



Aaron Joseph Bunch

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Clemson University
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Education

Clemson University – Clemson, SC (1/2020 – Present)

- PhD Student – Wildlife & Fisheries Biology; Advisor – Dr. Troy Farmer

University of Florida – Gainesville, FL (1/2007 – 12/2008)

- MS Degree– Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences; Advisor – Dr. Mike Allen

North Carolina State University – Raleigh, NC (8/2001 – 12/2006)

- BS Degree (College Honors) - Fisheries & Wildlife Sciences, Fisheries Concentration
Minor in Env. Science

Professional Experience

- *Graduate Research Assistant (PhD)*, Clemson University (1/2020–Present)
- *Lab Manager (Dr. Troy Farmer Lab)*, Clemson University (10/2019–1/2020)
- *Tidal Rivers Project Leader*, Virginia Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries (12/2013–10/2019)
- *Regional Fish Program Manager*, Arizona Game & Fish Dept. (9/2013–12/2013)
- *Sport Fish Research Supervisor*, Arizona Game & Fish Dept. (2/2013–9/2013)
- *Colorado River Research Supervisor*, Arizona Game & Fish Dept. (2/2011–2/2013)
- *Colorado River Fisheries Biologist*, Arizona Game & Fish Dept. (12/2009–2/2011)
- *Fisheries Technician II*, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (9/2008–10/2009)
- *Graduate Research Assistant (MS)*, University of Florida (1/2007–9/2008)
- *Fisheries Technician*, University of Florida (5/2006–12/2006)
- *Hydrologic Technician (Intern)*, US Geological Survey (10/2004–5/2006)
- *Laboratory & Field Specialist I*, Virginia Institute of Marine Science (5/2005–8/2005)
- *Temporary Fisheries Worker*, NC Wildlife Resources Commission (3/2004–8/2004)
- *Fisheries Intern*, NC Division of Water Quality (5/2003–8/2003)
- *Fisheries Intern*, NC State University (5/2002–8/2002)
- *Aquaculture Technician*, NC State University (8/2001–12/2001)

Publications

Published

24. **Bunch, A.**, H. Hershey, F. Hoogakker, B. Donovan, & G. Reger. 2021. A Bayesian multi-state model approach to evaluate movements of an estuarine opportunist. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*. 10.13140/RG.2.2.30156.95368
23. Evans, H.*, **A. Bunch***, J. Schmitt, F. Hoogakker, & K. Carlson. 2021. High-throughput sequencing outperforms traditional morphological methods in Blue Catfish diet analysis and reveals novel insights into diet ecology. *Ecology and Evolution*. 2021; 00:1-14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.7460> (Open Access) ***Co-First Authorship**: "Heather K. Evans and Aaron J. Bunch contributed equally to this work."
22. Plough, L., **A. Bunch**, B. Lee, C. Fitzgerald, C. Stence, & B. Richardson. 2021. Development and testing of an environmental DNA (eDNA) assay for endangered Atlantic Sturgeon to assess its potential as a monitoring and management tool. 2021; 00: 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1002/edn3.186> (Open Access)
21. **Bunch, A.**, K. Carlson, F. Hoogakker, L. Plough, & H. Evans. 2021. Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus* Mitchill, 1815) early life stage consumption evidenced by high-throughput DNA sequencing. *Journal of Applied Ichthyology*. 2021; 00: 1– 8. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jai.14153>
20. Kaemingk, M., C. Bender, C. Chizinski, **A. Bunch**, & K. Pope. 2021. Spatiotemporal invariance of social-ecological catchments. *Ecological Applications*. Accepted Author Manuscript e2272. <https://doi.org/10.1002/eap.2272> (Open Access)
19. Hilling, C., Y. Jaio, **A. Bunch**, B. Greenlee, J. Schmitt, & D. Orth. 2020. Growth dynamics of invasive Blue Catfish in four subestuaries of the Chesapeake Bay, USA. *Catfish 2020 Special Issue*. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*.
18. **Bunch, A.**, B. Donovan, F. Hoogakker, & E. Peatman. 2020. Empirical evaluation of OTC & F1 genetics to differentiate stocked from wild Largemouth Bass. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*. Accepted Author Manuscript. doi:10.1002/nafm.10431
17. Balazik M., M. Barber, S. Altman, K. Reine, A. Katzenmeyer, **A. Bunch**, et al. 2020. Dredging activity & associated sound have negligible effects on adult Atlantic sturgeon migration to spawning habitat in a large coastal river. *PLoS ONE* 15(3): e0230029. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0230029>
16. Hilling, C., Y. Jiao, **A. Bunch**, & Q. Phelps. 2020. A simulation study to evaluate biases in population characteristics estimation associated with varying bin numbers in size-based age subsampling. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* FEATURED ARTICLE Early View, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10429>.
15. **Bunch, A.**, & W. T. Stewart. 2020. Integrating PIT technology into gear evaluation in an unregulated desert tributary. *Fisheries Research* 221:105366.
14. **Bunch, A.**, J. Odenkirk, M. Isel, & C. Boyce. 2019. Spatiotemporal patterns & dispersal mechanisms of Northern Snakehead in Virginia. *American Fisheries Society Symposium* 89: 2019. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.10556.49286/2

