

**EXPERT WITNESS REPORT**

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Prepared for Plaintiffs in  
*Coastal Conservation Association of N.C., et al. v. State of North Carolina,*  
20-CVS-012925-910, Superior Court, Wake County, North Carolina

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## I. Background and Qualifications.

I am currently Senior Executive Director of the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico studies at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, where I hold the Endowed Chair for Fisheries and Ocean Health. I am also a Regents Professor, Professor of Marine Biology, and Director of the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. My curriculum vitae (“CV”) is attached.

My CV, which is being provided with this report, includes a list of all publications I have authored or co-authored in the previous 29 years.

## II. Scope of Work.

I was retained by counsel for the plaintiffs to evaluate and provide comments and testimony on the history of coastal fisheries management in North Carolina, and how fisheries are managed generally and compared to other states, including my home state of Texas.

I have reviewed the documents or data sets regarding coastal fisheries management in North Carolina that are attached under the Appendix to this report.

I have also reviewed and concur with the fisheries dependent data analysis completed by Dr. Sean Powers which is reflected in his expert witness report prepared for the plaintiffs in this case. I comment herein on the results of that analysis.

I have also obtained information about the history of coastal fisheries management in North Carolina from Dr. Lewis Daniel and Dr. Tim Nifong. I have also heard a presentation from Mr. Rick Sasser of his work regarding nursery area designations, estuarine shrimp trawl bycatch, and related subjects (covered in his PowerPoint presentation listed in the Appendix).

## III. General Points Regarding Sound, Modern Fisheries Management.

### A. Generally Recognized Goals and the Precautionary Approach.

There is broad consensus in the scientific community that the principal goal of modern fisheries management is to ensure sustainable fisheries populations while fully realizing the ecological, economic, and social benefits that may potentially be provided by those fisheries resources. An underlying principle, therefore, is that it is the goal, if not the duty, of fisheries managers to maintain the long-term viability of each managed stock (*i.e.*, stock sustainability). I note that by statute the goal of

fisheries management plans in North Carolina is to ensure the long-term viability of the stock. Long-term viability or sustainability simply means we seek to harvest the surplus production that naturally occurs in a healthy, viable spawning fish stock, without allowing so much fishing effort on/catch of the spawning stock that the harvest would impact recruitment of new fish moving into the adult population (*i.e.*, without allowing recruitment overfishing).

Historically, fisheries management has therefore focused on setting fishing mortality rates (harvest plus discards) that are limited to that maximum yield to avoid negatively impacting the “renewability” (often referred to as sustainability) of the stock. That traditional management goal, but rarely the ultimate target in contemporary fisheries management, is typically called “maximum sustainable yield” (“MSY”).

Modern fisheries management now recognizes that MSY can be a very dangerous target, particularly since actual MSY is often unknown because of data and other sources of uncertainty, and it often can only be approximated even under the most data rich assessments. MSY is easily and often exceeded without precautionary measures in place, causing the collapse of many fisheries because of overfishing. This overfishing is commonly known to be preventable, but nevertheless often occurs when fisheries are not properly managed.

To prevent overfishing, modern fisheries management buffers MSY by prescribing and optimizing the yield (*i.e.*, optimum sustainable yield, or “OSY”, sometimes shortened to optimum yield (“OY”)), rather than maximizing it. The optimal harvest can be defined in numerous ways, from no yield up to MSY (and in very rare instances beyond MSY, *e.g.*, for invasive species removal). The OY is almost always less than and reduced from MSY to achieve a variety of management goals, including implementing precautionary management buffers to account for scientific uncertainty, or where fisheries harvest is “optimized” to provide pre-defined benefits that explicitly consider long-term economic and social benefits derived from the resource.

Relatedly, modern fisheries management prescribes a precautionary approach for a variety of reasons. First, managers rarely have all the data and information they would prefer or need to best manage a fishery. Moreover, most fisheries are characterized by large uncertainties in management; thus, allowable harvest is routinely buffered below a maximum threshold (which is often not known with certainty) to ensure caution is exercised in setting fishing mortality rates. Second, while overfishing is typically the primary cause for the declines in fish stocks, it is well-known that other uncertainties surrounding fisheries management, such as variability in climate, can cause shifts in stock parameters and declines in catch. Factors such as drought, hurricanes, climate change, global current patterns and many other environmental dynamics can affect mortality. These events are often

unpredictable, and exercising caution in setting harvest limits helps to buffer against these stochastic events. Finally, certain fishery sectors, and particular commercial fisheries, can be very efficient. Efficiency and effort can mask declining abundance by artificially bolstering harvest rates even under rapidly declining populations. Often, species abundance indices do not show declines in early overfishing stages. Given this efficiency, a commercial fishing fleet can be doing serious damage to the sustainable dynamics of fish populations before proper assessment can be performed and responsive management rules can be implemented. This effect is exacerbated in the absence of nimble and precautionary management. Thus, by having well-planned precautionary measures, managers can buffer against overfishing, or have greater confidence in rebuilding stocks where necessary.

