

## 2019 SDAFS Meeting Continuing Education Workshops

January 25, 2019

Galveston Island, TX

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM (morning slot)	1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (afternoon slot)
Fine Tuning Techniques for Alligator Gar Research (8am–5pm)	
Fish Kill Investigation: Methodology Workshop (8am–5pm)	
Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Restoration Best Management Practices (8am–5pm)	
Finfish Ageing Workshop (8am–5pm)	
BioBase Workshop and Field Demo: Automated aquatic habitat mapping technologies (8am-12pm – onsite class; 1pm-5pm – field demo at marina is optional)	
Leading at all Levels in AFS (8am–12pm)	Getting Hired - What Students Need to Know (2pm–5 pm)
Nature, Wildlife and Landscape Photography: Tips and Techniques (8am–12pm)	Effective Peer Review for AFS Journals (1pm–5pm)
Engagement Techniques to Improve Communication with Stakeholders and Policy Decisions (8am–12pm)	Social and Traditional Media Tactics for the Natural Resource Professional (2pm–4pm)
Acoustic Telemetry Workshop (8am–12pm)	Uncomfortable Conversations: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (1pm–5pm)

### (1) Fine Tuning Techniques for Alligator Gar Research

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Description: The Alligator Gar Technical Committee is offering a workshop focusing on specific techniques used in Alligator Gar research. There will be hands-on demonstration and discussion of topics such as sampling for juvenile specimens, identifying spawning habitat, age estimation, side-scan sonar applications, and advanced sampling techniques. These topics will appeal to both seasoned gar veterans and students interested in Alligator Gar research and management.

Cost: \$25 – student, \$50 – Professional

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Matt Wegener

Email: [matt.wegener@myfwc.com](mailto:matt.wegener@myfwc.com)

Phone: 850-393-1991

## **(2) Fish Kill Investigation: Methodology Workshop**

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Description: The Pollution Committee of the Southern Division AFS is offering a workshop on fish and freshwater mussel kill investigation and valuation. Fish kills are characterized by the sudden death of large numbers of aquatic animals in a clearly distinct area. Fish kills are often very ‘visible’ events which can attract the attention of media and cause concern among anglers and other members of the public. The public often regards dead fish as evidence of pollution or a threat to human health. For this reason, there is often an expectation that officials will investigate fish kills. A fish kill investigation begins with the reporting or discovery of a fish kill, and proceeds through the on-scene investigation and enforcement of the case. This workshop will provide both classroom and field training on the fish and mussel kill methodology described in the recently released AFS special publication 35 titled, *Investigation and Monetary Values of Fish and Freshwater Mollusk Kills*.

Preference: Preference will be given first to those who actually conduct fish kill and/or freshwater mussel kill investigations as part of their job duties. If extra slots are available they will be granted to others that are interested in the workshop.

Cost: \$25 – student, \$50 – Professional

Max number of participants: 80

Workshop requirements for students: Smart device, paper, pen/pencil

Lead Presenter: Greg Conley and various members of the SDAFS Pollution Technical Committee

Email: [greg@lonestarhazmat.com](mailto:greg@lonestarhazmat.com)

Phone: cell (903) 574-1101

## **(3) Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Restoration Best Management Practices**

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Description: The Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership (RFHP) completed a Reservoir Fish Habitat Management manual in 2017 that is hosted on our website <http://www.friendsofreservoirs.com/science/best-management-practices-manual/>. We have heard from numerous fisheries management professionals about the need to provide training in reservoir habitat restoration Best Management Practices. This workshop will be organized around that manual and will cover: permitting, woody/artificial structure, nuisance/invasive aquatic vegetation control, native aquatic vegetation restoration, sedimentation control, nutrient control, shoreline stabilization and funding. The workshop will be cosponsored by the RFHP and the SDAFS Reservoir Committee.