13. Schmitt, J.D., B. Peoples, **A. Bunch**, L. Castello, & D. Orth. 2019. Modeling the Predation Dynamics of Invasive Blue Catfish *Ictalurus furcatus* in Chesapeake Bay. *Fishery Bulletin* 117(4):277-290.
12. Hilling C., **A. Bunch**, J. Emmel, J. Schmitt, & D. Orth. 2019. Growth & mortality of invasive Flathead Catfish in the tidal James River, Virginia. *Journal of Fish & Wildlife Management* 10(2):641-652.
11. Schmitt J., J. Emmel, **A. Bunch**, C. Hilling, & D. Orth. 2019. Feeding Ecology & Distribution of an Invasive Apex Predator: Flathead Catfish *Pylodictis olivaris* in Sub-Estuarines of the Chesapeake Bay, Virginia, USA. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 39:390-402.
10. **Bunch, A.**, B. Greenlee, & E. Brittle. 2018. Blue catfish density & biomass in a small tidal tributary in coastal Virginia. *Northeastern Naturalist* 25(2):333-340.
9. Hilling, C., **A. Bunch**, R. Greenlee, D. Orth, & Y. Jaio. 2018. Natural mortality & size structure of introduced blue catfish in Virginia tidal rivers. *Journal of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies* 5:30-38.
8. Massie, D., T. Wagner, G. Smith, T. Bonvechio, **A. Bunch**, & D. Lucchesi. 2018. Spatial variability & macroscale drivers of growth for native & introduced Flathead Catfish populations. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 147:554-565.
7. Schmitt J., E. Hallerman, **A. Bunch**, Z. Moran, J. Emmel & D. Orth. 2017. Predation & prey selectivity by nonnative catfish on migrating alosines in an Atlantic slope estuary. *Marine & Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, & Ecosystem Science*. 9(1):108-125.
6. **Bunch, A.**, B. Greenlee, & J. Odenkirk. 2017. Evaluation of largemouth bass stocking in a Virginia tidal river. *Journal of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies* 2017:18-24.
5. **Bunch, A.**, M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2015. Influence of macrophyte induced hypoxia on fish communities in lakes with altered hydrology. *Lake & Reservoir Management* 31(1):11-19.
4. **Bunch, A.**, C. Walters & L. Coggins. 2013. Measurement error in fish lengths: evaluation & management implications. *Fisheries* 38(7):320-326.
3. Feiner Z., J. Rice, D. Aday, & **A. Bunch**. 2013. Trophic niche & diet overlap between invasive white perch & resident white bass in a southeastern reservoir. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 142(4):912-919.
2. Makinster, A., W. Persons, L. Avery, & **A. Bunch**. 2010. Colorado River Fish Monitoring in Grand Canyon, Arizona—2000-2010 Summary. USGS Open File Report. U.S. Geological Survey, Grand Canyon Research & Monitoring Center, Flagstaff, AZ.
1. **Bunch, A.**, M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2010. Spatial & temporal hypoxia dynamics in dense emergent macrophytes in a Florida lake. *Wetlands* 30(3):429-435.

In process

1. Hilling C., Y, Jiao, M. Fabrizio, P. Angermeier, **A. Bunch**, D. Orth. *In press*. A size-based stock assessment model for invasive Blue Catfish in a Chesapeake Bay subestuary. North American Journal of Fisheries Management
2. **Bunch, A.**, B. Post, G. Sorger, E. Waldrop, H. Hershey, & T. Farmer. *In prep*. Movements of an anadromous alosine within a complex river-reservoir system. Movement Ecology. (6 pages, 1 table, 2 figures)

Popular media

5. **Bunch, A.** 2018. A tidal wave of success on the Chickahominy River. Virginia Wildlife Magazine, March-April issue.
4. **Bunch, A.** 2015. Unbridled sturgeon of our tidal rivers. Virginia Wildlife Magazine, September-October issue.
3. **Bunch, A.** 2012. Dam trout: how do trout populations respond to altered flow? The Fisheries Blog, Posted November 12, 2012, Website:
<http://www.thefisheriesblog.com/2012/11/dam-trout-how-do-trout-populations.html>
2. **Bunch, A.**, & W. Stewart. 2012. Tight lines at Lees Ferry. Arizona Wildlife Views Magazine, January-February issue.
1. **Bunch, A.** 2011. Bluehead sucker, Wildlife Field Note. Arizona Wildlife Views Magazine, July-August issue.

