

# Upper Coosa Conservation Summit: Program

Friday, October 25, 2019

**KSU Carmichael Student Center, Student Activity Room B**

8:00 Registration/Sign-in

9:00 Welcome and introduction

9:15 Session 1: Partners and Projects

- Katie Owens, the Nature Conservancy. *An overview of the Nature Conservancy's Work in Northwest Georgia*
- Ruth Stokes, US Forest Service. *Overview of US Forest Service Management Activities in the Coosa Basin.*
- Jesse Demonbreun-Chapman, Coosa River Basin Initiative. *Overview of the Coosa River Basin Initiative's work and programs.*
- John Lughart, Dalton State College. *Conasauga River Clean Up: 25 years.*
- Adam Kennon, Limestone Valley RC&D. *An overview of Limestone Valley's work in Northwest Georgia.*
- Anakela Popp, Department of Natural Resources. *An Overview of Aquatic Conservation Projects in the Coosa Basin.*

10:30 Break/Student Posters

10:50 Session 2: Research

- Shawna Mitchell, Tennessee Aquarium Conservation Institute. *Monitoring for the Blue Shiner (Cyprinella caerulea) in the Mobile Basin.*
- Jace Nelson, UGA River Basin Center; Jeffrey Garnett, GDOT. *Enhancing and Streamlining Aquatic Organism Protection for Transportation Projects.*
- Zack Taylor, Berry College. *The potential for environmental reconstruction in the Coosa Basin.*
- Matthew J. Troia, University of Texas at San Antonio. *Monitoring, modeling, and mapping stream temperature regimes in the Conasauga and other Southern Appalachian river systems.*
- Bernie Kuhajda, Tennessee Aquarium Conservation Institute. *Some federally threatened darters we have known: Goldlines and Trispots in the upper Coosa.*
- Janet Genz, University of West Georgia. *Physiological comparisons between juvenile lake sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens) reared in captivity vs. simulated natural recruitment.*

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

13:30 Session 3: Outreach and Habitat Restoration

- Brenda Jackson, Murray County Extension. *2019 Georgia Tennessee 4-H2O Camp.*
- Chris Welty, Kennesaw State University. *Cross Pollination – an academic success story.*
- Catherine Magee, NRCS. *A brief overview of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Working Lands for Wildlife, and National Water Quality Initiative Program.*
- Tina Jerome, NRCS. *The 2018 Farm Bill and Source Water Protection Areas*

- Stuart Duncan and Neeley Keaton, Dalton State University. *Assessing the Passability of Culverts in the Holly Creek Watershed- a Sub-basin of the Conasauga.*
- Katherine Lanyon and Thomas Kessler, Berry College. *Environmental Education Materials for the Coosa River Basin.*

15:00 Break/Student Posters

15:20 Session 4: Monitoring

- C. Keith Ray, Reinhardt University. *Reinhardt University and the Heart of the Etowah.*
- Edward Stowe, UGA River Basin Center. *Heterogenous fish declines in the Conasauga and Etowah rivers from 1996 to 2018.*
- Phillip M Bumpers, UGA River Basin Center. *Monitoring fish and mussel populations in Holly Creek to inform future restoration activities.*
- William Commins, Cobb County Water. *Using instream stationary antennas to monitor the movements of warm water fishes in a reach of stream bisected by a culvert.*

Closing Remarks

**Saturday, October 26, 2019**

**Clendenin Building**

9-12 Working groups

- Conasauga Basin Conservation Priorities (CL1009)
- Education and Outreach in the Coosa Basin (CL1007)
- Terrestrial and Aquatic Conservation and Research within the Etowah (CL1005)