#### B. Techniques for Assessing the Health of a Stock, Including Trends Analysis and Stock Assessments.

The techniques of modern fisheries management can vary widely yet be successful in achieving sustainable fisheries and optimal yields, using very different approaches that can vary greatly in terms of data needs, time, and costs. How species or fisheries are assessed by a fisheries management agency is generally the result of how much information and data the agency knows or can efficiently gather regarding the status of the fishery. Management techniques that assess the status of a fish stock can range from rapid, simple, and efficient trend analyses that require relatively limited data and are based on information collected from the fishery (*i.e.*, fisheries dependent, or harvest data), to much more “sophisticated” stock assessments and other models that rely on scientifically collected data often independent of the fishery and catches (*i.e.*, fisheries independent data). To be clear, the use of the term “more sophisticated” models or assessment techniques does not mean that employing such models automatically, or necessarily, results in better management, and, as discussed later in this report, there are many fisheries management examples of simple trend analyses producing outstanding management with healthy, robust stocks.

For example, one of the most sophisticated, data-rich, and multi-regional/state stock assessments in the world that is federally managed, namely, the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper stock assessment, has just recently failed to produce reliable management advice after years of analyses, some of the longest-term data inputs, and hundreds of millions of dollars spent on assessing this stock, resulting in severe mismanagement and shortened seasons (often days to months; and in some regions either no season or 1-2 days annually). Conversely, I have observed state-based management of that species that spends a small fraction of the relative costs and analytical inputs/effort result in year-long 365-day season, support 100% increase in bag limits, and maintain some of the Gulf’s highest abundance of Red Snapper in state waters.

There are many indices and other datasets that are used to determine the status or health of a fish stock, most typical indices of abundance such as catch-per-unit-effort indices, recreational landings indices, commercial landings indices, recruitment indices (*e.g.*, a juvenile abundance index), bycatch indices, and many other indices that may be relevant to a particular fishery. The value, utility, and biases associated with these indices are well-understood by most fisheries managers.

These management indices can be constructed either from data collected from fisheries harvests or from independent scientific surveys of managed species. Harvest data anchors most stock assessments. However, many factors—*e.g.*, the current economic value of a species, the severity of implemented harvest restrictions, *etc.*—can affect catch, and can decouple landings data from the true stock abundance. Thus, fisheries managers typically prefer to also examine fishery independent indices that do not rely on harvest statistics but are collected independently using scientific methodologies. Often these indices do not all reflect the same relative importance, given a variety of assumptions, variability, and biases they may contain. Therefore, taken together, these datasets give managers a clearer picture of true stock status, and typically, consideration of several indices gives a more accurate determination of stock status, especially if the indices are congruent.

### C. The Importance of Age Composition Data on a Stock.

One of the most important biologic measures of stock health for any managed species is whether it exhibits a normal population age structure—often termed stock age composition or stock age structure. Consequently, examining the age structure of the population can be very informative as to stock viability/sustainability. In healthy exploited (*i.e.*, fished), but not overfished populations, the age structure retains many of the characteristics of an unfished or healthy population. Healthy population age structures typically exhibit many young and middle-aged fish, with decreasing numbers of older fish, but all age classes are represented at the expected ratios out to the maximum age of the species.

An examination of the age structure composition will show managers if there are any troubling signs that might be indicative of having high fishing effort on certain age classes, a lower level of young recruits entering the fishery than needed to sustain it, or abrupt declines in the numbers of older fish or even missing age classes (*i.e.*, stock age truncation), as opposed to a steady, predictive decline of older age classes in a sustainable population. Older age classes can be very valuable and desirable to the fishery in terms of both reproductive capacity and economics; however, stable older age classes are most valuable in promoting long-term sustainability of a species population given their relative importance as it pertains to the population's reproductive capacity. Thus, two of the most telling signs of overfishing and overfished status for a stock are the lack of older age classes in the

population and a lower than desired level of new recruits the older individuals disproportionately provide. Thus, when managers have age-structure data, a very clear picture of the population and historical exploitation pattern can be seen and utilized for additional analyses. It also affords managers the opportunity to calculate instantaneous mortality rates such as fishing and natural mortality, spawning potential of the population, and other insightful measures. These are some of the most important parameters to assess when managing for sustainability. In fact, some of the most reliable harvest rates (yield streams) can be derived from the age structure of a managed species. Moreover, age-structure is often used to determine stock status and recovery timelines and goals, as well as to develop key benchmarks for stock rebuilding.

#### D. The Concept of Adaptive Management.

Adaptive management allows managers to make decisions in more “real-time,” as opposed to the much longer time (often years) that it takes to implement management steps that a stock assessment produces. Given the efficiency of some fleets, severe damage to a stock can occur while waiting on the stock assessment process to be completed. Thus, if managers do not have all the information desired or means to manage the fishery responsively or adaptively, a preferred, precautionary management method is to reduce harvest rates from MSY to an OY level, which would curb overfishing until more data can be gathered and analyzed. While this cautious approach might not maximize the yield, it prevents overfishing. It can be much more difficult to recover from overfishing if timely action is not taken to end it early on.

