

# Amanda E. Jefferson

## Extension Associate & Marine Fisheries Specialist

Mississippi State University & Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium  
MSU Coastal Research and Extension Center  
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## Education

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### Master of Science in Marine Sciences

*University of South Alabama & Dauphin Island Sea Lab Fisheries Ecology Lab*

December 2017

Advisors: Dr. J. Marcus Drymon & Dr. Sean P. Powers

***Thesis Title: Distribution, Abundance, Age, and Growth of Gray Triggerfish in the Alabama Artificial Reef Zone***

GPA: 3.8

### Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology

**Summa cum laude with Honors in Marine Biology**

*University of North Carolina Wilmington*

December 2013

GPA: 3.9

## Employment

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### Extension Associate & Marine Fisheries Specialist

*Mississippi State University & Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium*

February 2018 – Present

- Supervised by Drs. J. Marcus Drymon, Eric Sparks, and Ben Posadas
- Facilitate the various goals and projects of the Marine Fisheries Ecology Program, the Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program, and the Mississippi MarketMaker Team
- Conduct traditional and applied fisheries research
- Coordinate all Marine Fisheries Ecology Program outreach events
- Educate youth and adults about Gulf of Mexico fish and fisheries through outreach events
- Co-coordinate the annual FISHES: Fishermen Invested in Science, Healthy Ecosystems, and Sustainability course
- Co-coordinate the annual Coastal Mississippi Master Naturalist course
- Author blogs, newsletters, Extension publications, and peer-reviewed journal articles
- 2021 – present: serving as Project Manager for regional Reef Fish Extension project
- 2021 – present: serving as Project Manager for two depredation-related projects
- 2018 – 2021: served as Project Manager for the stakeholder engagement portion of the Gulf of Mexico red snapper abundance project

## Research Experience

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### Graduate Research Assistant

*Dauphin Island Sea Lab Fisheries Ecology Lab*

*Dauphin Island, AL*

August 2015 – December 2017

- Assisted with offshore and inshore fishery-independent surveys including vertical and bottom longlines, trawls, gillnets, and seines
- Assisted with inshore tripletail tagging project
- Processed reef fishes for otolith and gonad analysis
- Hand-sectioned and aged red snapper otoliths

### Coral Reef Ecosystem Research Program Intern

*Mote Marine Laboratory*

*Sarasota, FL*

November 2014 – January 2015

- Maintained ocean acidification system (OASys) and coral aquaria
- Monitored OASys water quality twice daily and performed bimonthly nutrient tests
- Analyzed coral reef photographs using Coral Point Count program
- Conducted laboratory assays such as DNA extractions, PCR, and gel electrophoresis
- Measured buoyant weight of corals bimonthly

### Research Intern

*Dolphin Research Center*

*Grassy Key, FL*

January – May 2014

- Collected behavioral data by performing fifteen-minute calf independence studies
- Obtained respiration rates by observing each dolphin calf for five-minute periods
- Assisted with cognitive research sessions
- Operated and maintained research cameras, hydrophones, and apparatuses

### Departmental Honors Project

*University of North Carolina Wilmington Department of Biology & Marine Biology*

*Wilmington, NC*

January – December 2013

***Thesis Title: Quantifying Marine Protected Area Effectiveness: “Filling In” the Older, Larger Size Classes***

- Continuation of DIS project from Fall 2012 supervised by Dr. J. Wilson White
- Measured California marine protected area success in kelp forest fishes
- Investigated how fished age classes fill in after marine protected area implementation as the populations progress towards the stable size distribution
- Gained experience in theoretical population ecology and Matlab

### **Directed Independent Study**

University of North Carolina Wilmington Department of Biology & Marine Biology  
Wilmington, NC

August – December 2012

- Supervised by Dr. J. Wilson White
- Analyzed fish populations in and out of California marine protected areas

### **Grant Funding**

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**2019 – 2022** EPA Gulf of Mexico Program. Improving stewardship through the development of an Amateur Naturalist Program. PIs: Cunningham SR, **Jefferson AE**. Co-PIs: Sparks EL, Rohnke AT. Total Funding: **\$199,909**.

### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

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1. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Ivec GM, Cooper PT, Carroll J, Gervasi CL, Rehage JS, Mareska JF, Powers SP, Drymon JM. Age, growth, and diet of crevalle jack (*Caranx hippos*) in the Gulf of Mexico. *Submitted*.
2. Hightower CL, Drymon JM, Jefferson AE, Jargowsky MB, Seubert EA, Dedman S, Mareska JF, Powers SP. Population dynamics, relative abundance, and habitat suitability of adult red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) indicate vulnerability to harvest in nearshore waters of the north central Gulf of Mexico. *Submitted*.
3. Gervasi CL, Nelson JA, Swart PK, Santos RO, Rezek RJ, James WR, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM, Carroll J, Boucek RE, Rehage JS. Otolith stable isotope micro-sampling to discriminate poorly studied stocks: crevalle jack in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. *Submitted*.
4. Scyphers SB, Drymon JM, Furman KL, Conley E, Niwa Y, **Jefferson AE**, Stunz GW. **2021**. Understanding and enhancing angler satisfaction with fisheries management: insights from the “Great Red Snapper Count”. North American Journal of Fisheries Management 41(3):559-569. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nafm.10579>
5. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Schrandt MN, Cooper PT, Powers SP, Dindo JJ, Drymon JM. **2021**. Age, growth, and mortality of Atlantic tripletail in the north-central Gulf of Mexico. Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science 13(3):183-199. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mcf2.10146>
6. Drymon JM, Jargowsky MB, Dance MA, Lovell M, Hightower C, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz A, Powers SP. **2021**. Documentation of Atlantic tarpon (*Megalops atlanticus*) space use and move persistence in the northern Gulf of Mexico facilitated by angler advocates. Conservation Science and Practice 3(2):e331. <https://doi.org/10.1111/csp2.331>

7. Hines SL, Vedral AJ, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM, Woodrey MS, Mabey SH, Sparks EL. **2020**. Engaging online students by *activating* ecological knowledge. *Ecology and Evolution* 10(22):12472-12481. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.6739>
8. Drymon JM, **Jefferson AE**, Hightower CL, Powers SP. **2020**. Descender devices or treat tethers: does barotrauma mitigation increase opportunities for depredation?. *Fisheries* 45(7):377-379. <https://doi.org/10.1002/fsh.10476>
9. Drymon JM, Dedman S, Froeschke JT, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Mareska JF, Powers SP. **2020**. Defining sex-specific habitat suitability for a northern Gulf of Mexico shark assemblage. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 7:35. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.00035>
10. Drymon JM, Feldheim K, Fournier AMV, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2019**. Tiger sharks eat songbirds: reply. *Ecology* 100(11):e02870. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.2870>
11. Drymon JM, Feldheim K, Fournier AMV, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2019**. Tiger sharks eat songbirds: scavenging a windfall of nutrients from the sky. *Ecology* 100(9):e02728. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.2728>
12. **Jefferson AE**, Allman RJ, Pacicco AE, Franks JS, Hernandez FJ, Albins MA, Powers SP, Shipp RL, Drymon JM. **2019**. Age and growth of gray triggerfish (*Balistes capriscus*) from a north-central Gulf of Mexico artificial reef zone. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 95(2):177-195. <https://doi.org/10.5343/bms.2018.0025>
13. Powers S, Drymon JM, LouAllen-Hightower C, Spearman T, Bosarge S, **Jefferson A**. **2018**. Distribution and age composition of red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) across the inner continental shelf of the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 147(5):791-805. <https://doi.org/10.1002/tafs.10081>
14. Nelson TR, **Jefferson AE**, Cooper PT, Buckley CA, Heck KL Jr, Mattila J. **2018**. Eurasian perch *Perca fluviatilis* growth and fish community structure, inside and outside a marine-protected area in the Baltic Sea. *Fisheries Management and Ecology* 25(3):172-185. <https://doi.org/10.1111/fme.12277>

## Technical Reports

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1. Drymon M, **Jefferson A**, Jargowsky M, Seubert E, Dedman S, Mareska J, Hightower C, Powers S. **2020**. Understanding population dynamics of adult red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*). Report to Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.

## Extension Products

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1. Anderson AQ, McAree DM, Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Osowski AR, Drymon JM. **2021**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 24. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP 21-001-004.
2. Jargowsky MB, Osowski AR, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2021**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 23. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-21-001-03.
3. McAree DM, Anderson AQ, Huerta-Beltran BL, Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2021**. How Big Are You Compared to a Shark? Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-21-051.
4. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2021**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 22. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-21-001-02.
5. **Jefferson AE**. **2021**. Count provides insight into red snapper abundance. Mississippi State University Extension Outdoors article.
6. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2021**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Project Results. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-039.
7. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2021**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Project Results. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-038 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3602.
8. Mullins L, Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2021**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 21. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-21-001-01.
9. **Jefferson AE**. **2021**. Crevalle Jack: “Trash Fish” or Treasure?. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
10. Drymon JM, ed. Contributing authors Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA. **2020**. FISHES: Fishermen Invested in Science, Healthy Ecosystems, and Sustainability. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-053 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3575.
11. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2020**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 20. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-001-04.
12. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2020**. The Life History of Fishes: Age, Growth, Reproduction, and Mortality. Water Log 40(4):7-10.

