



## 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

February 12 – 14, 2020  
Gulfport, Mississippi  
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront



The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society will be held February 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at the Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront by Marriott in Gulfport, MS. Gulfport is one of eight coastal cities, and the second largest city in the State of Mississippi. It is well known for the Port of Gulfport which is “the third major container seaport on the United States shores on the Gulf of Mexico, and it is the country's second busiest importer of green fruit.” This area was severely affected by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and has slowly rebuilt to a thriving community.

### General Meeting Information

The Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society invites you to the 46<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the society to be held at the **Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront in Gulfport, MS, Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> through Friday February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

**Meeting Location:** The Wednesday night social, Thursday sessions and banquet, and Friday business meeting will all be held in the Coastal Ballroom of the Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront Hotel by Marriott.

Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront by Marriott  
1600 East Beach Boulevard  
Gulfport, MS 39501

Phone: (228) 864-4310



The hotel is located on Highway 90 (East Beach Boulevard). When coming from the north, take Highway 49 South to Highway 90/Beach Boulevard and turn left (East). The hotel is approximately one mile on the left.

**Lodging:** A block of rooms have been reserved at the Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront at a rate of \$96.00 per night (plus taxes and fees).

You can use the link below to book your block rate room:

[Book your group rate for MS Chapter of American Fisheries Society here](#)

Room reservations at the agreed upon rate will be available through **January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.**

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:** The Mississippi Chapter members and associates, are invited to submit abstracts for presentations and posters describing their research and management of freshwater and marine fisheries, aquatic vegetation, nongame species, aquaculture, and aquatic ecology. Participation and attendance by students, inactive members, and other interested people is also strongly encouraged.

Oral presentations will be made during a general session on Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup>. Each presentation will be allotted **15 minutes** (12 minutes for talk with 3 minutes for questions).

A poster session will be held after the oral sessions, prior to the banquet on Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup>.

Presentation schedules may change (starting Wed or continuing on to Fri) based on the number of abstracts submitted.

Submission deadline for abstracts for both oral and poster presentations is **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**.

Abstract formatting guidelines can be found below ([Formatting Guidelines](#)).

**Abstract Submission Guidelines:** To submit an abstract please first register for the meeting. Format your abstract based on the guidelines provided below. Email the abstract to [mississippiafs@gmail.com](mailto:mississippiafs@gmail.com). You will receive confirmation when your abstract is received.

**Student Awards:** If you are a student and would like to be considered for an **oral or poster** award, please state so in the email as well as in the “presenter” line of your abstract. We will be recognizing three oral and one poster presentation based on judging.

**Registration and Fees:** Early registration will be \$85.00 for regular members and \$60.00 for student members until **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020**. Regular registration begins February 1<sup>st</sup> and will be \$95.00 and \$70.00 for regular and student members, respectively.

The registration options are to pay by credit card or check (PO) only. Our W9 form for MSAFS is available below ([W9 MSAFS](#)).

If you are paying by credit card you can register at this site:

<https://squareup.com/store/mississippi-afs>

**DURING CHECKOUT:** Please enter your name and affiliation as you would like it to appear on your name badge in the notes section.

If paying by check please fill out the [Registration Form](#) (below) for each registering individual. Make the check payable to: Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Mail the check and the registration forms to:

Jeremy Higgs-MSAFS  
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory  
703 East Beach Drive  
Ocean Springs, MS, 39564

If you are claiming early registration your check must be postmarked by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

On-site registration will be \$95.00 for regular members and \$70.00 for student members. Registration will be available Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm, and will begin again at 7:30am on Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Cancellations:** If you have registered for the meeting and need to cancel, you may change the name on your registration to cover another individual to represent you, you may request a refund of 90% through January 31<sup>st</sup>, or a 50% refund on or after

February 1<sup>st</sup>. Refunds will be provided by check only and will be reimbursed to the original purchasing person or agency.

**Meals and Events:** Registration covers the welcome social on the evening of Wednesday February 12<sup>th</sup>, break snacks & drinks during the meeting, and the banquet meal on Thursday February 13<sup>th</sup>. You will be responsible for your breakfasts and lunches.

**Business Meetings:** The Annual MSAFS Business Meeting will be held on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Contact Us:** For any other questions or additional information, please contact Dennis Riecke [Dennis.Riecke@wfp.ms.gov](mailto:Dennis.Riecke@wfp.ms.gov)

## ABSTRACT INSTRUCTIONS & EXAMPLE

### JOINT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALABAMA & MISSISSIPPI CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

Abstract submissions follow the Southern Division AFS format and should include presenter's personal information, the paper's title, author(s) names (presenter's name underlined), and superscript numbered references to each author's address. The body of the abstract should be 300 words or less and should include the study objectives, principal results, and conclusions. The general abstract format is given below.

Students intending to compete for Best Presentation Award (Paper/Oral) should state that they would like to compete in both the email for abstract submission and on the "presenter" line of the abstract page. Please add "Student Paper" at the end of the presenter line.

Contributed oral presentations are currently scheduled for **15 minutes** – 12 minutes for the presentation followed by a 3 minute question/answer period. Moderators will strictly enforce the time limit. Microsoft PowerPoint presentations are required for oral presentations.

Poster presentations will be encouraged due to the number of attendees at the meeting. Posters should be no larger than 36" X 44", in landscape or portrait format only. Posters will be exhibited throughout the meeting duration, and poster authors will be available at specific, scheduled times to talk about their work and answer questions.

