



2025 Annual Meeting

South Carolina Chapter

of the American Fisheries Society

Hickory Knob State Park, McCormick, SC
Wednesday February 26th - Friday February 28th, 2025

Wednesday, February 26th

12:00 – 1:30 pm

Check In, AV Loading

Conference Center

1:30 – 5:00 pm

Welcome, Workshop

Conference Center

1:30 pm

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Amy Dukes, SC AFS President, SC DNR

2:00 pm

Outdoor Education Adventure

Rotation 1: Team Alabama Bassers @ Fishing;

Team Bluehead Chubbies @ Fire & Knots; Team Carp Diem @ Axe

3:00 pm

Outdoor Education Adventure

Rotation 2: Team Alabama Bassers @ Axe Throwing;

Team Bluehead Chubbies @ Fishing; Team Carp Diem @ Fire & Knots

4:00 pm

Outdoor Education Adventure

Rotation 3: Team Alabama Bassers @ Fire & Knots;

Team Bluehead Chubbies @ Axe Throwing; Team Carp Diem @ Fishing

5:00 – 6:00 pm

Poster Setup, Check In, AV Loading

Conference Center

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Dinner

Conference Center

7:30 – 8:30 pm

Poster Social

Conference Center

Thursday, February 27th

8:00 – 9:00 am

Breakfast, AV Loading

The Barn

9:30 – 10:20 am

Presentation Session I

Moderated by Bryan Frazier

The Barn

9:30 am

Can Acoustic Telemetry Work in a Fast-Moving Mountainous River?

Clint Burton, SC DNR

9:50 am

From Depths to Data: Water quality monitoring beyond the CTD

Brandon Reding, SC DNR

10:00 am

Using Electron Transport System to Predict the Thermal Tolerance of SWAP Listed Fish Species

Jacob Daley, Clemson University



10:20 – 10:40 am

Break

The Barn

10:40 – 11:50 am

Presentation Session II

Moderated by Rachel Moore

The Barn

10:40 am

Thermal refugia and summer microhabitat selection in Edisto River, SC, Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

Jacob Hill, Clemson University

11:00 am

Using Trail Cameras to Monitor Culvert Connectivity During High-Flow Events

Leslie Twiner, Clemson University

11:20 am

Unraveling the drivers of multifaceted homogenization and differentiation of invaded stream fish communities across the conterminous United States.

William Annis, Clemson University

11:40 am

Chattooga River Educational Snorkeling Program

Keith Whalen, USDA Forest Service



11:50 – 1:50 pm

Lunch



The Barn

1:50 – 3:10 pm

Presentation Session III

Moderated by Preston Chrisman

The Barn

- 1:50 pm**  **Microhabitat Use of Turquoise Darters (*Etheostoma inscriptum*) in Piedmont Streams of South Carolina**
Kathryn Lusk, Clemson University
- 2:10 pm**  **Patterns of Larval Fish Assemblage Structure Across a Regulated River**
Madison Niles, Clemson University
- 2:30 pm** **Southern Flounder Stocking Program Timeline**
Haley Lasco, SC DNR
- 2:50 pm** **Brown Trout post stocking survival in Lake Jocassee, SC**
William Wood, SC DNR

3:10 – 3:30 pm

Break

The Barn

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Presentation Session IV

Moderated by Elijah Lamb

The Barn

- 3:30 pm** **Preliminary analyses of the SCDNR's statewide black bass genetics inventory**
Preston Chrisman, SC DNR
- 3:50 pm** **Using Species Distribution Models to Inform Conservation of Freshwater Fish Species of Greatest Conservation Need**
Colby Denison, Clemson University
- 4:10 pm** **Good Catch Program**
Mara Duke Blatt, SC Aquarium

4:30 – 5:30 pm

SC AFS Business Meeting

The Barn

6:00 – 8:30 pm

Grand Social

Conference Center

Friday, February 28th

8:00 – 9:00 am

Breakfast, Check out

Conference Center

9:30 – 10:40 am

Presentation Session V

Moderated by Chris McDonough

Conference Center

- 9:30 am** Fisheries Projects and Aquatic Plant Management on the Santee Cooper Lakes
Carl Bussells, Santee Cooper
- 9:50 am** Black Crappie installed habitat utilization in Lake Keowee, SC
William Wood, SC DNR
- 10:10 am** Discovery of Novel Enzymatic Hemoglobins from Marine Polychaetes
Edward D'Antonio, University of South Carolina Beaufort
- 10:30 am** Being a mentor in the American Fisheries Society Hutton Program
Keith Whalen, USDA Forest Service



10:40 – 11:00 am

Break

Conference Center

11:00 – 12:10 pm

Presentation Session VI

Moderated by Ben Stone

Conference Center

- 11:00 am** Decades in the making, important changes are coming for blue crab fisheries in South Carolina
Jeff Brunson, SC DNR
- 11:20 am** Commercial Diet Evaluation for Juvenile Red Drum
Thomas McBride, SC DNR
- 11:40 am** Black Sea Bass Year Class Strength and Spatial Extent from Two Long-Term Surveys
Margaret Finch, SC DNR
- 12:00 pm** Closing Remarks
Amy Dukes, SC AFS President, SC DNR

HICKORY KNOB

STATE PARK
RESORT

- 🏕️ Campground
- 🏠 Lodge Rooms
- 🏌️ Golf Course
- 🏊 Pool
- 🏹 Skeet Range
- 🎯 Game Area
- 🏹 Archery Range
- 🍴 Restaurant
- 🏹 Axe Throwing
- 🏠 Lodge/Park Office
- 🚤 Boat Ramp
- 🚶 Beaver Run Trail
- ⚓ Boat Dock
- 🚶 Lakeview Loop
- 🚶 Turkey Ridge Loop



- 🚤 Boat Ramp
- 🚤 Boat Parking
- 🏀 Basketball
- 🎯 Game Area
- 🔥 Firepit & Grill
- P Parking
- 🏊 Pool
- ❄️ Ice Machine
- 🧺 Guest Laundry
- 🚻 Restroom
- 🍴 Restaurant
- 🏌️ Putting Green
- 🎮 Playground
- 🏠 Lodge Rooms
- ⚓ Boat Dock



Poster Presentations

Wednesday February 26th, 2025

Diet of the Silver Perch, *Bairdiella chrysoura* (Sciaenidae), an Estuarine Species of the Southeastern United States.

Mikayla Baird, College of Charleston

Effects of Urbanization on Abundance, Condition, and Habitat Preferences of Two Crayfishes

Harlan Glenn, Wofford College

Evaluating Alternative Management Strategies for the Black Crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*) Fishery in Lake Murray, South Carolina

Jessie Kriner, Clemson University

Assessing Aquatic Invasive Species Presence in South Carolina's Low Country

Catherine Masatani, Clemson University

Fourier-transform near infrared spectroscopy as a method of estimating age and differentiating between sexes of the Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, from otoliths

Claire Murdock, College of Charleston

Inferring Juvenile Settlement Sites and Ontogenetic Movements of Two Demersal Fishes, *Mycteroperca phenax* and *Mycteroperca microlepis*, Using Eye Lens Stable Isotopes

Mary Sterling, College of Charleston

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