13. Cowan CJ, **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2020**. Are You Older Than a Fish? Maximum Ages of Gulf of Mexico Bony Fishes. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-045 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3547.
14. Calhoun KM, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2020**. A Guide to Fishermen Training Programs. Mississippi State University Extension publication 3527 and Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-047.
15. Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2020**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 19. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-20-001-03.
16. **Jefferson AE**. **2020**. Gulf of Mexico tripletail live life in the fast lane. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
17. **Jefferson AE**. **2020**. MSU biologists age large tripletail fish. Mississippi State University Extension Outdoors article.
18. **Jefferson AE**. **2020**. Disentangling fisheries data. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
19. Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2019**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 16. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-19-001-04.
20. Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2019**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 15. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-19-001-03.
21. **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Fish Aging 101. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
22. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2019**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 14. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-19-001-02.
23. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Commercial rock shrimp fishing. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 5.
24. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2019**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Tagging Study. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-027-05.
25. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2019**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Tagging Study. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-019-05 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3354.
26. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Commercial red drum fishing. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 3.

27. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM. **2019**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 13. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-19-001-01.
28. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Commercial spotted seatrout fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 2.
29. **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Anglers snag rewards with some red snapper. Mississippi State University Extension Outdoors article.
30. **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Recapture red snapper, receive a reward. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
31. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Economic contribution of commercial Spanish mackerel fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 1.
32. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 12. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-12.
33. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Commercial blue catfish fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 17.
34. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Depletion Studies. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-027-04.
35. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Depletion Studies. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-019-04 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3303.
36. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 11. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-11.
37. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Commercial yellowedge grouper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 16.
38. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Commercial vermilion snapper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 15.
39. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Direct Visual Counts. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-027-03.
40. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. The Great Red Snapper Count: Direct Visual Counts. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-019-03 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3283.
41. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Commercial yellowfin tuna fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 14.

42. **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Learn more about greater amberjack. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
43. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial gag grouper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 13.
44. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count: Habitat Classification. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-027-02.
45. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count: Habitat Classification. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-019-02 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3282.
46. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial black drum fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 12.
47. **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Multistate effort assesses the Gulf's red snapper. Mississippi State University Extension Outdoors article.
48. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 8. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-08.
49. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial crawfish fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 11.
50. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial yellowtail snapper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 10.
51. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 7. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-07.
52. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial Florida stone crab claw fishing in the Gulf of Mexico states. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 9.
53. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count: Project Overview. Video. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-027-01.
54. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count: Project Overview. Fact Sheet. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-019-01 and Mississippi State University Extension publication 3281.
55. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE. 2018.** Commercial spiny lobster fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 8.
56. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count. Mississippi State University Extension publication 3241.
57. **Jefferson AE, Drymon JM. 2018.** The Great Red Snapper Count. Water Log 38(2):11-12.



58. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 6. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-06.
59. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Commercial red grouper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 7.
60. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 5. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-05.
61. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 4. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-04.
62. **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Meet our newest extension team member. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Staff Blog.
63. **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2018**. Gulf Coast Fisherman Newsletter, Issue 3. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium publication MASGP-18-001-03.
64. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**, Posadas Jr BKA. **2018**. Employment, Incomes, and Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers in the Gulf of Mexico and the United States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 3.
65. Posadas BC, **Jefferson AE**, Posadas Jr BKA. **2018**. Employment, Incomes, and Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fruit and Vegetable Canning, Pickling, and Drying Businesses in the Gulf of Mexico and the United States. Mississippi MarketMaker Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 3.