Journal Referee

River Research & Applications; North American Journal of Fisheries Management; Transactions of the American Fisheries Society; Journal of Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies; Journal of Experimental Marine Biology & Ecology; Marine & Freshwater Research; Ecological Engineering; 1st International Snakehead Symposium Proceedings Book; Fisheries Management & Ecology

Proposals Granted

- Farmer T., and **A. Bunch**. 2022. Development of eDNA as a Tool to Evaluate Anadromous Fish Passage in Response to Environmental Flows. \$50,963 for one year.
- Farmer T., and **A. Bunch**. 2021. Induced fish movement over low-head dams. \$25,000 for one year.
- Bunch, A.**, M. O'Neill, & B. Stewart. 2013. Evaluation of predator recognition training in bonytail (*Gila elegans*) & razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) in mesocosms. \$472,000 over 3 years.
- Bunch, A.**, & W. Stewart. 2011. Removal of non-native fishes in the Paria River to Badger Rapid reach of the Colorado River. \$110,000 for one year.

Teaching

- Workshop Instructor for Southern Division American Fisheries Society
 - “Science Communication” (Spring 2022)
- Guest Lecturer
 - WFB 4180 - Fisheries Management and Conservation
 - ENR 1010 - Introduction to Environmental and Natural Resources I
- Workshop Instructor for Parent American Fisheries Society
 - “A life cycle of scientific communication: communicating by presentation, writing & reviewing for a variety of audiences, & using social media” (New Jersey Meeting 2018)
 - “Engage Anyone with Your Science” (Virtual Annual Meeting 2020)
- Workshop Instructor for Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society
 - “Study design & power analysis” (Spring 2018)
 - “Translating fisheries science to the public” (Fall 2018)
- Clemson University Undergraduate Creative Inquiry Program Course
 - “#FishSciComm: Translating fisheries science to the public” (Spring 2020)

Presentations

- Bunch, A.,** H. Hershey, B. Post, C. Holbrook, G. Sorg, E. Waldrop, J. Gibbons, T. Farmer. 2022. American Shad Post-Passage Movements and Upstream Extent within a Complex River-Reservoir System. Annual Meeting, Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society, Charleston, SC.
- Bunch, A.** 2021. What Does Inclusion in the Fisheries Profession Look Like? American Fisheries Society, Baltimore, MD.
- Bunch, A.,** J. Henne, D. Smith, T. Farmer. 2021. Field and laboratory testing of double acoustic tagging techniques to achieve fine- and broad-scale American Shad movements to evaluate fish passage. American Fisheries Society, Baltimore, MD.
- Bunch, A.,** H. Hershey, G. Reger, F. Hoogakker, B. Donovan, & T. Farmer. 2020. A Bayesian multi-state model approach to evaluate movements of an estuarine opportunist. American Fisheries Society, Virtual Annual Meeting.
- Bunch, A.,** & T. Farmer. 2020. Design & testing of an HR2 acoustic array for evaluating fine-scale fish movements. American Fisheries Society, Virtual Annual Meeting.
- Bunch, A.,** & T. Farmer. 2020. Design & testing of an HR2 acoustic array for evaluating fine-scale fish movements. South Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Santee, SC.
- Bunch, A.** 2019. Managing fisheries in a conflicting world. Clemson University Student Sub-unit, Clemson, SC.
- Bunch, A.** 2019. Managing fisheries in a conflicting world. USFWS Course, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.

