

**DRAFT Program Schedule: 29<sup>th</sup> Waterbird Society Meeting  
Jeckyll Island, Georgia 12-16 October 2005**

**WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 12**

Waterbird Society Executive Council (9 AM-4:30 PM Plaza Suite)

SE Regional Waterbird Conservation Plan Workshop 10 AM-4:40 PM

Welcome Reception 7-9 PM; Holiday Inn Jeckyll Island (Hors d'oeuvres & cash bar)

\*\*\*\*\*

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 13**

8:00-8:20—Welcome and announcements

*Scientific Paper Session (Habitats: from Nest Site to Landscape Scales)*

8:20 Shealer et al. Habitat supplementation and breeding performance in Black Terns

8:40 Drury: Microhabitat selection in Leach's Storm Petrel

9:00 Gawlik et al.: Landscape suitability models for wading birds (wants PM or later)

9:20 Black and Diamond: Foraging habitat characteristics of Arctic and Common terns

9:40 Boucher: Habitat selection the Black Guillemot

10:00-10:30 BREAK

10:30 Sexson and Farley: Nest site selection in Snowy Plovers

10:50 Mangiameli et al.: Activity budgets of Wood Storks in moist soil wetlands

*General Scientific Paper Session (Breeding Biology)*

11:10-11:30 Arnold et al.: Why older birds perform better?

11:30-11:50 Coulson and Coulson: Comparison of eider breeding at adjacent colonies

11:50-1:00 LUNCH

*General Scientific Paper Session (Breeding Biology: Predation)*

1:00-1:20 Sabine et al.: Nest fate and productivity of American oystercatchers

1:20-1:40 Von Duyke et al.: Detection and management of predators in a GBHE colony

1:40-2:00 Heath and Servello: Predation on nests and chicks of Black Terns

2:00-2:20 Spruce: Predators of Common Eider ducklings

2:20-2:40 Saliva: Nesting activities of Brown Pelicans

2:40-3:00 Walczyk; Emergence of Great Black-backed Gulls on Great Duck Island ME.

3:00-3:30 BREAK

General Scientific Session (Waterbird Foraging Ecology and Biology)

3:30 Bernick: Foraging ecology of Black-crowned Night-Herons in the NY City Area.

3:50 Call and Cook: An unexplored component of wading bird prey availability

4:10 Lyons: growth and development of captive-reared Caspian Tern chicks.

4:30 Herring and Gawlick: Prey availability and Great Egrets and White Ibises

4:50 Rutka and Slack: Crab availability effects on Whooping Cranes

5:30-6:30 WATERBIRD SOCIETY BUSINESS MEETING (OPEN TO ALL)

7:30 PM-9:30 PM POSTER SESSION (Hors d'oeuvres & cash bar) (see list at end of this announcement).

\*\*\*\*\*

**FRIDAY OCTOBER 14 2005**

8:00-9:00—Plenary Lecture (Dr. Gary Nuechterlein, North Dakota State University: Communication in Grebes)

Scientific Paper Session (Migration and Winter Ecology)

9:00 Sprague et al.: Movement and habitat use of migrating Semipalmated Sandpipers

9:20 Pompei and Cuthbert: Migration stopover sites of Piping Plovers in North America

9:40 Phillips et al.: Use of the Beaufort Sea by King Eiders

10:00-10:30 BREAK

10:30 King and Radomski: Migration patterns of cormorants near SE aquaculture.

10:50 Below: Marco Inlet: important coastal waterbird site

11:10 Noel et al.: Critical wintering site for Great Lakes Piping Plovers

11:30 Stucker et al.: Winter distribution of Great Lakes Piping Plovers

11:50-1:00 LUNCH

Scientific Paper Session (Marshbirds)

1:00 Rush et al.: Distribution of clapper Rails in Mississippi's tidal marshes

1:20 McGregor et al: King and Clapper rails in managed /unmanaged marshes.

