



Guidelines for writing and submitting Georgia AFS Chapter Award Nominations

Timeless Achievement Deserves Timeless Recognition

The Georgia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society values its members and all those who work to improve the conservation and sustainability of our fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems. Randy Paucsh once said “showing gratitude is one of the simplest, yet most powerful thing humans can do for each other.” One way our Chapter shows its gratitude is by presenting outstanding individuals or organizations for their achievements and excellence in support of the Chapter’s mission and objectives.

Below is a list of guidelines to assist you as you write your nomination summary for your candidate. All nominations need to be submitted **by January 4, 2021** to Steve Sammons at sammos@auburn.edu.

Please follow the guidelines below when nominating someone for a Chapter Award

- Limit your nomination summary to 500 words
- Include a picture(s) of the nominee (can be working in the field, with students, etc.)
- Your summary should highlight accomplishments which meet the criteria for the award

Career Contribution

Honors individuals who have made numerous and significant contributions towards the advancement of fisheries research and/or management in Georgia over the course of their career(s).

Career Contribution accomplishments should include one or more of the following criteria:

- long-term commitment to aquatic resources and the stewardship thereof
- developed strong working relationships with other individuals or organizations
- implementation of important fish and aquatic management
- significant contributions in advancing fisheries and aquatic science
- original techniques or research methods
- imaginative and successful programs in fish conservation, education, or management
- promotion of the development of fisheries professionals
- leadership (in profession/Chapter)

Fisheries Professional of the Year

Presented to an individual that has made a significant impact on fisheries research or management in Georgia during the past year.

Fisheries Professional of the Year accomplishments should include one or more of the following criteria:

- development of new or improved design and/or construction of equipment used in field sampling, culture operations, lab analysis, etc.
- participation in outstanding or unique management, research, or culture activities, which contributed significantly to the fisheries profession
- participation in programs to educate other fisheries workers or the public in areas of fishing or fisheries management
- accomplishments resulting in new or improved techniques or greater efficiency (data compilation and analysis, improved lab techniques, more productive fish culture techniques, improved fish sampling techniques, etc.)
- development of innovative management plans or strategies or implementation of management practices
- coordination with different agencies to develop or implement management strategies
- leadership in the implementation of regulations or management programs that address regional or statewide fisheries issues
- significant and effective promotion of fisheries management and conservation activities on a regional or statewide level

Fisheries Conservationist of the Year

This award is not restricted to Georgia Chapter AFS members. It is presented annually to an individual or group for their outstanding contributions or service to fisheries conservation in Georgia.

Fisheries Conservationist of the Year accomplishments should include one or more of the following criteria:

- inspired and encouraged others to pursue the conservation and restoration of aquatic resources
- initiated or participated in activities that protect, conserve or restore aquatic habitat and fisheries in Georgia
- improved sustainable recreational and/or commercial fishery opportunities
- supported the stewardship of aquatic resources or the enrichment of the fisheries profession
- initiated or participated in programs to educate the public in areas of fishing or fisheries management

Unsung Hero Award

This award recognizes the contributions of a person who may not be directly employed as a typical fishery professional (e.g. biologist, technician, etc.), but provides exceptional work that is essential to the mission of promoting the conservation, development, and wise use utilization of fisheries resources. This award is designed to celebrate the contributions of people often completing responsibilities “behind the scenes.”

Unsung Hero accomplishments should include one or more of the following criteria:

- “Go-to person” that does the little things essential to the mission of promoting the conservation, development, and wise use utilization of fisheries resources
- created a work environment that promotes teamwork
- serves as a role model for others
- volunteers to participate in programs to educate the public about conservation and management of our aquatic resources

Distinguished Service Award

Recognizes the outstanding contributions of time and energy for special projects or activities by Chapter members

Distinguished Service Award accomplishments should include one or more of the following criteria:

- outstanding contribution to the advancement of fisheries professionals and/or fisheries students
- made important contributions to advance the current objectives, long-term goals or stature of the Chapter and fisheries professionals

Certificate of Appreciation

Exhibits the Chapter’s gratitude to an individual or organization for a specific contribution or event that supports the Chapter or its mission.