One reliable approach to implement adaptive management is simple year-over-year trend analyses for the various biological indices for the stock. Dr. Sean Powers has provided examples of this in his expert report in this case (which I comment on below). While these simple analyses typically do not produce the formal mathematical benchmarks of a full stock assessment (which I might add, often are not needed), they give a very clear indication of the status of the fishery as compared to prior years. For example, are the abundance indices steady, going up (both good signs), and (preferably) not going down? Trend analyses are quick, reliable, and give managers good insight into the stock status, particularly where more extensive data inputs may not be readily available. This method affords managers a rapid snapshot of the fishery status and the opportunity to implement responsive management measures before a stock declines too rapidly.

This is important, because once a fishery falls below certain thresholds, the recovery can be extremely difficult, and in some cases impossible. Ideally, as more data becomes available, more sophisticated, and predictive indices, benchmarks, and yield streams that allow management to more closely approximate MSY can be developed if desired. Interestingly, MSY is often not known, even for some of the

most well-understood and data rich fisheries. In those instances, trend analysis is especially useful, allowing for a rapid examination of whether the fishery is positively responding to management measures. If trend analysis shows no cause for concern, then additional management measures may not even be necessary. Thus, simple rapid trends analyses set in a precautionary framework allow managers to be very nimble and adaptable to changes in the fishery, and adjustments can be made quickly before exceeding biological thresholds that result in long-term harm to the stock. In fact, some of the most successful inshore, state-based fisheries management is performed using nothing other than simple trend analyses.

#### E. Fishing Down Food Chains – Shifting Effort.

A very common fleet dynamic trend seen in fishery management and well-described in the scientific literature is the concept of “Fishing Down Food Chains.” This occurs where poor or non-responsive management allows for overfishing and for developing harvest overcapacity in an uncontrolled manner. This results in fleets that are typically overcapitalized, and thus economically “compelled” to overfish, absent proactive fishery regulation. The coupling of declining stock abundance levels and economic overcapitalization of the fleet eventually means that it is no longer economically viable to target a particular overfished species. The fleet then moves on to another species and overfishes it, and then another, and so on. As a result of this phenomenon, the larger, more profitable fisheries, typically at the top of the food chain/web are very predictably over-exploited. Then, less desirable species that are typically lower on the food chain become targets, thus illustrating the “fishing down the food chain/web” concept.

Fishing down the food chain has occurred in many areas in the U.S. and around the world. The catch rates and overall stock biomass often can remain high, masking overfishing; but the overall fishery biomass extraction continues to be supported by less economically viable species harvested from lower trophic levels that ultimately result in even more catch. But it cannot be biologically sustained indefinitely, and ultimately the house of cards falls, and multiple fish stocks collapse. But because that biological certainty takes time to occur, in an unconstrained and improperly managed fishery fish, fishing down the food chain is a very common phenomenon. In my opinion and based on the materials I have reviewed, this is exactly what is happening in North Carolina. Typically, due to overcapacity in the fishery, the fleet is compelled to continually overfish, decimate one stock, and then move on to the next alternative but less desirable species, due to their “economic” (and biologic) availability. While this is a basic, well-known fisheries management concept, and one that any manager should take rapid regulatory action to prevent from occurring, it appears that North Carolina fisheries management agencies are completely in denial that fishing down the food chain has caused the collapse of many, if not most, of the public trust species that it manages.

#### F. Accounting for Natural Mortality.

Estimating all sources of mortality (natural and fishing) is key for properly managing fisheries. Fishing mortality can often be known or reasonably estimated from harvests statistics. Natural mortality is more problematic and difficult to ascertain. However, the field of fisheries science has well-established techniques and acceptable parameters that allow for estimating natural mortality in useful ways that are informative for creating and implementing appropriate management plans. The most common technique is to use age-structure analyses of the managed population, from which scientists can estimate total and fishing mortality, and then calculate natural mortality by subtracting fishing mortality from total mortality. Absent data to the contrary, it is widely recognized in the field that any significant, unexplained increase in mortality of a stock is attributable to fishing, rather than to natural mortality.

### IV. Conclusions and Observations About Coastal Fisheries Management in North Carolina.

#### A. The Data Trends Analysis by Dr. Powers, and General Observations.

I have reviewed the results of the analysis of North Carolina's historical management of seven species of fish in North Carolina's coastal waters conducted by Dr. Sean Powers, as presented in his expert witness report in this matter. I fully concur with his conclusions about the history and status of those species as stated in his report.

A review of the data Dr. Powers used for that analysis, and statistics available for other species, shows that under North Carolina state agency management, multiple species have been in troubling decline in North Carolina's coastal waters for decades, and that the State has taken inadequate management actions to reverse those trends. In addition to these data referenced by Dr. Powers, a variety of other documents reviewed, such as stock assessments, and landings data, have shown the same concerning trends. Moreover, this ongoing decline is also reflected in DMF's historic and current stock status reports.