1:40 Palacios and Bolanos-Garcia: Status of Clapper Rails in Baja California, MX

2:00 Hayden et al: Population trends of marshbirds of conservation concern in ME

2:20 Bazin et al.: Status of the Least Bittern in Canada

2:40 Presentation pending (switch from poster)

3:00-3:30 BREAK

Scientific Paper Session (Population Trends and Monitoring)

3:30 Sanders et al.: Distribution and abundance of American Oystercatchers in SC.

3:50 Brown et al.: Red-necked Phalaropes in the NE: status and research needs.

4:10 Moulton and Sallabanks: Idaho bird inventory and survey.

4:30 Jodice et al.: Longterm trends in nesting seabirds in SC.

4:50 McCrimmon: Nonlinear population dynamics of metropolitan NY waterbirds.

5:10 Green et al.: Assessment of aerial and ground census techniques for waterbirds.

6:30-8:30 PM SPECIAL DINNER: "Low Country Boil", South Dunes Park Picnic Area

\*\*\*\*\*

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 15** (Note: 3 concurrent sessions: A. Marshbird Workshop (all day); B. Scientific Paper Session (morning); C. Wood Stork Symposium (morning); D. Wood Stork Workshop (afternoon); (*See details below*)

Marshbird Workshop

8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Scientific Paper Session (Breeding Season Threats)

8:30 Custer: Mercury contamination in cavity nesting birds on the Carson River, NV.

8:50 Weseloh: Threat to Black-crowned Night-Herons from Double-crested Cormorants

9:10 Sabine et al.: Effects of human activity on American Oystercatchers.

9:30 Boucher: Effects of disturbance on Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls.

9:50 Weng, Guo-Jing: Conservation genetics of an introduced Mottled Duck population.

10:10 BREAK

10:40: Farley and O'Connell: Variable RS among coastal Least Tern colonies.

11:10: Maccarone et al.: Energy expenditure by Great and Snowy egrets

11:20: Pokras et al.: A clinical look at waterbirds.

Wood Stork Symposium

8:30 Murphy and Coker: A 25 yr history of Wood Storks in SC.

8:50 Winn et al.: History of Wood Storks in GA

9:10 Meyer and Frederick: Aerial census of nesting Wood Storks in FL

9:30 Rodgers: Productivity of Wood Storks in FL

9:45: Bryan et al: Productivity of Wood Storks in GA and SC

9:55 Borkhataria et al.: Demographic population model for Wood Storks.

10:15 BREAK

10:40 Borkhataria et al.: Juvenile Wood Stork movements

10:55 Bryan et al.: Adult Wood Stork movements

11:05 Brooks and Dean: Recovery status of SE US Wood Storks

11:35 Coulter: World conservation status of storks.

12:00 LUNCH

1:00-4:30 PM *Marshbird Workshop and Wood Stork Workshop*

5-6 PM SILENT AUCTION to Benefit Student Travel (final bidding)

BANQUET 6 PM-7 PM (Cash Bar); 7-9 PM (banquet); 9- 1AM (dancing)

.....  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

Field Trips (see options below) (email Billy Brooks: [Billy\\_Brooks@fws.gov](mailto:Billy_Brooks@fws.gov) to sign up)

1. Altamaha River Delta Trip. Limited to 16 people. Half Day. Cost \$25 for the boat services. Two pontoon boats will shuttle folks out through the extensive salt marshes of the lower Altamaha River to the delta where the river meets the Atlantic Ocean. This area is rich in shorebirds and seabirds, and has been designated as a WHSRN site and IBA. You will see Wolf Island NWR, Little Egg Island Bar, and the north beach of Little St. Simons Island. After the trip participants will eat lunch at (Mudcat Charlie's at your own cost) located at the boat landing. Trip is guided by GA DNR biologist Brad Winn.

