



SEAFWA Spring Directors' Meeting

March 11-13, 2026

Little Rock Marriott Hotel

Little Rock, AR

ITINERARY AND BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Salon C

(March 3, 2026--Subject to Change)

Wednesday March 11

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Registration Open - Hotel Lobby

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM - **Welcome Reception** – Pinnacle Room - Sponsored by Paylt

7:00 PM - Dinner on Your Own

8:00 PM - 11:00 PM - Hospitality Suite Open - Presidential Suite

Thursday March 12

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM - Breakfast – Salon C – Sponsored by **Kalkomey Enterprises, LLC**

8:00 AM - Registration Open - Outside of Salon C

8:00 AM - Welcome & Opening Remarks - Ryan Brown, President & Doug Schoenrock, Executive Director, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

8:15 AM - 8:30 AM - SEAFWA Foundation Meeting (see separate agenda)

8:30 AM - SEAFWA Business Meeting

8:30 AM - Call to Order - Ryan Brown, President

8:35 AM - Roll Call - Ross Melinchuk, Executive Director

8:40 AM - **ACTION** - Review and Approval of Agenda - Ryan Brown, President

8:45 AM - **ACTION** - Approval of 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes - Ryan Brown, President

8:50 AM - **ACTION** - Financial Report - Angelyn Mewborn, Finance Manager

9:00 AM - **ACTION** – Election of Officers – Paul Johansen, Chair, Nominating Committee

9:15 AM - Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow Report – Dave Windsor, Program Dir., McGraw

9:25 AM - Fall Flights Update - Andrew Raedeke, Manager of Development & State Relations

9:35 AM - Southeast Aquatics Resources Partnership Update - Todd Ewing, SARP Coordinator

9:45 AM – **Energy Break (15 minutes) - Sponsored by Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership**

10:00 AM – National Bobwhite and Grasslands Initiative Foundation Update – John Morgan, CEO & President and Jen Mock, Contract Policy Director, NBCI Foundation

10:15 AM - National Bobwhite and Grasslands Initiative Update - Jeff Hodges, Director, NGBI

10:25 AM – CAHSS Update - Chuck Sykes, Executive Director

10:35 AM – Cervid Health Group Update – Dr. Ellen Haynes, SEAFWA Wildlife Health Coord.

10:45 AM – AFWA Update - Ron Regan, Executive Director, AFWA

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM – **Directors' Conservation Roundtable**

SEAFWA Directors/Proxies; will discuss contemporary issues, opportunities and challenges within the SE U.S. and Territories. The one-hour session will be moderated by Ross Melinchuk, SEAFWA Executive Director. State, federal, industry, and non-government partners are encouraged to participate.

12:00 PM - Adjourn Business Meeting for Lunch

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM - LUNCH – Salon C – Sponsored by **Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation**

Luncheon Speaker: Aarav Chavda, Co-Founder & CEO of INVERSA

• INVERSA: Modernizing Invasive Species Management Through Technology and Commercial Offtake with an Update from FWC's Roger Young on Invasive Python Management with INVERSA

1:15 PM – USFWS Region 4 Update - Michael Oetker, Regional Director & Paul Wilkes, SE Regional Manager, USFWS

1:25 PM – **ACTION** – SEAFWA/USFWS Priority Work Plan Approval—Directors & Michael Oetker

1:45 PM – Ducks Unlimited Update—Jerry Holden, Jr. – Director, Southern Regional Office

2:00 PM – Adjourn Business Meeting

2:30 PM – Load vans (**Directors only**) for travel to AGFF/Jacksonville Shooting Sports Complex

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM – **Skeet Shooting** - Shotguns, ammunition, and safety gear provided

5:00 PM – Load vans for 30 min. drive back to the Marriott Hotel - Arrive 5:30 PM

6:45 PM - Meet in lobby for 10 min. walk to **Samantha's Tap Room** for dinner - Casual attire

7:00 PM- 9:00 PM – Group Dinner (All attendees) –Sponsored by **Canadian NAWMP Partners and Ducks Unlimited, Inc.**

9:30 PM - 12:00 AM - Hospitality Suite Open

Friday March 13

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM - Breakfast - Sponsored by **National Wild Turkey Federation**

8:00 AM - Call to Order - Ryan Brown, President

8:05 AM - Roll Call - Ross Melinchuk, Executive Director

8:10 AM - SEAFWA R3 Coordination Action Report - Olivia Harmsen, SEAFWA R3 Coordinator

8:20 AM – CITES COP Report – Buddy Baker, SEAFWA CITES Representative

8:30 AM – **ACTION** – SE Conservation Leadership Program – MAT Agreement – Ross Melinchuk

8:45 AM – Conservation Law Program Update - Carol Frampton, Director - Center for Conservation Excellence

9:00 AM – National Deer Association Update - Jenifer Wisnewski, Chief Marketing Officer, NDA

9:15 AM – **ACTION** – Approval of the Private Lands Joint Party Committee Operational Guidelines & Appointment of a Director Sponsor - Randy Brents, Asst. Chief, Private Lands, AGFC

9:25 AM – **ACTION** - North American Lead-free Partnership – Joint Recommendation from Wildlife Health, Wildlife Resources, and R3 Committees – Dr. Ellen Haynes, SEAFWA Wildlife Health Coordinator

9:40 AM - SEAFWA 2026 Annual Conference - Nashville, TN - Jason Maxedon, Ex. Dir., TWRA

9:50 AM - SEAFWA 2027 Annual Conference – Little Rock, AR – Doug Schoenrock, Ex. Dir., AGFC

10:00 AM – **Energy Break - Sponsored by Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership**

10:15 AM – **ACTION** - Resolutions Committee - Ryan Brown, Committee Member

10:30 AM - Adjourn Business Meeting - Directors and SEAFWA Staff convene Executive Session

10:30 AM – 11:55 PM **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

12:00 PM – Adjourn Executive Session and Reconvene Business Meeting

12:00 PM – **ACTION ITEMS (if any, from Executive Session)**

12:15 PM - Adjourn Business Meeting – Ryan Brown, President

12:15 PM - LUNCH ON YOUR OWN AND DEPARTURES AS SCHEDULED