All of these data taken together clearly show that North Carolina has systematically failed to take corrective measures to avoid or end overfishing, even when such action was warranted. The independent age data calculations reflected in Dr. Powers' compilation indicate that uncontrolled fishing mortality has severely truncated older age classes for multiple species, impacting both long-term stock viability—both as that term is generally understood, and as it has been defined and used by DMF—and harvest sustainability. These signs should be very apparent and

alarming to any fisheries manager. This insufficiently regulated, intense pressure on managed fish populations, primarily from commercial fishing as it pertains to most species, has caused the spawning stocks of many North Carolina species to decline below accepted management thresholds, to the point where they are no longer sustainable, with these unbounded harvests exceeding sustainable yields for multiple species.<sup>1</sup>

The data and stock status reports reflect that the State's coastal fisheries managers (*i.e.*, DMF and the MFC) have collectively failed to achieve or show evidence of long-term viability for two-thirds of the State's managed fish stocks for a period of two-and-a-half decades. In my opinion, North Carolina fisheries managers have not made aggressive enough management efforts to adequately characterize, much less regulate, the harvests and bycatch required to manage the State's public trust fish stocks to a long-term viability standard, even when the science clearly supported such preventive action.

#### B. An Over-Reliance on Suspect Stock Assessments, and Lack of Adaptive Management.

Despite some significant data gaps that are discussed below, North Carolina's coastal fisheries management agencies have had ample data reflecting the troubling downward trends in the status of multiple stocks for a long time. This includes river herring, spot, Southern flounder, spotted seatrout, striped bass and weakfish, as reflected again in DMF's historical stock status reports and/or in more recent annual stock status overviews. What is especially troubling is that it is not as if the downward trends in stock status in North Carolina went undetected. When warranted by the data, the State either implemented no, or insufficient, regulatory measures to reverse that decline.

That failure to act in a timely fashion to correct those downward trends and to end overfishing when recognized is even more puzzling given the fact that North Carolina statutes require that management agencies act to end recognized overfishing within two years, and then to implement plans actually designed to reverse an overfished stock status and restore the stock to harvest sustainability within a decade. The result is the downward trends, reflected by such indices as age truncation and overharvest, continued relatively unabated. To someone in the field for over 30+ years, and given the universally recognized goals and tenants of fisheries management discussed in Section I above, it is unclear to this author why timelier proactive and precautionary action was not taken by North Carolina's fisheries

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<sup>1</sup> While recreational fishermen also focus on exploiting certain fish stocks, the efforts of recreational fishermen have been adequately regulated by the State, and as compared to the harvest capabilities of commercial gears, recreational fishermen are relatively limited by gear restrictions and bag limits.

management agencies when the data demanded it. In any event, the result is there have been very few fisheries management successes in North Carolina, unlike what I have personally experienced in Texas and have observed in other states.

In my opinion, one fundamental reason for the poor condition of North Carolina public trust stocks is an over-reliance by DMF on stock assessments that were taking years to prepare, while overfishing was occurring. This very unresponsive management regime did not implement management recommendations nor any adaptive management. This is greatly exacerbated by an unwieldy and time-consuming FMP development and revision process when there were many other options for responsive management that likely could have ameliorated the decline. Indeed, in the case of some managed species, DMF appears to have essentially given up and determined that despite the poor condition of the stock, additional harvest restrictions are unthinkable because the State lacks data with which to perform a stock assessment, and thus, it cannot make any conclusions on whether the stock is overfished or if overfishing is occurring. In fact, a prudent fisheries manager would have done exactly the opposite.

North Carolina public trust fisheries management is very troubling for someone from another region, where many tools and quick responsive management assessments would have been implemented to rapidly curb the declining populations. Stock assessments are not “magic pills,” and like any scientific model, are only as good as the data input and the assumptions made by the agency about those data. Additionally, stock assessments require a manager to willingly and rapidly change course when warranted. This appears not to be the case for North Carolina. As I intimated in Section I, more sophisticated does not mean better, more reliable, or more useful. Rapid adaptive management is the preferred approach, and that approach has typically not been the case for North Carolina coastal fisheries management. As I indicated in my introductory paragraphs, more sophisticated does not mean better, more reliable, or more useful. Rapid adaptive management is the preferred approach, and that does not appear to be the case for North Carolina coastal fisheries management.

Stock assessments are especially a problem in the case where state fisheries management agencies lack fundamental data on fishing mortality. North Carolina is just such a case, where bycatch data from many—if not most—fisheries is wanting, and where commercial license holders who do not sell their catch have historically not had to report it. These represent major data gaps, where there are effective models in other places to efficiently capture this key information. While many other state and federal fisheries management agencies use stock assessments, most do not “handcuff” themselves to that management tool alone, but also use trend analyses of both fisheries-dependent and fisheries-independent data (similar to what is described earlier in this report for more responsive management). Additionally, analyses similar to those Dr. Powers conducted (as described in his report) provide a quick and

reliable basis to make management recommendations and decisions. These were analyses performed quickly, using public data, by an independent scientist that could have been, and should have been, performed and acted upon by North Carolina fisheries management agencies. But that did not occur, because sadly, North Carolina is out-of-step with the rest of the fisheries management community, and the result is a process by which management corrections needed to prevent stock overfishing are not made in a timely fashion.