Cost: \$50

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Jeff Boxrucker

Email: [jboxrucker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jboxrucker@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: 405-659-1797

#### **(4) Finfish Ageing Workshop**

Time: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Description: Participants will be instructed on the basics of ageing fish, which includes: the history of fish ageing, otolith extraction methods, otolith microstructure, otolith morphology, otolith processing techniques, counting annuli on otolith sections and whole otoliths, troubleshooting ageing issues, assigning margin codes, assigning age groupings, validation, the importance and how-to of quality control techniques and an introduction to processing and ageing alternative hard parts (scales, spines, fin rays, opercles, etc.)

Following the lecture portion, participants will break out into groups and age a subsample of otoliths on microscopes; these samples will encompass different species, difficulty levels, temporal variation and otolith preparation. After a break for lunch, the group readings will be entered into a spreadsheet for a real-world lesson on quality control and precision.

Following the review session, another lecture will be given which will cover the application of age data (length at age, growth equations, mortality, etc.) as well as age-structured models for stock assessment.

Cost: \$50

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Jessica Carroll

Email: [Jessica.Carroll@myfwc.com](mailto:Jessica.Carroll@myfwc.com)

Phone: 727-502-4828

#### **(5) BioBase Workshop and Field Demo: Automated aquatic habitat mapping technologies**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Description: Come learn about how Fisheries resource managers and researchers across the US and abroad are using off-the-shelf Sonar and GPS technology along with automated, cloud-based data processing to map depth, aquatic vegetation and bottom hardness in waterbodies (EcoSound). We'll also discuss new cloud technologies for automated processing of high resolution satellite imagery for the detection of riparian, wetland, coastal and floating leaf vegetation (EcoSat). Together, these products form the BioBase Cloud Platform ([www.biobasemaps.com](http://www.biobasemaps.com)).

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirement for students: Laptop with Google Earth would be ideal.

Lead Presenter: Ray Valley

Email: [ray.valley@navico.com](mailto:ray.valley@navico.com)

Phone: 651-204-0640

## **(6) Leading at all Levels in AFS**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Description: Designed for anyone who currently serves, or may in the future serve as a leader of a unit or committee at any level of the American Fisheries Society. The workshop addresses the issues that must be addressed by anyone serving in a leadership capacity in AFS, including considerations for leading in a volunteer organization, developing a plan of work, structure and function of AFS and its staff, reporting AFS unit accomplishments and finances, and how to run an effective business meeting (a primer on Robert's Rules of Order).

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Steve L. McMullin

Email: [mcmullintraining@gmail.com](mailto:mcmullintraining@gmail.com)

Phone: 540-818-1670

## **(7) Nature, Wildlife and Landscape Photography: Tips and Techniques**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Description: This workshop will focus on tips and techniques that will enable you to take Nature, Wildlife and Landscape photographs that can relate to your studies in the field. David Hares II will go over the components and technical aspects for taking better photographs through lecture, examples and participant interaction during the workshop.

The lecture portion will be an interactive exploration of our National Parks and many of the places in between. We will discuss the uniqueness of different parks, photography techniques, and various stories that occurred in order to get these photographs. In addition we will discuss photographic tips and tricks to capture photographs. So far these adventures have taken him over 70,000 miles in an attempt to capture the beauty and uniqueness of our country's treasures.

We will discuss some of the techniques as well as camera settings required to get these wildlife and landscape photographs. We will discuss "mutual respect" of wildlife and how to safely interact with wildlife without disturbing the animals.

During the workshop, we will also have a participant's photo review:

The goal is discuss participants work in a group setting to understand how some of the discussed techniques apply to participants photos and provide suggestions for improvement. Participants are encouraged to submit 2-3 of their best photographs, and 1 photograph they wish could be better. Photographs will need to be submitted ahead of time and not all photographs submitted will be discussed during the workshop. Details for how to submit your photographs will be given closer to the conference.

If time allows, we will also have a short presentation of photographs that are possible with your cell phone or tablet.

