

***Announcement and Call for papers***

**2017 Meeting of the Virginia and Virginia Tech Chapters**

**of the American Fisheries Society**

**“Applied Fish Health”**

Tuesday, February 21st to Thursday, February 23rd, 2017

Washington and Lee University

Lexington, VA

There will be oral and poster presentations and separate Virginia and Virginia Tech Chapter business meetings on February 22nd. We are organizing a discussion on fish health and hatcheries but all presentations are welcome!

How to submit an abstract: Complete the attached abstract submission form. Attach the abstract submission form to an email with the subject line “AFS Meeting 2017 Abstract”. Email the form to both VA Chapter Program Committee Chair - Mike Isel at mike.isel@dgif.virginia.gov and to VT Chapter Program Committee Chair - Skylar Wolf at skylar13@vt.edu .

Ways to present:

**Oral Presentation** – 15 minute talk, 5 minute Q+A, PowerPoint required

**Lightning Talk** - 7 minute talk, 3 minute Q+A, PowerPoint optional for students and professionals to present new projects or programs, results from ongoing work

**Poster** – to be on display throughout meeting, must be available to Q+A during socials

Important dates: Submit your abstract by **December 20, 2016**. Authors will be notified of abstract receipt and acceptance by January 13, 2017. Abstracts submitted after the deadline may be presented as a poster. A block of rooms is being held at the Hampton Inn (540-463-2223) under the name Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, all reservations must be made by **December 21st** so make sure you book a room!!!

Program Committee: Mike Isel (VA Chair), Skylar Wolf (VT Chair), Craig Roghair, Scott Smith, Aaron Bunch, and Hae Kim.

***Please submit abstracts using the attached abstract submission form and format as follows:***

Mark-Recapture Sampling to Assess Populations of the Endangered James Spinymussel (*Pluerobema collina)*

B. T. Watson\*1, B. J. K. Ostby2, T. E. Dickinson3

\*Presenting Author

1Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries, Forest, VA

2Daguna Consulting, LLC, Abingdon, VA

3The Catena Group, Hillsborough, NC

**Abstract (300 words or less):**

Determining the viability of freshwater mussel populations is necessary in developing and implementing conservation plans. However, data regarding population sizes and parameters such as survival and recruitment are lacking. Mark-recapture sampling allows for estimation of these parameters, while also accounting for variable detection probabilities. The federally endangered James spinymussel (Pluerobema collina) is predominately found in the James River Basin in Virginia and West Virginia and a significant population was discovered in Little Oregon Creek, Craig County, VA, in 2010, allowing for mark-recapture sampling. Population estimates in 2010 using program MARK and CAPTURE ranged from 1,769 – 1,909, with quadrat estimates not significantly different. Detection probabilities varied by section and date from 10% – 30% and were similar to those determined from quadrat sampling. Sampling will continue through 2015 in Little Oregon Creek and at six additional locations.

**Type:** Oral presentation

**Is the presenter a Student or a Professional?** Professional

**Primary contact for this submission:**

**Name:** Brian Watson

**Email:** bwatson@randomemail.com

**Phone:** 555-555-5555



**2017 Meeting Abstract Submission Form**

Click here to enter presentation or poster title.

Click here to enter authors. Use superscript to link to affiliation below. Indicate presenter with asterisk.

\*Presenting

Click here to enter author affiliation. Use superscript to link to author name above. Include author organization name, city, and state.

**Abstract (300 words or less):**

Click here to enter abstract.

**Type:** Click here to enter ‘Poster’, ‘Oral presentation’, or ‘Lightning talk’.

**Is the presenter a Student or a Professional?** Click here to enter ‘Student’ or ‘Professional’.

**Primary contact for this submission:**

**Name:** Click here to enter contact name.

**Email:** Click here to enter contact email.

**Phone:** Click here to enter contact phone, xxx-xxx-xxxx.