It deserves reiteration that the data Dr. Powers used for his analysis has also been readily available to North Carolina's coastal fisheries managers, who generated much of it themselves. Despite the availability of the data to conduct and use species-by-species trend analyses for management, if DMF has recently conducted similar analyses, to my knowledge it has never published, made readily publicly available, nor made any management recommendations based on such analyses. That begs the question: Why were these data that are telling a troubling story of overfishing not acted upon?

Again, coastal fisheries are successfully managed in other states using these efficient types of analyses on a routine basis, and by comparison, those analyses are less time consuming than conducting a complete stock assessment. Thus, use of trends analysis allows fisheries managers to make timely corrections in harvests restrictions when the data indicate it is necessary to do so to protect the long-term viability of the stock. That was not done for key species in North Carolina's marine and estuarine fisheries.

Additionally, it deserves note that this over-reliance on stock assessments by fisheries managers in North Carolina appears to have been by choice. Applicable legislation I have reviewed provides that a fisheries management plan must be prepared for each commercially or recreationally significant species.<sup>2</sup> However, I see no legislative mandate that management recommendations and decisions must solely be based upon stock assessments, and any such mandate would be highly counterproductive and well-outside of scientific standards and reasonable caution for the resource. For example, proactively, even where management recommendations rely primarily on stock assessments, trend analyses of abundance indices should be happening concurrently during the interim between stock assessments. Proactive management curbs the problem of inaction before it is too late, as it is well-understood that fleets (especially commercial fishermen) are very efficient and overfishing can easily occur between full stock assessments, particularly when there are no adaptable management measures in place. The North Carolina legislature rightly has not prescribed to the State's fisheries managers how they should do their jobs of assessing the status of public trust fisheries and timely making management recommendations

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<sup>2</sup> In Section IV.D. below, I address the State's reliance on regional plans alone for management of Spot, Atlantic croaker, and Weakfish, three historically important species for both commercial and recreational fishing in North Carolina.

to ensure the long-term viability of those stocks. Taken as a whole and based upon the information available regarding the science and the commission-based decision management system, it appears that those compelled to overfish could easily take advantage of the North Carolina cumbersome and reactive management model.

It is also my observation that fisheries management in North Carolina has become overly process- versus results-oriented, adhering to a lengthy schedule that starts with a stock assessment, followed by development and implementation of an FMP (or FMP revision), without sufficient attention to or care about *actual results*. Over 25 years ago, DMF published an appropriate description of what indicators it follows in assessing the long-term viability of managed species. I see in discovery responses the State now takes the position that its DMF does not track the long-term viability of any species. Yet, the statutory goal of each FMP prepared for a managed species is “long-term viability.” That is an almost unfathomable disconnect and completely neglects North Carolina statutes. I also note when asked in deposition about the State’s court-affirmed duty to protect coastal fisheries from injury, harm or destruction for all time, the current Director of DMF responded that sometimes stocks do not react to management measures as expected. That is precisely the point. Indeed, that is why an unwieldy management process, anchored on time-consuming stock assessments and plan review processes, makes no sense, especially in a state with coastal fish stocks are in as poor an overall condition as I see for several important species in North Carolina.

If trends analysis shows management measures in place are not producing the desired results in the health and condition of a stock, then the available data are indicating that additional, timely management measures are required to ensure long-term stock viability. Waiting for the next five-year (or longer) cycle to review a management plan before considering and implementing additional measures is not acceptable, nor under those circumstances, consistent with sound fisheries management practices.<sup>3</sup> Yet, that appears to be the policy and practice of North Carolina coastal fisheries management agencies.

A contrast in current management of spotted seatrout in North Carolina compared to recent management measures for that species in Texas illustrates this point very well. In North Carolina, a stock assessment was published in October 2022 for spotted seatrout, with a “terminal” year of 2019—meaning it was based on data through 2019. That assessment showed that, as of 2019, overfishing was occurring, but the stock was not yet in an overfished classification. According to North Carolina statutes, once realized, management measures must be taken to end overfishing

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<sup>3</sup> While I have been informed of the FMP supplement process statutorily available to fisheries managers under conditions where a stock’s long-term viability is in question, I have also been informed of the history of the State’s resistance to, and very sparse use of, that process for the purpose of intervening in the normal FMP process to conserve an overfished stock.

within two years. Meanwhile, the North Carolina commercial harvest data through 2022 show a significant, post-stock assessment spike in commercial landings of spotted seatrout. In fact, from 2018 through 2022, the data show that commercial landings—which are nearly double the recent average landings used in DMF’s stock assessment—and effort to harvest spotted seatrout have increased significantly from typical levels. These troubling signs would have been aggressively acted upon in other states.

A few points about that trend deserve note. First, this is likely an example of what I described in Section I above as “fishing down the food chain” and the fishery moving to other fisheries post-economic depletion. Due to chronic commercial overfishing,<sup>4</sup> Southern flounder commercial harvest is now severely restricted in North Carolina, in a last-ditch effort to prevent that stock from total collapse. As a result, commercial fishing effort has now shifted to spotted seatrout, a stock that has not historically been an important commercial species in North Carolina. Secondly, the post-stock assessment trend in landings, regardless of its source, should have been alarming to fisheries managers in North Carolina, and in my opinion in Texas or other states recognition of that trend would have prompted timely management action to reverse it, especially since this trend followed a stock assessment showing overfishing of spotted seatrout was already occurring in North Carolina.