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None, camera equipment optional

Lead Presenter: David Hares

Email: [info@haresphotography.com](mailto:info@haresphotography.com)

Phone: 972-393-5484

## **(8) Engagement Techniques to Improve Communication with Stakeholders and Policy Decisions**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Description: Traditional public participation methods utilized by fisheries agencies have been criticized for allowing the agencies to nominally meet their statutory requirements for public involvement while effectively continuing to dispense predetermined management decisions. Researchers and decision-makers increasingly recognize the importance of public participation in decision-making. However, there is little agreement in theory or consistency in practice about how to involve the public. Particularly problematic is the question of how to involve stakeholders in the analysis function of the policy process. That is, to what extent should stakeholders be involved in the generation of information upon which policy decisions are made? This workshop explores a variety of public participation and stakeholder engagement techniques to improve communication with stakeholders and policy decisions.

Cost: \$50

Workshop requirements for students: Laptop

Lead Presenter: Vic DiCenzo

Email: [vdicenzo@solitudelake.com](mailto:vdicenzo@solitudelake.com)

Phone: 434-851-0471

## **(9) Acoustic Telemetry Workshop**

Time: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Description: Join us for an interactive discussion on how to make the most of your telemetry study. Our workshop will focus on topics of value to both new and experienced telemetry users.

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Nancy Edwards

Email: [nancy.edwards@vemco.com](mailto:nancy.edwards@vemco.com)

Phone: 902-450-1700 ext. 279

## **(10) Getting Hired - What Students Need to Know**

Time: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Description: This workshop will cover what students need to know to enter the job market. Topics covered include interviewing skills, cover letters and resumes, how to get into graduate school, and what federal and state employers are looking for in new hires.

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Patricia Mazik

Email: [pmazik@wvu.edu](mailto:pmazik@wvu.edu)

Phone: 304-293-4943

## **(11) Effective Peer Review for AFS Journals**

Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Description: The objective of this course is to provide attendees with a solid foundation for providing critical yet constructive peer reviews of manuscripts submitted to AFS and other fisheries journal programs. The course will provide an overview of the publication process from start to finish, the roles and responsibilities of the editorial and review teams at all levels, and best practices for evaluating manuscripts and providing comments. Topics will be addressed through lectures, open discussion, and hands-on evaluation of sample manuscripts.

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Jesse Trushenski

Email: [jesse@evaquafarms.com](mailto:jesse@evaquafarms.com)

Phone: 618-559-9397

## **(12) Social and Traditional Media Tactics for the Natural Resource Professional**

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Description: This workshop introduces natural resource professionals to the current media landscape and explores how anyone can use social media and traditional media relations tools to help them promote their projects and engage more successfully with their constituents.

Topics to be covered will include: an overview of social media platforms, current social media trends and their implications, identifying social media and newsworthy stories within your organization, pitching story ideas to traditional media and influencers to help increase the reach of your messaging, drafting easy to read, news-style articles that local outlets will want to publish, and making scientific information understandable and interesting to the general public.

Staff from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Press Office will present case studies and practical and replicable examples of how the agency uses these tools to engage anglers and non-anglers throughout the session.

Cost: FREE

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Aubry Buzek and Whitney Bishop

Email: [aubry.buzek@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:aubry.buzek@tpwd.texas.gov)

Phone: 512-389-8046

### **(13) Uncomfortable Conversations: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Description: The training shall consist of 4 hours of content, instruction, and active engagement on introductory DEI subject matter. Specific activities will be selected to best fit the needs of the participants. Activities will introduce key issues in diversity, equity, and inclusion, with an emphasis on recognizing and reducing implicit bias.

The session will close with a panel discussion, moderated by SCA's facilitator and composed of AFS members. Panel members will be identified by SCA and AFS and invited to speak about their personal experiences by SCA.

Workshop outcomes include:

- Recognize implicit and explicit bias
- Have a greater understanding of one's own identity and how those identities are affected by, and affect, institutional systems of oppression
- Acknowledge the privileges associated with dominant social groups in society

SCA will prepare and provide a workbook for participants that includes worksheets for activities and background resources, such as a glossary of DEI terms for reference. Participants will leave with a toolkit of resources and practical strategies for immediate application.

Cost: \$10

Max number of participants: 30

Workshop requirements for students: None

Lead Presenter: Dave Barak

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Phone: 312-239-1668