## Conference Presentations

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1. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Ivec GM, Carroll J, Gervasi CL, Rehage JS, Mareska JF, Drymon JM. **2021**. Crevalle jack (*Caranx hippos*) age and growth in the Gulf of Mexico. 151<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Virtual.
2. Gervasi CL, Santos RO, Rezek RJ, James WR, Swart PK, Nelson JA, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM, Carroll J, Boucek RE, Rehage JS. **2021**. Otolith stable isotope micro-sampling to discriminate poorly studied stocks: crevalle jack in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. 151<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Virtual.
3. Drymon JM, **Jefferson AE**, Scyphers SB, Kajiura S, Ajemian MJ. **2021**. Depredation in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico: past work, current projects, and next steps. World Fisheries Congress. Virtual.
4. **Jefferson AE**, Scyphers SB, Drymon JM, Furman KL, Conley E, Niwa Y, Stunz GW. **2021**. Understanding and enhancing angler satisfaction with fisheries management: insights from the “Great Red Snapper Count”. 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Virtual.

5. Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM, Dance MA, Lovell MS, Hightower CL, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2021**. Documentation of Atlantic tarpon (*Megalops atlanticus*) space use and move persistence in the northern Gulf of Mexico facilitated by angler advocates. 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Virtual.
6. **Jefferson AE**, Scyphers SB, Drymon JM, Furman KL, Conley E, Niwa Y, Stunz GW. **2020**. Understanding and enhancing angler satisfaction with fisheries management: insights from the “Great Red Snapper Count”. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Virtual.
7. Drymon JM, **Jefferson AE**, Hightower CL, Powers SP. **2020**. Descender devices or treat tethers: does barotrauma mitigation increase opportunities for depredation?. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Virtual.
8. Calhoun KM, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2020**. A synthesis of fishermen training programs across the United States. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Virtual.
9. Jargowsky MB, Drymon JM, Dance MA, Lovell MS, Hightower CL, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2020**. Documentation of Atlantic tarpon (*Megalops atlanticus*) space use and move persistence in the northern Gulf of Mexico facilitated by angler advocates. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Virtual.
10. Scyphers SB, Drymon JM, Furman KL, Conley E, Niwa Y, **Jefferson AE**, Stunz GW. **2020**. Understanding and enhancing satisfaction with fisheries management: a case study of the “Great Red Snapper Count” in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. 150<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Virtual.
11. **Jefferson AE**, Jargowsky MB, Schrandt MN, Cooper PT, Powers SP, Dindo JJ, Drymon JM. **2019**. Preliminary analysis of tripletail (*Lobotes surinamensis*) age and growth in the north-central Gulf of Mexico. 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Reno, NV.
12. Drymon JM, Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Hightower CL, Powers SP. **2019**. Engaging stakeholders in cooperative research to track tarpon across the northern Gulf of Mexico. 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Reno, NV.
13. Hightower CL, Powers SP, Drymon JM, Spearman TP, Bosarge GS, **Jefferson AE**. **2019**. Distribution and age composition of red snapper across the inner continental shelf of the north-central Gulf of Mexico. 2019. 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Reno, NV.
14. Drymon JM, Feldheim KA, Fournier AMV, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2019**. Tiger sharks eat songbirds: scavenging a windfall of nutrients from the sky. Annual Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society. Snowbird, UT.

15. Drymon JM, Feldheim KA, Fournier AMV, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2019**. Tiger sharks eat passerines: exploring the prevalence of a unique trophic interaction. 137<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the American Ornithology Society. Anchorage, AK.
16. Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Dedman S, Froeschke JT, Kroetz AM, Mareska JF, Powers SP, Drymon JM. **2019**. Factors influencing an elasmobranch community assemblage identified through long-term bottom longline surveys. Annual Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Galveston, TX.
17. Drymon JM, Feldheim KA, Fournier AMV, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Powers SP. **2019**. Tiger sharks eat songbirds: scavenging a windfall of nutrients from the sky. Annual Meeting of the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Galveston, TX.
18. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. Stakeholder engagement: a critical component of the Great Red Snapper Count. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL.
19. Drymon JM, Jargowsky MB, **Jefferson AE**, Kroetz AM, Hightower CL, Powers SP. **2018**. Tracking tarpon across the northern Gulf of Mexico: a citizen science success. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL.
20. Dunne GC, Schrandt MN, Coym JW, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. Toxic element concentrations in muscle tissue of Atlantic tripletail and gray triggerfish in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL.
21. Jagolta KA, **Jefferson AE**, Seubert EA, Drymon JM. **2018**. Reversing negative attitudes towards sharks through directed outreach programs. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL. POSTER.
22. Gill K, Seubert EA, **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2018**. Spatial ecology of tiger sharks in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL. POSTER.
23. Hightower CL, Powers SP, Drymon JM, Spearman TP, Bosarge GS, **Jefferson AE**. **2018**. Distribution and age composition of red snapper *Lutjanus campechanus* across the inner continental shelf of the northern Gulf of Mexico. Annual meeting of the Alabama Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Fort Payne, AL.
24. **Jefferson AE**, Allman RJ, Hernandez FJ, Franks JS, Drymon JM. **2017**. Age and growth of gray triggerfish in the Alabama Artificial Reef Zone. 147<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Tampa, FL.
25. Powers SP, Shipp RL, Drymon JM, Powers MJ, Hightower CL, **Jefferson AE**. **2017**. Evidence for variable recruitment of red snapper in the northcentral Gulf of Mexico. 147<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Tampa, FL.

26. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2017**. Gray triggerfish distribution and abundance in the Alabama Artificial Reef Zone. University of South Alabama Graduate Research Forum. Mobile, AL. POSTER.
27. **Jefferson AE**, Drymon JM. **2016**. Preliminary analysis of gray triggerfish life history and distribution in the Alabama Artificial Reef Zone. Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium. Biloxi, MS.

## **Conference Attendance**

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### **151<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society**

2021

Virtual

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

2021

Virtual

### **Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Bays and Bayous Symposium**

2020, 2018, 2016

Virtual, Mobile, AL, & Biloxi, MS

### **Mississippi State University Extension Annual Conference**

2020 & 2019

Virtual & Starkville, MS

### **Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Retreat**

2019

Gautier, MS

### **149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society**

2019

Reno, NV

### **Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium Retreat**

2018

Dauphin Island, AL

### **Sea Grant Week**

2018

Portland, OR

### **Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Marine Resource Division Red Snapper Conference**

2018

Mobile, AL

**147<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society**  
2017  
Tampa, FL

**University of South Alabama Graduate Research Forum**  
2017  
Mobile, AL

## **Teaching Experience**

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### **Coastal Communities Environmental Educator**

*Don Lee Center*

*Arapahoe, NC*

February – June 2015

- Taught coastal marine science classes in an outdoor experiential education program
- Instructed primarily fourth through eighth grade students
- Facilitated Challenge Course elements, large group activities, and evening programs
- Maintained Nature Center aquaria and cared for amphibians and reptiles
- Upheld the cleanliness and appearance of the facility

### **Summer Camp Counselor – Nature Day Camp**

*Howard County Conservancy*

*Woodstock, MD*

Summer 2011

- Created daily lesson plans for eight 5-day sessions around various themes including aquatic life, plant life, reptiles, insects, and animals
- Taught and supervised 10-15 children daily, ages 5-12