However, no such action has been recommended or taken in North Carolina in response to these data. Instead, an astonishingly lengthy process for amending the N.C. Spotted Seatrout FMP is underway, with no new management recommendations likely to be considered by the MFC until at least 2025, 3 years after issuance of the stock assessment showing overfishing has been occurring since 2019, and more than a decade after the original N.C. Spotted Seatrout FMP was adopted and implemented in 2014. As a result, when FMP adoption and implementation are considered by the MFC in 2025, one of two events is likely to occur: (1) because its management recommendations are based on an outdated stock assessment, DMF will fail to recommend those harvest restrictions necessary to end overfishing on what will likely be an overfished stock by 2025; or (2) DMF will acknowledge increased effort in the spotted seatrout fishery and will recommend harvest restrictions conservative enough to recover the stock, but those restrictions will penalize the public in being far more restrictive to all fishermen than what would have been necessary if more timely action had been taken to end stock overfishing. In my opinion, neither scenario is necessary, nor should it be acceptable, in terms of sound fisheries management practices.

Contrast the astonishingly different management outcome from North Carolina’s rather archaic management of spotted seatrout (“Trout”) with modern

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<sup>4</sup> The available data from DMF indicate that under state management, the North Carolina Southern flounder stock has been continuously overfished since at least 1989. Such a result would be unthinkable in Texas, and indeed, in most states.

adaptable precautionary management for the same species in Texas. In Texas, this proactive management has been in place since the early 1980s in a variety of evolving forms. For example, currently the Executive Director of Texas Parks and Wildlife has had the discretion to close or issue short-term (sunset provisioned) management regulations to curb any fisheries decline observed immediately. This could be with or without Commission action. This emergency measure tool allows management and the stock assessment process to ‘catch up’ to immediate trends observed in the fishery outside of the normal commission-driven rule-making process. This authority was explicitly given to implement emergency measures when the agency was concerned, or rapid trend analyses showed potential for overfishing or drastic populations declines. This is frequently successfully used and works. These frameworks have been used since the early 1980s in Texas, has successfully evolved with management needs to be responsive to the resource in a nimble fashion, and has produced world-class fisheries for the state (as discussed in more detail in the final section of this report).

This technique was just recently used during a sudden freeze event. In 2021, a freeze event in Texas killed a conservative estimate of around 4 million fish. During the freeze fishing was halted for thermal refuge areas and immediate and strict harvest measures were immediately implemented. Harvest was promptly reduced under this adaptive management framework to preserve what remained of the spawning stock. When the desired rebound in Trout abundance did not occur as rapidly as desired, that authority was used again to further restrict harvest with more Commission input. Specifically, the current limits were recently reduced to three Trout sized 15” to 20” per person, and no retention of larger fish.<sup>5</sup> A tag program was implemented starting in September 2025 for fish over 28”. All fish >20” to 28” must be released. These further restrictions were imposed to protect the older/large spawning age classes that can disproportionately contribute to the population. It was also in response to anglers asking for a very high catch-per-unit effort fishery of ‘quality’- sized fish. The general comment from the public showed more sentiment toward a robust population versus high extractions of a resource. Thus, Texas is poised to even more dramatically improve one of the best Trout fisheries in the broader Atlantic.

This was a perfect example of very nimble, responsive, and precautionary management. In this case (and many others) action was taken even before the event occurred, followed up by actions within days, weeks, and months, and then formal rulemaking was completed. The contrast with North Carolina—where new management measures will not be taken regarding Trout until *six years* after the terminal year of a stock assessment, with data showing commercial effort has increased dramatically in the meantime, could not be more stark. But that management contrast becomes even more puzzling in light of the fact that I have

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<sup>5</sup> These are recreational bag limits. Since the early 1980s, Trout and Red drum have been gamefish in Texas, and thus, any commercial sale was prohibited.

learned that the North Carolina Fisheries Director has full proclamation authority, quite similar to that used in Texas, to suspend or implement any North Carolina fisheries management rule—including harvest rules—when varying conditions make that use of that authority necessary. The lack of use of that authority to halt overfishing in multiple fish stocks certainly gives the appearance that North Carolina’s management strategy of extracting maximum commercial exploitation of publicly owned, common pool fish stocks without regard to the harm that policy does to those stocks, is not simply negligence, but intentional.

### C. Lack of a Precautionary Approach, and Significant Data Gaps.

As discussed in Section I above, a key tenant in modern fisheries management is use of the precautionary approach. And high uncertainty with fisheries data is a primary driver in implementing that approach. If fisheries managers do not have all the information desired, or needed, to fully determine the long-term viability of a species or its current harvest sustainability, allowable catch rates are reduced from MSY to OSY to avoid overfishing until more data can be acquired and analyzed.

