Deer in the Mississippi River Batture</i> Phil Jones ¹ , Bronson Strickland ¹ , Stephen Demarais ¹ , Jessica Klassen ¹ , William McKinley ² , and James Ernst ³ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks; ³ Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
9:00 AM	<i>The Efficacy of Switchgrass Monocultures for Decreasing Breeding Bird Hazards</i> Ray Iglay ¹ , Travis DeVault ² , Bradley Blackwell ² , Michael Begier ³ , James Martin ⁴ , and Jerrold Belant ⁵ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center; ³ USDA Wildlife Services; ⁴ University of Georgia; ⁵ State University of New York
9:15 AM	<i>Movement and Dive Patterns of Two Rehabilitated Pygmy Killer Whales (<i>Feresa attenuata</i>) Following Release in the Northern Gulf of Mexico</i> Mystra Samuelson ¹ , Eric Pulis ¹ , Randall Wells ² , Gregory Schorr ³ , David Douglas ⁴ , and Moby Solangi ¹ ¹ Institute of Marine Mammals Studies; ² Chicago Zoological Society's Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, c/o Mote Marine Laboratory; ³ Marine Ecology and Telemetry Research; ⁴ U.S. Geological Survey

Topic Area: Wildlife Ecology and Science

Room 3 – Third Floor; Moderator – Carice Godbey

8:00 AM	<i>Fine-scale Seasonal Movements and Habitat Selection by Eastern Wild Turkeys</i> ^b Conner Almond ¹ , Guiming Wang ¹ , Kristine Evans ¹ , Marcus Lashley ¹ , and Adam Butler ² ¹ Mississippi State University; ² Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
8:15 AM	<i>Spatiotemporal and Sexual Variations in Spacing Behaviors of American White Pelicans during the Annual Cycle</i> ^b Ryo Ogawa ¹ , Guiming Wang ¹ , Martha Sovada ² , Fred Cunningham ³ , and Tommy King ³ ¹ Mississippi State University; ² USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center; ³ USDA Wildlife Services National Wildlife Research Center
8:30 AM	<i>Waldo Tobler's The First Law of Geography Predicts Spatially Correlative Predation Risk</i> Guiming Wang Mississippi State University
8:45 AM	<i>Adaptation to "dishonest" environmental signals: insights from an experimental microcosm</i> ^a Isabella Durham , Garrett Street, Natraj Krishnan, and Marcus Lashley Mississippi State University
9:00 AM	<i>Demographic Patterns in Outdoor Recreation by Mississippi Youth</i> Leslie Burger ¹ and Katherine Abell ² ¹ Mississippi State University; ² Birmingham Zoo
9:15 AM	<i>Using Scanning Electron Microscope in Wildlife Research</i> ^a Aaron Sassenrath-Cole and AHM Ali Reza Delta State University

SUBMITTED POSTERS

^a undergraduate student presentation

- **Value of Unique Ecological Communities with Private Working Forests**
Daniel Green¹, Darren Miller¹ and Scott Rush²
¹ Weyerhaeuser; ² Mississippi State University
- **2018 Native Prairie Pollinator Plants Experimental Plot Study^a**
Will Pigott, Isabella Durham, Kristine Evans, Wes Burger and Leslie Burger
Mississippi State University
- **Monitoring the Effects of Open Pine Management Systems on Breeding Landbirds^a**
Giles Kelly¹, Amber Owen¹, Kristine Evans¹, Steven Lewis², Adam Smith², Leslie Burger¹,
Steven Reagan²
¹ Mississippi State University; ² U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- **Mississippi Bat Working Group Annual Culvert Blitz**
Katelin Cross¹, Becky Rosamond², Kathy Shelton¹, Amber Floyd², Nicole Hodges¹, and
Chester O. Martin³
¹ MDWFP Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, ² US Fish and Wildlife Service, ³ C.O. Martin & Associates
- **Translocation Efforts of the Gopher Frog (*Lithobates sevosus*) in Southern Mississippi**
Kevin Narum, Aaron Holbrook, and James Lee
The Nature Conservancy, Camp Shelby Field Office

2018 MS-TWS Officers & Board Members

Adam T. Rohnke, President

Leslie Burger, President-Elect

Adam Butler, Past President

Ray Iglay, Secretary / Treasurer

Kristine Evans, SE Section Representative

S. Carson Nelson, Board Member

Justin Thayer, Board Member

Annual Meeting Planning Assistance

Eric Sparks

Kathy Shelton

Hosts

MS Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum

Margaritaville Biloxi Resort

Ship Island Excursions

Sponsors (On Back)

Sponsors

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