

The Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society - 2017 Spring Meeting

Pre-Meeting FIELD TRIP

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 10:30-Noon – shuttle from hotel/walking tour

SeaWorld Behind-the-Scenes

Led by SeaWorld Education Staff

No cost, **must pre-register**, meet in hotel lobby at 10:15am to carpool to Sea World



Behind-the-scenes at SeaWorld's animal rescue center - although the theme park has been exposed to a lot of controversy in the last few years, they also do great work on the rescue and rehabilitation of sea turtles and marine mammals. All conference attendees welcome, but **must pre-register**.

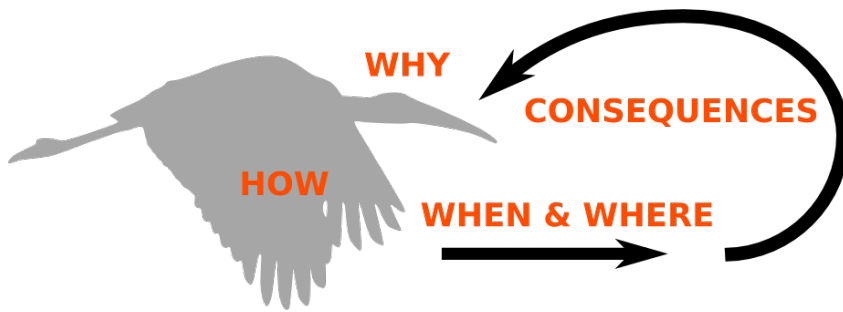
Post-Meeting WORKSHOP

Friday, April 7, 2017 8:30-Noon – Poseidon Room

PostGIS workshop: Next Generation Data Management in Movement Ecology

Mathieu Basille

No cost, limited to 25 people, please pre-register



Recent technological progress has allowed ecologists to obtain a huge amount and diversity of animal movement data sets of increasing spatial and temporal resolution and size, together with complex associated information related to the environmental context, such as habitat types based on remote sensing, population density, and weather. Based on several years of experience on multiple species, this workshop is designed to introduce participants to handle, manage, store and retrieve movement data in a spatial database, and how to eventually feed them to analysis tools.

Participants will be exposed to basics of spatial databases for wildlife tracking data, using PostgreSQL/PostGIS, the reference free and open-source database system, and the integration of environmental data in the process.

The specifics of movement data will then be addressed, while showcasing how to connect the database to clients such as QGIS for visualization and the R statistical environment for analysis. Step by step, using reproducible, hands-on exercises, we will demonstrate a complete and seamless procedure from raw data to final analysis that will enable participants to fully manage and integrate complex animal movement data sets.

Post-Meeting FIELD TRIPS

Friday, April 7, 2017 8:00-Noon – carpool from hotel/walking tour

Shingle Creek Conservation Areas

Led by Ayonga Riddick (SFWMD)

No cost, limited to 20 people, please pre-register



Photo by Jay Exum

Land management in a fragmented, urban setting: This field trip will provide an overview of land management activities including prescribed fire and exotic species management on lands owned by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) adjacent to Shingle Creek. This creek is often referred to as the headwaters of the Everglades as it emerges from downtown Orlando and traverses to Lake Toho in Kissimmee. Longleaf pine flatwoods, freshwater marshes, cypress domes and strands, mesic hammocks and floodplain forest are all components of the natural lands managed by the SFWMD in the basin.

Friday, April 7, 2017 8:00-Noon – carpool from hotel/airboat tour

Lake Tohopekaliga Management

Led by Tim Coughlin and Ed Harris (FWC)

\$10 per person, limited to 30 people, please pre-register



Photo by Jay Exum



Photo by Jay Exum

Managing conflicting resources on Lake Toho – This field trip will traverse Lake Tohopekaliga via 17-passenger airboats from Kissimmee. We will stop at strategic areas and learn about Lake Toho and management opportunities and conflicts related to the invasion of Island (giant) apple snails, the pros and cons of an abundant biomass of the invasive aquatic *Hydrilla*, and the complications of lake management on snail kites, wood storks and migratory waterfowl.