



Georgia Chapter of The Wildlife Society

2023 Annual Meeting

March 2 – 3, 2023

Macon, Georgia

Thursday, March 2

**Al Sihah Shrine Center
222 Mecca Dr.
Macon, GA 31206**

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 9:00 AM | Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:05 AM | Welcome and instructions Andrew Edelman, President, Georgia Chapter of TWS |
| 9:05 – 9:25 AM | Opening remarks Presented by Ocmulgee National Park and Preservation Initiative |
| 9:25 – 9:40 AM | Factors influencing hunter use and satisfaction with mandatory harvest reporting systems: Lessons from Georgia Game Check Amanda Van Buskirk, University of Georgia |
| 9:40 – 9:55 AM | Changes in wild pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) population size, crop damage, and environmental impacts in response to management Charles Taylor, University of Georgia |
| 9:55 – 10:10 AM | Effects of suburbanization on a vertebrate scavenging community in northeast Georgia Jessy Patterson, University of Georgia |
| 10:10 – 10:25 AM | Population genetics and morphometrics of overwintering swamp sparrows (<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>) at Panola Mountain State Park Ashley McMahon, Georgia College and State University |
| 10:25 – 10:45 AM | BREAK |
| 10:45 – 11:00 AM | GA DNR Motus network expansion in Georgia: Tracking stuff that flies Tim Keyes and Katrina Morris, GA DNR Wildlife Resources Division |
| 11:00 – 11:15 AM | Measuring gopher tortoise (<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>) response to successional vegetation changes following introduction on to reclaimed mine lands Joshua C. Billings and Bridgette D. Hancock, University of Georgia Marine Extension and Georgia Sea Grant - Coastal Ecology Lab |
| 11:15 – 11:30 AM | Bachman's sparrow surveys and habitat modeling in Georgia Todd Schneider, GA DNR Wildlife Resources Division and Cory Allred, Virginia Tech |
| 11:30 – 11:45 PM | Habitat management considerations for herps Daniel Sollenberger, GA DNR Wildlife Resources Division |

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 11:45 – 12:00 PM | Increasing capture rates of grassland birds over thirteen years indicates successful grassland restoration Katie Stumpf, Georgia College and State University |
| 12:00 – 1:15 PM | LUNCH (included with registration) |
| 1:15 – 1:30 PM | Identifying urban wildlife distribution and conflict to prioritize proactive education and outreach Summer Fink, University of Georgia |
| 1:30 – 1:45 PM | Temporal and geographical variability of scent stations for a wild pig (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) and two similar carnivore guilds Madeline Melton, University of Georgia |
| 1:45 – 2:00 PM | The effects of specified gendered colonies on <i>Laricobius nigrinus</i> rearing efficiency in a lab setting Nick Stoltz, University of North Georgia |
| 2:00 – 2:15 PM | Landscape and culvert structural influences on tricolored bat abundance in Georgia Emily Ferrall, GA DNR Wildlife Resources Division |
| 2:15 – 2:35 PM | Are you certified? Steven Castleberry, University of Georgia |
| 2:35 – 3:20 PM | BREAK & POSTER SESSION (see page 3 for presenters) |
| 3:20 – 3:35 PM | Using Judas pigs to aid in control of wild pig populations in southwest Georgia Faith Kruis, University of Georgia |
| 3:35 – 3:50 PM | Effects of chloride pollution on germination and growth of northern wild rice (<i>Zizania palustris</i>) Anna Cronan, University of North Georgia |
| 3:50 – 4:05 PM | Climate as a driver of black vulture range expansion: Using Bayesian modeling to predict species distributions Jennifer Brown, University of Georgia |
| 4:05 – 4:20 PM | Sex-specific impacts of harvest on black bear behavior Catherine Carter, University of Georgia |
| 4:20 – 4:30 PM | BREAK |
| 4:30 – 5:30 PM | Business Meeting- ALL MEETING REGISTRANTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! |
| 6:00 – 7:00 PM | Social & Student Awards: Fall Line Brewing Co, 567 Plum St. Macon, GA 31201 ALL MEETING REGISTRANTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! |

Friday, March 3

- 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Field trips (Choose 1, included with registration)**
- 1) Diversity-equity-inclusion-focused trip at Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park (1207 Emery Hwy, Macon, GA 31217. Gates open at 8am, meet in the parking lot.)
OR
 - 2) Feral hog control workshop consisting of a Pig Brig Trap field demonstration & discussion of feral hog control methods (Rum Creek DNR Nongame Office, 116 Rum Creek Dr., Forsyth, GA 31029).

POSTER PRESENTATIONS- Thursday 2:35 – 3:20 PM

Estimating population size and genetic diversity of the central Georgia black bear population

Benjamin S. Carr¹, Michael J. Chamberlain¹, Michel T. Kohl¹, Helen M. Bothwell¹, Richard B. Chandler¹, and Adam D. Hammond²

¹University of Georgia, ²Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Do wildlife removals reduce negative human-wildlife interactions in metro-Atlanta?

Daniel DeRose-Broeckert¹, Michel T. Kohl¹, and Kaitlin O. Goode²

¹University of Georgia, ²Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Captive rearing of gopher frogs at Gaskins Forest Education Center

William Gooden¹, Vanessa Lane¹, Heather Brasell²

¹Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, ²Gaskins Forest Education Center

Assessment of wildlife and behavioral response to urbanization in Athens, Georgia

Lavendar Harris and Michel T. Kohl

University of Georgia

Evaluation of camera trapping methods for tracking trends in mesopredator populations in Georgia

Jenna Myers^{1,2}, Steven Castleberry¹, Mike Conner², Susan Rupp³, Deanna Butler³, Emily Rushton⁴, Kristina Johannsen⁴

¹University of Georgia, ²The Jones Center at Ichauway, ³American Canines for the Environment, ⁴Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Comparison of pool characteristics of granite outcrops at Clinton Nature Preserve, Douglas County, Georgia

Phyllip Ramey^{*1}, Ashton Arnold^{*1}, Jackie Churchman¹, McKenna Koons¹, Atticus Leithner¹, Haley McCaleb¹, Madeline Russell¹, Marcus Tipton¹, Melanie Flood², and Ashlee McCaskill¹

¹University Of North Georgia, ²Atlanta Botanical Garden

Effects of partial timber harvests on vertebrate community composition

Atticus Tomcho, Erin E. Barding, McKenna Johnson, Jessy R. Patterson

University of North Georgia

Continuing Education Credits

Participants in the GATWS Annual Meeting can potentially receive continuing education credits for the SAF Certified Forester or TWS Certified Wildlife Biologist programs. See the registration desk for more information about how to document your attendance for these programs.



Please join us in being sustainable by bringing a reusable water bottle and/or coffee cup to the annual meeting!