All the reasons for adopting a precautionary approach discussed in Section I above apply to North Carolina’s public trust fisheries management. However, there are some especially significant data gaps in North Carolina that particularly warrant adopting such an approach. Foremost among those is lack of data on commercial fishing effort. It deserves note again that having a comprehensive understanding of effort is essential to fully understanding the dynamics of a species fishery. The outcomes—and therefore, management utility—of both the stock assessment models or trends analyses discussed herein are dependent upon having reliable and accurate data about effort.

While under- or non-reporting of fish harvests by commercial fishermen is a common problem, I cannot think of another example, nationwide, where that problem is more acute than it is in North Carolina. On an annual average, there are no data on the fishing effort by more than 60% of commercial license holders in North Carolina. A 2015 survey report from DMF indicates that 28% of such license holders say that they are using their commercial license to fish for personal use, yet none of their catch is reported (and neither is their bycatch, a subject discussed immediately below), because there has for decades been no legal requirement that fish caught under a commercial license and not sold be reported. That data gap simply does not exist in most states. Moreover, the agency should be particularly concerned given the amount of effort these fisheries can rapidly exert, extracting large amounts of biomass on an industrialized scale. In my opinion, the State’s having full knowledge of this data gap, but making no effort to resolve it for decades, is a significant failure in managing North Carolina’s public trust fisheries, and in protecting them from

injury, harm or destruction, or ensuring their long-term viability.<sup>6</sup> Industrialized hunting for land-based animals was clearly not successful during the history of our county, and it is not any different for our marine resources. This is particularly problematic when the level of extraction is ungoverned and unknown.

But lack of commercial effort data is not North Carolina's only significant data gap that virtually mandates a precautionary management approach to prevent overfishing and ensure long-term stock viability. North Carolina fisheries managers also lack fundamental data on actual fishing mortality in the State, which includes fisheries bycatch, *i.e.*, fish that are harvested and discarded, typically dead or dying, because they are either unwanted or unlawful to possess (*e.g.*, undersized fish, out-of-season fish, fish in excess of the harvest limit, *etc.*). In properly managing a fishery, *all* sources of stock mortality must be accounted for, and especially fishing mortality. North Carolina fisheries managers admit a lack of knowledge about known sources of enormous bycatch mortality, including North Carolina estuarine shrimp trawl finfish bycatch, which is probably the largest source of bycatch wastage in the entire southeastern United States. But the State also has very poor data on bycatch in its gillnet fisheries, even though gillnet bycatch is known to be substantial in North Carolina. Again, this is a problem virtually unique to North Carolina, since most other states long ago banned or severely curtailed the use of gillnets because they are such a destructive fishing gear. And finally, it is clear from what was apparent regarding North Carolina fisheries management in reviewing the State's coastal fisheries management history is that managers fail to incorporate substantial sources of bycatch mortality into many of DMF's stock assessments, or otherwise account for that mortality in its management. For example, DMF knows fully that bycatch mortality for Southern flounder in the State's estuarine shrimp trawl, crab pot, and crab dredging commercial fisheries is enormous, yet those sources of mortality are virtually ignored in managing that species.

However, despite these large data gaps, the precautionary approach has not historically been applied by DMF in making fisheries management recommendations, nor by the MFC in implementing management rules in North Carolina. In my opinion, that is another primary reason why overall, North Carolina public trust fish stocks are in poor shape, and citizens have suffered as a result. I see little to no record where fisheries managers have made recommendations for the common practice of incorporating buffers in allowed harvests to account for data uncertainty and the lack of perfect management information, as discussed above. It appears North Carolina fisheries management agencies have not applied sound fisheries management practices and have become confused about the difference

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<sup>6</sup> I note here that in its discovery responses, fisheries managers in North Carolina contend that if fishing by these non-reporting commercial licenses was an actual problem, the agency would have heard more about it. In my experience, no other fisheries management agency has or would make that claim, nor manage its fisheries by reliance on such anecdotal information (or the lack thereof).

between management thresholds and management targets for both spawning stock biomass and the associated fishing mortality rates. Setting harvest levels designed only to end overfishing, *i.e.*, achieve a threshold stock biomass, will typically not rebuild the stock nor restore it to harvest sustainability, which is the goal for achieving the management target. In my experience, I know of no other state that manages to some biological benchmark other than the management target.

But for North Carolina, it is not just that DMF has ignored the precautionary management approach in making the vast majority of its harvest and other management recommendations. In North Carolina, the MFC has tacitly rejected that management approach to govern its decisions, even though the precautionary approach represents sound, accepted fisheries management practice. In 2018, a commissioner holding the single scientist seat on the MFC made a motion that the precautionary approach be adopted and applied prospectively by the MFC in making management decisions. That motion was subsequently tabled by the Commission, and never acted upon. However, I have been made aware of a single, recent example where the MFC took precautionary action for a managed stock, in its recent split (and hotly contested) decision to adopt harvest restrictions rules for false albacore. But that is just a single instance, out of dozens of MFC stock management decisions I have reviewed, and the only one that could be called precautionary in any way. In my opinion, incorporating a precautionary approach into both DMF's management recommendations and the MFC's plan adoption and implementation decisions is vital to rebuilding North Carolina's depleted fish stocks, and preventing them from lapsing back into an overfished or other stock condition lacking long-term viability. The lack of such an approach is one of the main reasons for failed management of the majority of those North Carolina fish stocks historically important to the average citizen for personal, not-for-profit use.

