



Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
"Caught in the Middle: Adapting to Change in Fisheries"
Fall 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

Friday, November 13th, 2020

Click to view [full abstracts](#) and [register](#)



Welcome

8:30-8:40 Introductory remarks

Keynote Session

8:40-9:50 **Sarah Smith**, Rutgers University, "COVID-19 Impacts on Marine Fisheries." Industry Stakeholder Panel - moderated by **Douglas Zemeckis**, Rutgers University

9:50-10:00 *Break*

Contributed Full Presentations - Finfish

10:00-10:20 **Greg Hinks**, NJ Department of Environmental Protection, "Trawl and eDNA Assessment of Marine Fish Diversity, Seasonality, and Relative Abundance in Coastal New Jersey"

10:20-10:40 **Desmond Kahn**, Fishery Investigations / Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (Retired), "Insuring That Stock Assessment Is a Scientific Enterprise"

10:40-11:00 **Linda Barry**, NJ Department of Environmental Protection, "Contemporary Size Truncation in the Weakfish Population in New Jersey and Delaware Bay, U.S.A."

11:00-11:20 **Jake Mathews**, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, "Exploring Trends in Abundance of Atlantic Croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*), Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*), Spot (*Leiostomus xanthurus*) and Weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*) in Relation to Large Scale Climatic Signals in a Mid-Atlantic Estuary"

11:20-11:40 **Emily Slesinger***, Rutgers University, "Spawning Phenology of a Rapidly Shifting Marine Fish Species Throughout its Range"

11:40-12:00 **Camilla McCandless**, NOAA Fisheries, "Cooperative Shark Tagging Program: Citizen Science Detecting Changes in Fish Populations"

12:00-12:30 *Lunch*

Early Career Networking Event

12:30-1:20 Panel: **Camilla McCandless**, NOAA; **Audy Peoples**, NOAA; **Ann Petersen**, NOAA; **John Wnek**, Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science / Project Terrapin - moderated by **Nilanjana Das**, Stockton University (*separate registration required* [here](#))

Contributed Full Presentation - Songscape

1:20-1:40 **Roland Hagan**, Rutgers University, "Slackwater - Sustain Music and Nature Songscape: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge"

Contributed Full Presentations - Invertebrates

- 1:40-2:00** **Jason Morson**, Rutgers University, “Can Cutting Bar Modifications Reduce Bycatch and Increase Catch Efficiency in the Atlantic Sea Scallop Dredge Fishery?”
- 2:00-2:20** **Christine Thompson**, Stockton University, “Optimizing Remote Setting on Different Cultch Types for Small-Scale Oyster Restoration in Barnegat Bay, NJ”
- 2:20-2:40** **Michael Acquafredda***, Rutgers University, “Breeding Farmed Atlantic Surfclams (*Spisula solidissima*) for Greater Heat Tolerance”
- 2:40-3:00** **Haley Oleynik**, University of Delaware, “Changes in a Mid Atlantic Estuary: Trends and Drivers of the Fish and Macroinvertebrate Community in the Delaware Bay”
- 3:00-3:20** **Alessandro Barlotta / Molly Lada / John Philip Ostapovich / Lexi Pereira***, Marine Academy of Technology and Environmental Science, “Crabbing Responsibly at Barnegat Bay, NJ: The Need for More Education for a Sustainable Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) Population”
- 3:20-3:30** *Break*

Larval Presentations - Developing Projects

- 3:30-3:40** **Lori Brown**, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, “Using Volunteered Geographic Information to Track Invasive Fish in Delaware”
- 3:40-3:50** **Stephanie Merhoff**, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, “Identification of Potential Drivers in the Decline of Delaware Bay Weakfish”
- 3:50-4:00** **Kiernan Bates***, Rutgers University, “Sex Specific Energetics of Spawning of Black Sea Bass in New Jersey”
- 4:00-4:10** **Danielle Dyson***, Stockton University, “Insights into New Jersey Land Based Recreational Shark Fishery”
- 4:10-4:20** **Kerry McFeeters***, Monmouth University, “Coastal Movements of Sandbar Sharks (*Carcharinus plumbius*) Tagged in New Jersey”
- 4:20-4:30** **Emily Manuel***, Rutgers University, “Habitat Selection has Implications for Post-Settlement Growth of Oysters in Different Salinities”
- 4:30-4:40** **Heidi Yeh***, Rutgers University, “Oyster Microbiome Dynamics Driven by Salinity and Seasonality in the Delaware Bay”
- 4:40-4:50** *Break*

Awards and Business Meeting

- 4:50-5:30** Meeting Toast, Student Awards, Business Meeting
- 5:30** Adjourn

*** Denotes student presentations**