Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – Meeting at the *King Life Science Building*

8:00-8:30  Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30-9:00  Welcome and Opening Remarks  
*A Short History of Apalachicola Symposia and Special Recognitions*  
Peter Kleinhenz, *Apalachee Audubon*

9:00-9:15  **Keynote:** Water Drama: Evaluating Cross-Scale Interactions  
Dr. Felicia Coleman, Director, *The Florida State University Coastal and Marine Lab*

9:15-10:15  **Session 1: Apalachicola River Floodplain Hydrology, Geomorphology, and Forest Communities**

  - Drying of Tupelo Swamps caused by Hydrologic Change in the Apalachicola River  
    Helen Light, *USGS Retired*
  
  - Apalachicola River Flows and Channel Processes  
    Matt Kondolf, *University of California Berkeley and Institute of Advanced Studies University of Lyon, France*
  
  - A View of Apalachicola Floodplain Habitats and Plants in Relation to the Uplands, Floodplain and Downstream Communities  
    Dr. Loran Anderson, *Professor Emeritus, The Florida State University*

10:15-10:35  Break

10:40-12:30  **Session 2: Population Dynamics, Community Ecology, and Species Interactions in the Apalachicola River System**  
Moderator: Ted Hoehn, *Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission*

  - Investigating the cause of the 2012-2013 Apalachicola oyster fishery collapse: How basic ecological research can disentangle the relative importance of upstream water withdrawal, species interactions, and regional drought  
    David Kimbro, *Northeastern University*

  - Monitoring Oyster Ecology in Apalachicola Bay  
    Matt Davis and Melanie Parker, *Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission*

  - FWC Freshwater Mussel Surveys in the Apalachicola: Highlights and Updates
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from the 2016-2017 Field Seasons
Dr. Sahale Casebolt, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Role of Hydrologic Connectivity in Sustaining Fish and Mussel Populations of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Basin
Dr. Steve Walsh, U.S. Geological Survey

Florida’s Fisheries-Independent Monitoring Program: An overview of efforts in the Apalachicola Bay and lower Apalachicola River
Bob Gorecki and David Gandy, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

12:30 – 1:30  Lunch (Provided)

1:35 – 3:05  Session 3: Modeling and Metrics for River Flow Regime and the Apalachicola Watershed for Management Decisions

USACE-RESSIM Model
James Hathorn, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USFWS-STELLA MODEL
Steve Leitman, Waters Without Borders
GWRI/ACFS- ACF-DSS MODEL
Aris Georgakakos, Georgia Water Resources Institute

Connectivity of the Apalachicola River with the West Florida Shelf
Dr. Steve Morey, Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, The Florida State University

3:05 – 3:25  Break

3:25 – 4:30  Session 4: Update on the Status of Apalachicola Bay and Oysters

Oyster Management Update
Jim Estes, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

Oyster Management Update
Kal Knickerbocker, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Oyster Issues from the Perspectives of Seafood Dealers
Steve Rash, Apalachicola Bay Oyster Management Group

Oyster Issues from the Perspectives of Oyster Harvesters
Shannon Hartsfield, Seafood Workers Association and Seafood Management Assistance Resource Recovery Team

4:30 – 5:15  Session 5: Panel Discussion
What are the key points from today’s session that should guide discussions about policy and management decisions in the future? Where should additional research efforts be directed?
Moderator: David W. Arnold, Apalachee Audubon
Audience Participation Welcomed
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5:30 – 6:30  Reception at Madison Social, 705 S. Woodward Avenue

Thursday, March 15 – Meeting at the FSU University Club (at Doak Campbell Stadium)

8:00 – 8:40  Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:40 – 8:50  Opening Remarks
Acknowledgments of sponsors, planning committee, and a review of conference objectives and agenda

8:50 – 9:05  Keynote
America’s Most Endangered Rivers® Designation
What does it mean to Florida’s River and Bay Stakeholders?
Ben Emanuel, Director Clean Water Supply, American Rivers

9:05 – 10:15  Session 1: What do We Know About the Conditions of the Apalachicola and its Communities?

What We Know from the Latest Scientific Reports: Update from Day 1 of this Conference
Dr. Felicia Coleman, The Florida State University Coastal and Marine Lab

History of Development, Importance and Condition of the ACF Basin
Dan Tonsmeire, Apalachicola Riverkeeper

Socio-economic Trends of the Apalachicola Basin Communities
How local communities are faring and what the projections tell us
Richard Fetchick, Apalachee Regional Planning Council
Dr. Doug Wakeman, Meredith College

10:15 – 10:35  Break

10:35 – 12:05  Session 2: Current Policies Affecting the Apalachicola River

How do existing state and federal programs affect water use and flows, and which are most helpful to protecting and sustainably managing the Apalachicola River, Floodplain and Bay?