2. Little St. Simons Island. Limited to 12 people. Full day. Cost \$50, and include boat services out to the island and a box lunch made for you on the island. This field trip will be guided by an island naturalist. Little St. Simons Island is one of the richest waterbird locations in the SE. <http://www.littlestsimonsisland.com>

3. Okefenokee Swamp. Limited to 12. Half day trip. Cost be approximately \$10 not including lunch. Known as the "Land of the Trembling Earth," the internationally renowned Okefenokee is one of the largest intact wetlands in the world. On this trip we will take you for a two-hour boat ride down the Suwanee Canal and through a large swamp prairie, for a walk out into the swamp on a ½ mile long boardwalk, and visit red-cockaded woodpecker habitat. There will be herons, egrets, possibly Sandhill Cranes, several species of songbirds, and maybe even a glimpse of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and Bachman's Sparrows. In addition, we will see plenty of wildflowers in bloom, pitcher plants, alligators, and other reptiles and amphibians. Guided by GA DNR biologist Todd Schneider and Jim Ozier. <http://www.fws.gov/okefenokee>

Also Available:

4. Cumberland Island National Seashore. You will need to make reservations for this self-guided trip with NPS at (912) 882-4335. Cost is \$15 for the ferry and \$4 day-use fee for NPS. Ferries leave at 9 and 11:45, with a return boat at 4:45. This field trip will walking the maritime forests and beaches of Georgia's largest barrier island. Land and waterbirds, including migrant warblers, red knots, American Oystercatchers, and Piping Plovers should be seen. Cumberland's rich history can be seen at the small visitors museum on the island. <http://www.nps.gov/cuis>

The following is a website with some information on the islands and swamp along the southeast coast of Georgia: <http://www.gacoast.com/navigator.html>

#### POSTER PRESENTATIONS: (abbreviated titles)

Arnold, A: Double-crested Cormorant impacts on vegetation.  
Bear-Hull et al.: Tracking a Wood Stork at Jacksonville Zoo.  
Bielacz et al.: Comparison of reproductive success at 3 Common Tern colonies in MI.  
Boettcher et al.: Post breeding movements of American Oystercatchers  
Brant et al.: Mercury in waders.  
Cheek: Waders in mangroves: shrimp ponds vs natural habitat  
Denmon et al.: Royal Tern conservation & management working group Atlantic Coast.  
Elbin et al.: NYC Harbor heron surveys: 20 yrs data.  
Ferguson et al.: Reddish Egret breeding range extension.  
Harris & Gawlik: Vegetation density and vulnerability of prey.  
Heidemann: Hydroperiod and abundance of crayfishes.  
Hobson: Stable isotopes & arctic seabirds.  
Kirk and Galik: Wood Stork parental activities & prey availability.  
Luent: Potentially lethal parasite to waders.  
Mellink et al.: Breeding ecology of Brown and Blue-footed boobies.  
Moore et al.: Double-crested Cormorant culling impacts on co-occurring waders.  
Morgan: Weather or knot: challenge of counting seabirds.  
Parkes and Mora: Heronies in central TX  
Perkins and Servello: Nocturnal nest attentiveness in Least Terns.  
Roche et al.: Contribution of captive rearing to recovery of Great Lakes Piping Plovers.  
Radomski and Thomson: Forage selection by cormorants at fish farms.  
Rauschenberger et al.: Snowy egret egg quality and contaminant burdens.  
Rutka et al.: Wintering waterfowl and waste rice.  
Sexon et al. Egg submersion technique to estimate incubation of Snowy Plovers.  
Soehren and Tucker: Passive listening vs broadcast call surveys for marshbirds.  
Spendelow et al.: Recolonization by Royal Terns.  
Wilke and Denmon: American Oystercatcher productivity on Fisherman Island.  
Williams and Frederick: Estimating nest failure in waders.  
Woodrey and Cooper: Passerines in salt marshes.  
Wynne et al.: Mercury in White Ibises.