



Georgia Chapter of The Wildlife Society

2024 Annual Meeting

February 22 – 23, 2024

University of North Georgia

Dahlonega, GA

Thursday, February 22 - Hoag Auditorium in the Hoag Student Center (UNG)

Hoag: 34.5305, -83.9861; **Parking:** Lot 64 (34.5241, -83.9937)

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| 8:00 – 9:00 AM | Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:10 AM | Welcome and Instructions
Krisha Whiting, President, GA Chapter of TWS |
| 9:10 – 9:25 AM | Small Successes and Big Ideas for Small Mammal Conservation in Georgia Through the State Wildlife Action Plan Conservation Actions
Emily Ferrall, Georgia DNR, Wildlife Conservation Section |
| 9:25 – 9:40 AM | Camera Trapping Methods to Target Small and Cryptic Predator Species
Jenna Myers, University of Georgia |
| 9:40 – 9:55 AM | Quantifying Aetokthonotoxin Persistence in Aquatic Environments
Seth McWhorter, University of Georgia |
| 9:55 – 10:10 AM | Factors Influencing Minnow Trap Captures
Stormy Ramey, University of North Georgia |
| 10:10 – 10:25 AM | Effects of Roadways on Seasonal Movement Strategies and Mate Location Success in an Imperiled Pit Viper (<i>Crotalus horridus</i>)
Elizabeth Noble, Georgia College & State University |
| 10:25 – 10:45 AM | <u>BREAK</u> |
| 10:45 – 11:00 AM | Quail Forever Initiatives for Private Lands Conservation in Georgia
Miranda Gulsby, Quail Forever |
| 11:00 – 11:15 AM | An Overview of the First Georgia Bat Programmatic Agreement to Provide a Statewide Consultation Process and New Conservation Strategies for Bats and Habitats Impacted by Transportation Projects
Laci Pattavina, USFWS & Ryan Pawlikowski, GDOT |
| 11:15 – 11:30 AM | Efforts to Advance Equity in Hunting Through Recruitment on College Campuses
Bre Bashford, Georgia Wildlife Federation |
| 11:30 – 11:45 PM | Using Bat Roosting Patterns in Culverts to Inform Chiropteran Conservation Needs in Georgia Coastal Plain
Jason Scott, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Department of Forest Resources |

11:45 – 12:00 PM	Georgia Bobwhite Quail Initiative 2024-2033: The next 10 years Dallas Ingram, Georgia DNR, Bobwhite Quail Initiative
12:00 – 1:00 PM	<u>LUNCH (included with registration)</u>
1:00 – 1:15 PM	Lion and Spotted Hyena Habitat Selection in an arid Ecosystem Madeline Melton, University of Georgia
1:15 – 1:30 PM	Molecular detection of <i>Aetokthonos hydrillicola</i> on Hydrilla within Southeastern U.S. reservoirs Erika Klar, University of Georgia
1:30 – 1:45 PM	Quantifying Costs and Benefits of Alternative Overwintering Strategies in a Southeastern Population of Timber Rattlesnakes (<i>Crotalus horridus</i>) John Powers, Georgia College & State University
1:45 – 2:00 PM	Mammalian Susceptibility to Aetokthonotoxin and its Prevalence in Cases of Feline Leukomyelopathy in Florida Tobias Haymes, University of Georgia
2:00 – 2:15 PM	Effects of Anthropogenic Resources on Human-Black Vulture Conflicts in the Eastern U.S. Jennifer Brown, University of Georgia
2:15 – 2:30 PM	Pathogen Surveillance of Free-Ranging Wild Turkeys in North Carolina: Implications for the Southeast Adam Edge, University of Georgia
2:30 – 3:30 PM	<u>BREAK & POSTER SESSION (See Page 3 for Presenters)</u>
3:30 – 3:45 PM	Evaluating Urban Coyote Behavior and Diet in Atlanta, Georgia Carson Daniel, University of Georgia
3:45 – 4:00 PM	Aetokthonotoxin: More Than an Eagle Killer Jeff Cullen, University of Georgia
4:00 – 4:15 PM	Do Nest Box Temperatures Affect Nest Success and Nestlings Growth for Eastern Bluebirds? Mathew Gordon, Georgia College & State University
4:15 – 4:30 PM	American Woodcock Monitoring in Georgia Bobby Bond, Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources Division
4:30 – 4:40 PM	<u>BREAK</u>
4:40 – 5:30 PM	Business Meeting - ALL MEETING REGISTRANTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!!
5:45 – 6:45 PM	Social & Student Awards Pine Valley Recreation Center 3757 Dawsonville Highway Dahlonega, GA 30533 ALL MEETING REGISTRANTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!
6:45 – 9:00 PM	<u>DINNER</u> – Catered BBQ (ticket required), Pine Valley Recreation Center

