

2022 SEAFWA Social Sciences Technical Committee Briefing

Had our first meeting under new leadership on August 11th.

Nine people were in attendance of 17 total members:

Jack Isaacs – Louisiana

Cleary, Matt – Florida

Jessica Feltz – Arkansas

Binod P. Chapagain – Tennessee

Maddox, Mercedes – Alabama

Paudyal, Ramesh – Florida

Amanda Stroud – South Carolina

Jewell, Kathryn L – North Carolina

Mallory Gyovai White – Virginia

Westlake, Shannon M – USFWS Southeast Regional Social Scientist

6 of our members expect to attend the SEAFWA conference this year.

Meeting goals were achieved. They were:

Facilitate connectedness among social science practitioners in Southeastern State Wildlife Agencies.

Update one another on regional projects and identify areas for collaboration.

Introduce collaboration with MINRCC, and give Mercedes Maddox the floor to invite members of our committee to sit on a MINRC panel at this year's SEAFWA conference.

Create a living database of social science white and grey literature, and agency reports from Southeastern agencies so we may access them during our project design & publication processes.

Items for our in-person meeting at the 2022 SEAFWA conference:

Discuss the logistics and usefulness of hosting a CWD-focused social science meeting at next year's conference, or of organizing a community of practitioners around that topic.

Identify ways to support Arkansas' forthcoming research on human-black bear coexistence.

Recruit future committee chair.