- Bunch, A.,** H. Evans, K. Carlson, & F. Hoogakker. 2019. Exploring Pathways of Atlantic Sturgeon DNA in Diets from a Tidal River Fish Assemblage using High-Throughput Sequencing. Annual Meeting, Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society, Galveston, TX.
- Bunch, A.,** H. Evans, K. Carlson, & F. Hoogakker. 2019. Exploring Pathways of Atlantic Sturgeon DNA in Diets from a Tidal River Fish Assemblage using High-Throughput Sequencing. Annual Meeting, Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Fredericksburg, VA.
- Bunch, A.** 2018. Managing fisheries in a conflicting world. Virginia Tech Student Sub-unit, Blacksburg, VA.
- Bunch, A.** 2018. Managing fisheries in a conflicting world. NC State University Student Sub-unit, Raleigh, NC.
- Bunch, A.,** B. Greenlee, & E. Brittle. 2017. Exploring largemouth bass tournament displacement in two connected tidal rivers in Virginia. Annual Meeting, American Fisheries Society, Tampa, FL.
- Bunch, A.,** & D. Goetz. 2017. Identifying sampling efficiencies in fisheries monitoring. Annual Meeting. Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Lexington, VA.
- Bunch, A.,** & D. Goetz. 2017. Identifying sampling efficiencies in fisheries monitoring. Annual Meeting. Northeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Norfolk, VA.
- Bunch, A.,** B. Greenlee, & J. Odenkirk. 2017. Evaluation of largemouth bass stocking on a Virginia tidal river. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Bunch, A.,** Y. Jiao, B. Greenlee, & E. Brittle. 2015. Blue catfish density & biomass in a small tidal tributary in coastal Virginia. Annual Meeting, Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Blacksburg, VA.
- Bunch, A.,** Y. Jiao, B. Greenlee, & E. Brittle. 2015. Blue catfish density & biomass in a small tidal tributary in coastal Virginia. Annual Meeting, Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Pine Knoll Shores, NC.
- Bunch, A.** 2013. One fish, two fish, the geography of a river fish. AZ Game & Fish Dept. Research Seminar, Phoenix, AZ.
- Bunch, A.,** M. McKinstry, B. Albrecht, M. Anderson, B. Persons, E. Smith. 2013. A rare find in Grand Canyon—the razorback sucker. Annual Meeting, Arizona-New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Albuquerque, NM.
- Bunch, A.** 2013. Grand Canyon fish community monitoring, 2012 Results. Annual Meeting, Colorado River Aquatic Biologists, Laughlin, NV.

- Bunch, A.** 2013. The 'other fish' category. Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Technical Working Group Meeting. Phoenix, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2012. Colorado River fish research activities. Grand Canyon River Guides Training Seminar, Marble Canyon, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2012. Mainstem Colorado River fish monitoring. National Parks Service Fish Management Plan Public Meeting, Page, AZ.
- Bunch, A. & W. Stewart.** 2012. Factors influencing rainbow trout spatial distribution patterns in a large regulated river. Annual Meeting, Arizona-New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Phoenix, AZ.
- Bunch, A. & M. Anderson.** 2012. Lees Ferry rainbow trout fishery. White Mountain Fly Fishing Club January Meeting, Pinetop, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2012. Lees Ferry & mainstem Colorado River fish monitoring. Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Technical Working Group Meeting. Phoenix, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2011. Effects of flow on the Lees Ferry rainbow trout population. Northern Arizona Fly Caster's November Meeting, Flagstaff, AZ.
- Bunch, A. & W. Stewart.** 2011. Distribution of Colorado River fishes between Lees Ferry & Lake Mead. 11th Biennial Conference of Research on the Colorado Plateau. Flagstaff, AZ.
- Bunch, A. & W. Stewart.** 2011. Distribution of Colorado River fishes in Grand Canyon, Arizona. Annual Meeting, American Fisheries Society, Seattle, WA.
- Bunch, A.** 2011. Lees Ferry Creel Survey, 2011 preliminary results. Knowledge Assessment Workshop, U.S. Geological Survey, Flagstaff, AZ.
- Bunch, A., L. Avery, A. Makinster & W. Stewart.** 2011. Status & distribution of Colorado River fishes in Grand Canyon, Arizona. Annual Meeting, Arizona-New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Pinetop, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2011. Grand Canyon fish community monitoring, 2010 Results. Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Technical Working Group. Phoenix, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2011. Grand Canyon fish community monitoring, 2010 Results. Annual Meeting, Colorado River Aquatic Biologists, Laughlin, NV.
- Bunch, A.** 2010. Grand Canyon fish community monitoring, 2009 Results. Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program Technical Working Group. Presented via teleconference from Flagstaff, AZ.
- Bunch, A.** 2010. Grand Canyon fish community monitoring, 2009 Results. Annual Meeting, Colorado River Aquatic Biologists, Laughlin, NV.

- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2009. Dissolved oxygen dynamics in dense emergent plants at Lakes Istokpoga & Kissimmee, Florida. Annual Meeting, NC Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Greensboro, NC.
- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2008. Fish community composition and dissolved oxygen dynamics in tussock-forming aquatic macrophytes. Lake Istokpoga Management Team Meeting, Sebring, FL.
- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2008. Fish community composition in tussock-forming aquatic macrophytes. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Ottawa, Canada.
- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2008. Fish community composition in tussock-forming aquatic macrophytes. Florida Lake Management Society & NALMS Southeast Regional Conference, Destin, FL.
- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2008. Fish community composition & dissolved oxygen dynamics in tussock-forming aquatic macrophytes. Graduate Student Symposium, University of Florida, Dept. of Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences, Gainesville, FL.
- Bunch, A.,** M. Allen, & D. Gwinn. 2008. Fish community composition & dissolved oxygen dynamics in tussock-forming aquatic macrophytes. Annual Meeting, Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Ocala, FL.
- Bunch, A.,** & T. Cuffney. 2006. The effects of urbanization on stream fish assemblages in the Piedmont of North Carolina. Annual Meeting, NC Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Brown Summit, NC.

Honors & Awards

- 2020 American Fisheries Society Distinguished Service Award Recipient
- 2019 American Fisheries Society Emerging Leaders Award Recipient
- Second Place, Best Fisheries Article – “Tight lines at Lees Ferry”, Association of Conservation Information Annual Meeting – Midway, UT (2013). http://www.aci-net.org/contest2012/2012_Awards_JudgesBios.pdf
- Co-author, First Place Poster at National Water Resources Association Meeting in New Orleans, LA (2008)
- Third place, Best Student Presentation – Annual Meeting, Florida Lake Management Society, Destin, FL (2008) - \$150
- Various travel grants to professional meetings – \$935 (2005–2008)
- Service Award - NC State University Student Sub-unit, American Fisheries Society (2006)
- Honorable Mention, Richard L. Noble Best Student Paper Award – Annual Meeting, NC Chapter, American Fisheries Society (2006)
- College of Natural Resources Honors - NC State University (2006)

- Special Thanks for Achieving Results Award (STAR) for Outstanding Work - USGS (2005) - \$500
- Thomas L. Quay Wildlife & Natural Resources Undergraduate Experimental Learning Award - Dept. of Forestry & Environmental Resources, NC State University (2005) - \$1,000
- Henry Winfield & Ruby Leftwich Robertson Scholarship - Hugh Hammond Bennett Chapter, Soil & Water Conservation Society (2005) - \$2,000
- Xi Sigma Pi Forestry Honors Fraternity – Department of Forestry & Environmental Resources, NC State University (2004)
- Camp Younts Foundation Scholarship (2002–2004) - \$4,000
- Hattie Harney Scholarship, Alpha Delta Kappa, Elizabeth City, NC (2001) - \$1,500

Professional Activities

Society Membership & Leadership

- American Fisheries Society (2005–Present)
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Member (Invited; 2021–Present)
 - Lead Organizer & Moderator of the first ever American Fisheries Society Virtual Conference (2020 Spring Virtual Conference for Canceled Talks)
 - Live Discussion Team Lead (Virtual Annual Meeting Planning Team), Workshop Instructor (New Jersey & Virtual Annual Meeting), Student Oral & Poster Judge (Anchorage & Pittsburgh Meetings)
 - Fish Management Section Southern Division Rep (2019–Present)
 - Education Section, Fish Management Section
- Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society
 - Catfish Management Technical Committee Chair & Virginia Rep (2018–2020)
- South Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2020–Present)
- Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2014–2019)
 - Listserv Moderator, Workshop Instructor, Symposium Organizer, Presentation Moderator, & Program Committee Member
- Tidewater Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2014–2017)
- Arizona-New Mexico Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2010–2013)
 - President-elect, Environmental Affairs Committee Chair, & Student Paper Judge
- Florida Lake Management Society (2007–2008)
- Students United in Research of Fisheries (2006–2008)

- President, Vice-President, Graduate Symposium Moderator
- Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2006–2008)
- Florida Student Sub-unit of the Florida Chapter
 - President
- North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (2003–2006)
- North Carolina State University Student Sub-unit of the North Carolina Chapter (2001–2006)
 - Undergraduate Vice-President

Other Leadership

- Creator and co-host of the *Fisheries Diversity and Inclusion Podcast* (2020-Present)
- Virginia Alosa Task Force Leader & Meeting Facilitator (2016–2019)
- Virginia Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries Team WILD (Leadership Group) Member (2017–2019)
- Virginia Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries Team WILD Strategic Thinking Group Leader (2018–2019)
- Arizona Game & Fish Dept. Research Prioritization Team (2012)
- Student Ambassador, College of Natural Resources, NC State University (2003–2006)
 - Served as mentor for freshmen & represented the college at university functions