#### **Example Abstract Format (MS Word .doc or .docx is required):**

Presenter: Kevin M. Hunt, kevin.hunt@msstate.edu, 662-325-0870, Student Paper

Title: Habitat impairment scores for Southeastern U.S. Reservoirs

Author(s): Hunt, K.M<sup>1</sup>, J. W. Schlechte<sup>2</sup>, and L.E. Miranda<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Affiliation and address

<sup>2</sup> Affiliation and address

<sup>3</sup> Affiliation and address

Abstract: The abstract text should be no more than 300 words. Note that the words "Presenter", "Title", "Author(s)", and "Abstract" above SHOULD NOT appear in your Microsoft Word document, they are listed above for instructional purposes only. Add "Student Paper" to your presenter line if you would like to be judged for Best Presentation Awards. ***View the example on the next page.***

Any questions regarding oral and poster presentations and abstract submission should be sent to: Dennis Riecke, Program Committee Chair (dennis.riecke@wfp.ms.gov).

Thank you for your submission and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

## **EXAMPLE**

Eric Hoffmayer, [eric.hoffmayer@noaa.gov](mailto:eric.hoffmayer@noaa.gov), (228) 549-1691

### **Variability in the reproductive biology of the Atlantic sharpnose shark, *Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*, in the northern Gulf of Mexico**

Eric Hoffmayer<sup>1</sup>, Jill Hendon<sup>2</sup>, Lisa Jones<sup>1</sup>, William Driggers<sup>1</sup>, Travis Holland<sup>2</sup>, Kristin Hannan<sup>1</sup>, Madison Walker<sup>2</sup>, and James Sulikowski<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Mississippi Laboratories, Pascagoula, MS 39567

<sup>2</sup>The University of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Ocean Springs, MS 39564

<sup>3</sup>Marine Science Center, University of New England, Biddeford, ME 04005

Reproduction is one life history characteristic that must be understood in order to foster successful management of cartilaginous fishes. Without information regarding when individuals in a population mature and their frequency of reproduction, population demography or stock assessments cannot be adequately implemented. Recently, significant variability in the reproductive cycle several Carcharhinid sharks inhabiting the Gulf of Mexico have been observed, suggesting that the reproductive biology within this family needs to be reassessed. The Atlantic sharpnose shark, *Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*, represents an ideal candidate for examining temporal fluctuations in reproductive parameters due to the relatively fast generation time of this species. The objectives of this study were 1) to provide an updated synopsis of the reproductive biology of Atlantic sharpnose sharks from the coastal waters of the northern Gulf of Mexico, 2) compare our findings with those of past studies, and 3) provide contemporary baseline data that could be used to assess the effects of anthropogenic impacts on the reproductive biology of the species. Our data demonstrate that Atlantic sharpnose sharks currently exhibit a protracted mating period, as indicated by the presence of reproductively active adults from March through October. The observed variability in the reproductive cycle of Atlantic sharpnose sharks in the northern Gulf of Mexico could be related to several factors including spatial variability and density dependent factors.

# *Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society*

Registration for the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
February 12-14, 2020  
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront  
Gulfport, MS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as you would like it to appear on your badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Type:		Total
Professional (Before Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> )	\$85	_____
Professional (Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> or later)	\$95	_____
Student (Before Jan 31 <sup>st</sup> )	\$60	_____
Student (Feb 1 <sup>st</sup> or later)	\$70	_____
Mississippi Chapter Membership (required to attend):		
Professional	\$10	_____
Student	\$5	_____
TOTAL		\$_____

Are you presenting? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what type of presentation: Oral \_\_\_\_\_ Poster \_\_\_\_\_

Students: Would you like to be considered for student judging? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print this form and mail it with a check or PO (payable to the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society) to: Jeremy Higgs, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, 703 East Beach Drive, Ocean Springs, MS 39564

You may pay for multiple registrations with one check. Please ensure that registration forms for all individuals are included. Must be postmarked by January 31<sup>st</sup> for early registration.

If you have questions please contact Jeremy Higgs at [j.higgs@usm.edu](mailto:j.higgs@usm.edu) or 228-818-8807.

## Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give form to the  
 requester. Do not  
 send to the IRS.**

Print or type  
 See Specific Instructions on page 2.

Name (as shown on your income tax return) <b>Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society</b>	
Business name, if different from above	
Check appropriate box: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/ Sole proprietor <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other ▶ <b>Non Profit</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Exempt from backup withholding	
Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) <b>703 East Beach Drive</b>	Requester's name and address (optional) <b>Jill Hendon</b>
City, state, and ZIP code <b>Ocean Springs, MS 39564</b>	
List account number(s) here (optional)	

### Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on Line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN* on page 3.

Social security number								
or								
Employer identification number								
5	2	1	0	6	9	1	0	6

**Note.** If the account is in more than one name, see the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.

### Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and
3. I am a U.S. person (including a U.S. resident alien).

**Certification instructions.** You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the Certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. (See the instructions on page 4.)

<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of U.S. person ▶ <i>Jill Hendon</i>	Date ▶ <i>6-1-11</i>
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### Purpose of Form

A person who is required to file an information return with the IRS, must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) to report, for example, income paid to you, real estate transactions, mortgage interest you paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, or contributions you made to an IRA.

**U.S. person.** Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN to the person requesting it (the requester) and, when applicable, to:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee.

In 3 above, if applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income.

**Note.** If a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

For federal tax purposes, you are considered a person if you are:

- An individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States,
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States, or
- Any estate (other than a foreign estate) or trust. See Regulations sections 301.7701-6(a) and 7(a) for additional information.

**Special rules for partnerships.** Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax on any foreign partners' share of income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, a partnership is required to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid withholding on your share of partnership income.

The person who gives Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States is in the following cases:

- The U.S. owner of a disregarded entity and not the entity,