Moderator: Tania Galloni, Earthjustice
Speakers:
Richard Hamann, University of Florida College of Law
Dr. Cathy Phillips, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Paul Thorpe, Northwest Florida Water Management District

12:05-1:20  Luncheon Keynote
Tom Kelsch, Sr. Vice President, Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
Funding Opportunities thru the GEBF to Achieve Apalachicola Watershed Conservation Goals

1:20 – 3:00  Session 3: Current Legal Challenges

Potential Implications of the Supreme Court Decision and Potential Changes to the Master Manual; How are these interpreted and how can we improve them going forward?
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Overview and Update of the Florida v. Georgia Supreme Court Case
Jonathan Williams, Lash & Goldberg LLP, formerly of Florida Office of the Attorney General

Overview and Update on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Control

Panel Presentation and Discussion: What do these actions mean for the Apalachicola?
Melissa Samet, National Wildlife Federation
Mohammad Jazil, Hopping Green and Sams
Jonathan Williams, Lash & Goldberg LLP, formerly of Florida Office of the Attorney General

3:00 – 3:20 Break

3:20 – 4:30 Session 4: Lessons Learned in River Basin Management
What actions can be taken in Florida?
Moderator: Laurie Fowler, University of Georgia, ACF Stakeholders-The University Collaborative
Brad Moore, Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Stakeholders
Ben Emanuel, American Rivers
Estus Whitfield, Florida Conservation Coalition

4:30 – 5:00 Closing Remarks

5:00 – 6:00 Reception

6:00 – 8:00 Dinner with Senator Bob Graham, Keynote Speaker
A Vision for Sustainable Resource Management: Where we need to be by 2030

Friday, March 16 – Meeting at the FSU University Club (at Doak Campbell Stadium)

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome, Expectations for the Day

9:10 – 10:30 Session 5: Break-out Sessions – The Paths to Recovery
What opportunities do you see to achieve sustainable resource management goals, and what concerns you? What options exist to move forward regionally and in Florida to achieve in the management of the Basin with so many players and competing interests?

Breakouts Sessions
1. Strengthening and Diversifying the Economy of the Apalachicola
   Leveraging opportunities under RESTORE and Triumph Gulf Coast

   Facilitator: Craig Diamond, Apalachicola Riverkeeper
   Panelists:
   Leslie Ames, Florida Department of Environmental Protection
   Richard Fetchick, Apalachee Regional Planning Council
   Greg Knecht, The Nature Conservancy
   Dr. Jerry Parrish, Florida Chamber Foundation
2. Drought Management Planning and Transboundary Coordination
   The Needs for and Barriers to Transboundary Coordination
   Facilitator: Laurie Fowler, University of Georgia, ACF Stakeholders-The University Collaborative
   Panelists:
   Mark Masters, ACFS/UGA Flint River Center for Agriculture Water Conservation
   Brad Moore, Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Stakeholders
   Chad Taylor, Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition
   David Zierden, The Florida State University

3. Approaches to a Planning for Comprehensive Apalachicola Recovery and Management
   Coordination of local, state and federal actions to benefit the Apalachicola
   Facilitator:
   Panelists:
   Jim Estes, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
   Dr. Skip Livingston, Florida State University
   Chris Manganeillo, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
   Steve Rash, Water Street Seafood
   Gordon Rogers, Flint Riverkeeper
   Anne Birch, The Nature Conservancy

10:30 – 10:45  Break

10:45 – 12:00  Session 6: Synthesis of Break-Out Sessions - Final Q&A
   Identify concrete actions needed to achieve sustainable resource management goals for the Apalachicola
   River, Floodplain and Bay; recommendations for decision-makers; next steps for stakeholders
   Panelists:
   Craig Diamond, Breakout session facilitator
   Laurie Fowler, Breakout session facilitator
   Steve Leitman, Waters Without Borders
   Dr. Bill McCartney, Conservation and Recreation Lands, LLC

12:00 – 12:15  Closing Remarks

12:30 – 5:00  Optional River Trip on the Apalachicola – 2-hour boat trip from Chattahoochee to Bristol
   Hosted by Apalachicola Riverkeeper & Forgotten Coast Paddlesports and Pontoons
   Lunch and Transportation Provided
   A SEPARATE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TRIP