## **Informal Presentations**

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### **Marine Fisheries**

2020

Mississippi Student Naturalist Program

Virtual

### **Age & Growth of Bony Fishes**

2020

University of South Alabama Marine Science II Class

Virtual

### **Fantastic Fishes**

2019 & 2018

Coastal Mississippi Master Naturalist Program

Biloxi, MS

**Fish and Fisheries Management**

2019

Mississippi Student Naturalist Program

Biloxi, MS

**Making Heads and Tails of the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Fishery**

2018

Science Café on the Coast

Gulfport, MS

**Age & Growth of Red Snapper & Gray Triggerfish**

2017

Dauphin Island Sea Lab Marine Vertebrate Zoology Class for Undergraduates

Dauphin Island, AL

**Outreach Experience**

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**Tides of Change**

2021

**Shark Week at Gulf State Park Pier**

2021, 2019, 2018, & 2017

**Louisiana Fisheries Forward Summit**

2020

**Mobile Boat Show**

2020, 2019, & 2018

**Biloxi Boat Show**

2020, 2019, & 2018

**Coastal Conservation Association Mississippi Kids' Fishing Tournaments**

Many events in 2019 & 2018

**My Two Boots**

2019 & 2018

**Sharks and Rays Booth at Mississippi Coastal Cleanup**

2019 & 2018

**Roy Martin Young Anglers' Tournament**

2019

**Fintastic Beasts**

2019

**86<sup>th</sup>, 85<sup>th</sup> Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeos**  
2019 & 2018

**Biloxi Public Schools Summer Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Academy**  
2019 & 2018

**Mississippi Student Naturalist Program**  
2019

**Harrison County Sheriff's Camp**  
2019

**Nurse Shark Welcome Party**  
2019

**Coastal Cleanup – Day Camp**  
2018

**Bayou View Elementary School Summer Camp**  
2018

**Biloxi Wooden Boat Show**  
2018

**Bald Eagle Bash**  
2018

**Harrison County 4-H Day Camp**  
2018

**North Bay Elementary School's Ocean Day**  
2018

**Girls Exploring Math and Science Conferences at the University of South Alabama**  
2017, 2016, & 2015

**Alabama Coastal Cleanup**  
2017, 2016, & 2015

**Dauphin Island Sea Lab Discovery Day**  
2017 & 2016

**Rabbit Creek Clean-Up**  
2017 & 2016

**Exhibit Guide at the National Aquarium in Baltimore**  
Summer 2011  
30 volunteer hours

## **Student Summer Program at the National Aquarium in Baltimore**

February – August 2010

100 volunteer hours

### **Workshop Attendance**

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#### **Tools and Techniques for Facilitating Virtual Meetings**

*NOAA Office for Coastal Management*

*Virtual*

April 28, 2021

Instructors: Marian Hanisko & Jan Kucklick

#### **Mississippi Science Communication Summit**

*Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University*

*Virtual*

September 2, 2020

Instructor: Nancee Moes, MFA

#### **Planning and Facilitating Collaborative Meetings**

*NOAA Office for Coastal Management*

*Mobile, AL*

April 10-11, 2019

Instructors: Marian Hanisko & Jan Kucklick

#### **Working with Data & Graphing in R**

*Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*

*Moss Point, MS*

February 12-13, 2019

Instructors: Kim Cressman & Dr. Auriel Fournier

#### **Introduction to Quantum Geographic Information System Workshop**

*NOAA Disaster Response Center*

*Mobile, AL*

August 2, 2017

Instructor: Gillian Palino

#### **Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission GulfFIN Otolith Processors Workshop**

*Panama City, FL*

May 9-10, 2017 & May 4-5, 2016

#### **Research Integrity Workshop**

*University of South Alabama Department of Marine Sciences*

*Dauphin Island, AL*

April 7, 2017

Instructor: Dr. Ronald Kiene



## **Statistics/R Workshop**

*Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*

*Moss Point, MS*

July 25-27, 2016

Instructor: Dr. Robert Leaf

## **Certifications**

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### **American Heart Association Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED**

January 2020

### **Mississippi Master Naturalist**

October 2018

### **Federal Aviation Administration: Remote Pilot Certification**

June 2018 (Expired June 2020)

### **Diver's Alert Network: Diving First Aid for Professional Divers**

March 2017

### **Department of the Interior: Motorboat Operator Certification Course**

March 2016

### **Professional Association of Diving Instructors: Open Water Diver**

January 2015

## **Academic Awards**

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### **Chancellor's Achievement Award**

Spring 2013, Spring 2012, Spring 2011

- At least 15 credit hours with no grade lower than A-

### **Dean's List**

Fall 2012, Fall 2011, Fall 2010

- GPA at least 3.5 (if taking 12-14 credit hours) or 3.2 (if taking 15 or more credit hours)

### **Pat Corcoran Smith Scholarship**

Fall 2010

- High school GPA of 3.5 or higher
- Required to take at least 12 credit hours during fall 2010 semester

## **Professional Service & Societies**

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**Manuscript Reviewer for:** *Fishery Bulletin*

**Bays and Bayous Symposium Program Committee**  
**Bays and Bayous Symposium Moderator**  
2020

**Mississippi Chapter of the American Fisheries Society**  
October 2019 – Present

**American Fisheries Society**  
July 2016 – Present

## **Computer Skills**

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**Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, & PowerPoint)**

**R Programming Language**

**Quantum GIS**

**Image-Pro**

## **Social Media & Webpages**

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**Mississippi State University Marine Fisheries Ecology [Facebook page](#)**  
Admin

**Fishermen Invested in Science, Healthy Ecosystems, and Sustainability [Facebook page](#)**  
Admin

**Mississippi Master Naturalists [Facebook page](#)**  
Admin

**Marine Fisheries Ecology Program [Instagram page](#)**  
Admin

**The Great Red Snapper Count [YouTube channel](#)**  
Admin

**MS Master Naturalist [YouTube channel](#)**  
Admin

**Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program [Facebook page](#)**  
Editor

**Marine Fisheries Ecology [webpage](#)**  
Editor

**Coastal Conservation and Restoration Program [webpage](#)**  
Editor

**Mississippi Master Naturalist [webpage](#)**  
Editor

## References

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