

**Georgia Chapter of The Wildlife Society**

**2016 Annual Meeting**

**Georgia Museum of Agriculture**

 **Tifton, GA**

**September 15-16, 2016**

**Thursday September 15, 2016**

8:00-9:00 Registration

9:00-9:05 **Welcome and Instructions** by **Jason Scott** (GA TWS, President)

9:05-9:10 **Opening Remarks**: Dr. David Bridges, President ABAC

9:10-9:30 **Hunter Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation: What is it and why is it important?** – Charles Evans (NWTF)

9:30-9:50 ***Babesia* spp. in Raccoons (*Procyon lotor*)*:*Distributionin the Selected Regions of the United States and Canada and Evidence for Infection of Young Kits.** – Kayla Garrett (Student)

9:50-10:10 **Den-site Selection of Eastern Spotted Skunks in the Southern Appalachians.** – Andrew Edelman (University of West Georgia)

10:10-10:20 **Georgia's WRD Private Lands Program: On the Front Lines of Conservation.** –Jessica McGuire (GA DNR)

10:20-10:40 **Empirical Comparison of Density Estimators for Wild Pigs.** – David Keiter (Student)

10:40-11:00 Break

**11:00-12:00 Keynote Speaker: Jordona Kirby, Rabies Field Coordinator, USDA Wildlife Services**

 **Wildlife Rabies Control in the U.S. – Overview of the National Rabies Management Program**

12:00-1:30 Lunch

1:30-1:50 **Development and Application of a Satellite Tag for Tracking Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales** –Clay George (DNR)

1:50-2:10 **Habitat selection in the Gray Ratsnake: Tradeoffs in Management for Maintenance of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem.** –Jennifer Howze (Joseph W. Jones Eco. Res. Center)

2:10-2:30 **The Importance of Submitting Biological Information to Citizen Science Databases: Biologists are Citizens Too. –** Vanessa Lane (ABAC)

2:30-4:00 Poster session and Break

4:00-4:20 **Past, Present, and Future: Informed Resource Management at** **Ichauway**  – Brandon Rutledge (Joseph W. Jones Eco. Res. Center)

4:20-4:40 **Flatheads Catfish Removal in the Satilla River** –Jim Page (GA DNR)

4:40-5:00 **TWS Parent Chapter Update** – Mike Conner (Joseph W. Jones Eco. Res. Center)

5:00-5:10 **Robert J. Warren Award** – Sharon Holbrooks

5:10-6:00 Business Meeting

6:00-7:00 Social

7:00-9:00 Dinner catered by: William Moore and the ABAC Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society

**Friday September 16, 2016**

8:00-8:10 **Welcome and Instruction** by Jason Scott

8:10-8:30 **Using Wildlife Habitat Models to Evaluate Management Endpoints for Longleaf Pine Savanna**. – Lora Smith (Joseph W. Jones Eco. Res. Center) (co-authors: Mike Conner and Elizabeth Schlimm)

8:30-8:50 **USDA Feral Swine Initiative and Feral Swine Projects in Georgia –** Matt Ondovchik (USDA Wildlife Services)

8:50-9:10 **The Bobwhite Quail Initiative in Georgia** –Paul Grimes (GA DNR)

9:10-9:30 **Movements and Habitat Use of Shoal Bass in Ichawaynochaway Creek in Georgia** –Travis Ingram (DNR)

9:30-9:50 **Communication Across the Curriculum:  Supplying Capable Professionals for Our Discipline. –** JasonScott (ABAC)

9:50-10:10 Break

10:30-10:50 **A Changing Landscape in Northern Georgia: Bear, Deer, and Forests –** Andrew Little (UGA)

10:50-11:10 **Status and Conservation of Bald Eagles in Georgia –**Bob Sargent (DNR)

11:10-11:30 **Georgia Feral Swine Survey** Mike Mengak (UGA)

11:30-11:50 **New Tools and Techniques for Wildlife Conservation in Agricultural Landscapes** – Mark McConnell (UGA)

11:50:12:00 Closing Remarks – Jason Scott (GA TWS, President)

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**Poster Titles and Presenters**

**Blood and Feather Heavy Metal Concentrations of a Resident and Migratory Songbird** – Zoë Cooper

**Influence of Prescribed Fire on Endangered Bats in the Southern Appalachians** – Kaitlyn Rountree

**Does Broad-scale Conservation Have Population-level Influence on Northern Bobwhite?** – John Yeiser

**Evaluating the Effects of Cover Management on Northern Bobwhite Survival and Hunt** **Success** – Seth Wood

**Effects of Mid-Rotation Treatments on Wildlife Habitat and Stand Profitability in Southeastern Loblolly Pine** **Plantations** - Allison Gordy

**Does Residual Predator Activity Affect the Efficacy of Meso-mammal Removal on Northern Bobwhite Productivity?** *–* Alex Jackson

**Home Range Size of Eastern Spotted Skunks in Alabama** – William Cornelison

**Upcoming Research Efforts for Understanding Northern Bobwhite Populations on WMAs to Optimize Management** – Jessica Mohlman and Nathan Wilhite

**Activity Patterns of Eastern Spotted Skunks in Alabama** – Isik Benson

**Extra Limit Maternity Colony of Southeastern Myotis in Northeast Alabama** – Mattea Lewis

**Spatial and Temporal Overlap of Northern Bobwhite Chicks and Three Sympatric Snake Species** – Dylan Orlando

**Pitfall Color May Influence Drift-fence** **Captures** – Kori Ogletree and Michael Bender

**Survey of the Bat Community on Flat Creek Nature Area, Fayette County, Georgia** – Raquel Gonzalez, Rebekah Montgomery, and Michael Bender

**Efficacy of Translocation to Reestablish Northern Bobwhite following Habitat Restoration in the North Carolina Coastal Plains** – Brad Roberts