

NORTHEAST PARTNERS IN AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION

2017 Annual Meeting

Mountain Lake Biological Station

Pembroke, Virginia

August 8-10, 2017



NORTHEAST PARTNERS IN AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION
“GEMS OF APPALACHIA”

NOTE: Because there are on-going research projects occurring at MLBS, please do not go “herping” on-site until instructions on areas to avoid are provided.

Tuesday, August 8th

Pre-meeting activities:

- 1:00 pm – 9:00pm **REGISTRATION**
- 1:30pm – 3:30pm Conservation Photography Workshop - (Steven Johnson EMU)
Local Field Trips – (Walter Smith UVA-Wise; Kevin Hamed VHCC; David Garst VDGIF)
- 4:00pm – 5:30pm **State Biologists meeting** – Roundtable Discussion
Topics TBD (Funding – SWG, Section 6, NRCS, RCN, LCC)
- 6:00pm – 8:30pm **BARBEQUE SOCIAL** (provided with registration) – (cash bar)
Beer tasting sponsored by Devil Backbone Brewery
- 9:00pm – 11:00pm Salamander survey (Alex Novarro)

Wednesday, August 9th

- 6:30am – 8:00am **BREAKFAST** (provided with registration)
- 8:00am – 8:30am **REGISTRATION** (Set up Posters)
- 8:30am – 8:45am **Welcome** – Robert “Bob” Duncan (Director, VDGIF)
- 8:45am – 9:00am What is NEPARC/PARC? – Priya Nanjappa (PARC States Coordinator)
- 9:00am – 9:30am Introduction of Steering Committee – NEPARC co-chairs: Brian Zarate (NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife) & Lindsay Rohrbaugh (DC Department of Energy and Environment) and introductions around the room
- 9:30am – 9:45am **National PARC Update**
- 9:45am – 10:20am **Update on On-going NEPARC Projects**
- 10:20am – 10:40am **BREAK - Begin Silent Auction**
- 10:40am – 11:00am **Regulatory Update** – Al Breisch (Roosevelt Wildlife Station)

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Oral Presentations

11:00am – 12:00am **Presentations (3)**

- Andrew Cantrell - *An Update on Conservation Initiatives, Policies, and Growth of Southeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (SEPARC)* – Alabama A&M University
- Wally Smith – *Status of Green Salamanders in the Appalachian Plateau and Valley and Ridge Provinces of Southwest Virginia* – University of Virginia's College at Wise
- Bill Hopkins – *Partnerships to Protect the Imperiled Eastern Hellbender in Virginia* – Virginia Tech

12:00pm – 1:00pm LUNCH (provided with registration)

1:00pm – 2:15pm **Presentations (3)**

- Tom Akre – *The Status and Conservation of the Wood Turtle in Virginia* – Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
- Chris Petersen – *Overview of the Department of Defense Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (DoD PARC) Program* – Department of Defense NAVFAC Atlantic
- Marty Martin – *The Timber Rattlesnake, a 44-yr Study and an Overview* – Catoctin Land Trust

2:15pm – 2:30pm *BREAK*

2:30pm – 3:30pm **Presentations (3)**

- Alex Novarro – *What Widespread Species Can Tell Us About Population Responses to Climate Change* – University of Maryland
- Susan Jewell – *Injurious Wildlife Listing: How the USFWS Can Keep Invasive Wildlife Out of the United States* – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Mark DesMeules – *The Fascinating Story Behind The Creation Of New England's First Timber Rattlesnake Preserve* – Viles Arboretum

3:30pm – 5:00pm Working Group Breakout Sessions – I
a) Emerging Diseases b) Timber Rattlesnakes

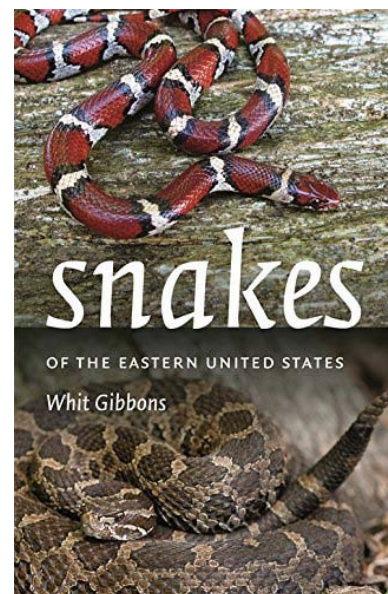
5:00pm – 6:00pm Poster Session/Cocktail Hour (cash bar)

6:00pm – 7:00pm DINNER (provided with registration)

7:00pm – 7:15pm NEPARC Conservation Award Ceremony

7:30pm – 8:30pm Evening Speaker

Whit Gibbons – Professor Emeritus of Ecology University of Georgia
Topic: *Snakes of the Eastern United States*



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Thursday, August 10th

6:30am – 8:00am **BREAKFAST** (provided with registration)

8:15am - 8:25am **Announcements**

Oral Presentations

8:30am – 10:00am **Presentations (4)**

- Andrew Levorse – *Migrants and Residents Ten Years Later: Long-term Survival in Two Amphibian Populations with Partial Migration* – University of Richmond
- David Muñoz – *Responses of Individual Growth Rates to Warm Weather Conditions in Five Populations of the Red-backed Salamander* – Penn State University
- Lindsay Rohrbaugh – *The Effects of Repeated Relocations on Movement Metrics of Eastern Box Turtles in a Highly Urbanized Environment* – Department of Energy and Environment
- Bill Sutton - *Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas (PARCAs): Applying Quantitative Approaches and Expert Opinion to Identify Conservation Areas and Evaluate Vulnerability* – Tennessee State University

10:00am – 10:15am **BREAK**

10:30am – 12:00pm Working Group Breakout Sessions – II
a) Turtle Conservation b) Hellbenders & Mudpuppies

12:00pm – 1:00pm **LUNCH** (provided with registration) – Silent Auction ends

1:00pm – 2:00pm *Bsal Disease Workshop* – Matt Gray - University of Tennessee

2:00pm – 2:15pm **BREAK**

2:15pm – 3:00pm **Presentations (2)**

- Staci Amburgey – *Understanding the Range Limits of an Endangered Plethodontid Salamander in Shenandoah National Park* - Pennsylvania State University
- Jim Andrews - *The Monkton Vermont Amphibian Underpasses* – Middlebury College

3:00pm – 3:30pm **Breakout Sessions Wrap-up:** facilitator (TBA)

3:30pm – 4:00pm **NEPARC Business:** facilitator (TBA)

- Election of new co-chair
- Steering Committee changes (if any)
- Likes/Dislikes of current meeting
- 2018 NEPARC meeting location and topic suggestions

4:00pm – 4:15pm Distribute Silent Auction Items

4:30pm **Annual Meeting Ends**

5:00pm - 7:00pm Local Field Trips – (Alex Novarro & David Garst)