Thank you to our sponsors:



GEORGIA WILDLIFE FEDERATION*



Friday, February 25 - SEE LOCATIONS BELOW

Open Event

Fish Hatchery Tour in Suches

Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery

4730 Rock Creek Road

Suches, GA 30572-3906

Meet at the hatchery at **9:00am (note: bathrooms are closed for winter)**

Pre-registered Event Only

R Studio Workshop with Dr. Michel T. Kohl

UNG Library Technology Center, Room 163

Park in Lot 49 off Thompson Cir SW (34.527031, -83.981346)

Meet at **9:00am**

Smithgall Woods State Park conservation area tour & Hardman Farm/Sautee Nacoochee DEI Effort

61 Tsalaki Trail

Helen, GA 30545

Meet at **9:00am in front of the visitors center by the large van**

***In case of rain, meet inside the visitors center**

POSTER PRESENTATIONS - Thursday 2:30 – 3:30 PM

Scavenger Efficiency and Species Richness in Response to Prescribed Burning in a Longleaf Pine Ecosystem

Sullivan Kemp, Gail Morris, & Mike Conner (The Jones Center at Ichauway)

Leveraging Local Library Partnerships to Increase Bird Conservation Literacy and STEM Competencies in Youth

LeAnn Rutledge (Oconee River RC&D Council)

Using Remote Sensing to Identify Habitat For Wintering Henslow's Sparrows

Todd Schneider (Georgia DNR, Wildlife Resources Division)

Introducing a General Education Urban Wildlife Course and Research Survey of Local Wildlife Species on the Mercer University Atlanta Campus

Carol Upshaw (Mercer University)

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) Artificial Nest Box Success and Productivity Assessment Across the Piedmont of Georgia

Cassidy Brown, Susan Wilde, James Martin, & Michael Chamberlain (University of Georgia)

Identifying Urban Coyote Mange Prevalence and Distribution: A OneHealth Priority

Daniela Guerrero, Summer Fink (University of Georgia), Jillian Broadhurst, Raquel Francisco, Michael Yabsley (University of Georgia SCWDS), & Michel Kohl (University of Georgia)

Coyote (*Canis latrans*) Den Site Selection in Atlanta, Georgia

Summer Fink, Daniela Guerrero, Carson Daniel (University of Georgia), Eden Nitza (West Virginia University), & Michel Kohl (University of Georgia)

Genetic Structuring of Breeding Populations of the Endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)

Ashley McMahon (Georgia College & State University)

Preliminary Results of Biodiversity Responses to Streamside Management Zones Across Private, Working Forests

R.D. Pourshoushtari, Steven Castleberry (University of Georgia), Angela Larsen-Gray (National Council for Air and Stream Improvement), & Daniel Greene (Weyerhaeuser Company)

Effects of Winter Shelter Characteristics on Brumation Duration, Body Mass Loss, and *Ophidiomyces ophidiicola* Infection Load in a Southeastern Population of Timber Rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*)

Danielle Bartlett, John Powers, Amber Stubbs, & Dominic DeSantis (Georgia College & State University)

Why Hogs are Sus: Effects of Feral Pig Presence on Mammal Communities in the Southeastern U.S.

Dalton Blue & Andrew Edelman (University of West Georgia)

Effects of Human-Made Forest Clearings on the Movement Behavior of a Cryptic Ambush Predator (*Crotalus horridus*)

Ziv Moench, Christine Mutiti, Amber Stubbs, John Powers, & Dominic DeSantis (Georgia College & State University)

Effects of the Proportion of Non-Forested Habitat on Nest Success in Southeastern American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*) at Various Habitat Scales

Jacob Owens & Jason Scott (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College)

Diel Activity Patterns of Cathartidae, Corvidae, and Accipitridae Species Across the United States

Ozzy Price, Erin Barding, & Jessy Patterson (University of North Georgia)

Diel Activity Patterns of White-tailed Deer, American Black Bears, and Coyotes in the Southeastern United States

Phyllip Ramey, Nicole Scibilia, Erin Barding, & Jessy Patterson (University of North Georgia)

Diel Activity Overlap Patterns of Three Game Species in the Southeastern United States

Nicole Scibilia, Phyllip Ramsey, Erin Barding, & Jessy Patterson (University of North Georgia)

High-frequency Accelerometer Monitoring of Foraging and Movement Behavior in a Secretive Predator (Central Rat Snakes, *Pantherophis alleghaniensis*)

Amber Stubbs (Georgia College & State University), Morgan Thompson (Northern Arizona University), & Dominic DeSantis (Georgia College & State University)

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