#### D. North Carolina's Reliance Solely on Regional Plans for Managing Certain Species.

State-specific management of estuarine or near shore populations of regional species is very common and practically necessary in part to avoid local stock depletion. It has proven to be a very successful management practice. For example, inshore fisheries are managed in the Gulf of Mexico ("Gulf") (with rare exceptions) on a state-by-state basis. Even though the range of the species may occur throughout the region, the Gulf states manage very differently for their own state populations. For example, spotted seatrout and red drum have very different management needs locationally within the Gulf, but in general are very effectively managed across the species range. It is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Management needs are assigned on a state-by-state basis. Particularly in Texas, this approach has resulted in an all-time high abundance index for spotted seatrout, red drum, and a variety of similar species, despite rapidly increasing fishing effort and other pressures on those stocks.

As noted, North Carolina statutes require that an FMP be adopted for all species significantly important to commercial or recreational fishermen. However, at the time that statute was enacted, some of those species that comprise coastwide stocks were already being managed by North Carolina under interjurisdictional FMPs, *e.g.*, FMPs enacted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (“ASMFC”), of which North Carolina is a member state. For those regionally managed species, North Carolina’s fisheries managers decided to adopt an omnibus, comprehensive North Carolina FMP that incorporates all those interjurisdictional plans by reference. However, for some such species, *e.g.*, red drum, river herring and spotted seatrout, North Carolina elected to develop its own, state-specific FMP, but for other species, *e.g.*, Atlantic croaker, spot and weakfish, the State chose not to adopt state-specific plans, but rather to rely on compliance with regional plans only for managing those species. While the State has articulated no rational basis for the difference in species treatments, it is interesting to note that Atlantic croaker, spot, and weakfish, are the three species that comprise a large portion of the juvenile finfish bycatch in the North Carolina commercial estuarine shrimp trawl fishery, and that the State has historically been extremely protective of that fishery in its fisheries management decisions.

Assuming such reliance is in fact a legal option for fisheries managers in North Carolina under state statutes, in my opinion, the State’s “management” of Atlantic croaker, spot, and weakfish based solely by compliance with the ASMFC plans for those species is for several reasons a failure in management, and is insufficient to protect those species from injury, harm or destruction, and to ensure their long-term viability, in North Carolina’s coastal waters. At the outset it is important to note that the ASMFC plans, like almost all regional FMPs, are intended to set the floor for species management, but not the ceiling. But the first reason that the State’s decision represents a management failure is because the ASMFC plans for each of those species have proven ineffective in rebuilding those stocks, either coastwide, or for North Carolina populations of those species. Because those stocks are highly depleted, likely because of estuarine shrimp trawl bycatch, only a state-specific plan can address and resolve local depletion of those stocks in North Carolina’s coastal waters.

## V. Concluding Comments.

Fisheries management, particularly for the commercial or for-profit fishing industry, is drastically different in North Carolina than in the Gulf of Mexico, or for that matter, as it pertains to most southeastern states. In other states, destructive or indiscriminate gears, *e.g.*, gillnets, are either severely restricted or not allowed, and these harmful fishing practices were eliminated decades ago. Supporters of commercial gillnet usage tout their efficiency, and while that is true, that is the

precise reason that they are so destructive in North Carolina and most other states. Estuarine areas are almost always characterized by highly variable, mixed-species fisheries. As a result, when gillnets are fished in estuarine waters, they encounter, entangle, and typically kill all fish of a certain size, regardless of species, according to gillnet mesh size. Therefore, gillnets are exceptionally effective and a very indiscriminate fishing gear in terms of non-targeted species. From personal experience with using gillnets in research, I can attest that they cannot be monitored to release fish without injury very effectively. In addition to capturing many non-targeted fish, they also capture other protected species, such as marine mammals and sea turtles. Much of the marine life taken as bycatch does not survive the capture. Because of their effectiveness and relatively unbiased catch efficiencies, they are a good tool for limited, scientific purposes, but only under highly controlled deployments to minimize bycatch mortality and for protection of marine mammals and endangered sea turtles.

For all of those reasons, gillnets have been banned or severely restricted in most Gulf coast states. In Texas in the early 1980s, legislation was passed that made gill-netting illegal. Since then, the Texas populations of spotted seatrout, red drum and black drum have rebounded dramatically, some to all-time highs. This was a pivotal moment for Texas' public trust fisheries recovery, as well as for the economies that rely upon these resources. The ban effectively eliminated commercial gillnet fisheries in our state. But coastal recreational fisheries were rapidly expanding at that time, and Texas found out that commercial fishermen are exceptionally adaptable, since they quickly and successfully adapted to becoming fishing guides. Since those sweeping regulations and paradigm shifts in the way fisheries were prosecuted, Texas has maintained some of the most robust inshore recreational fisheries in the Gulf and South Atlantic. At the same time, there were still large number of other fish available for the for-profit sector, and Texas continues to support very robust commercial fishing.

In Texas and other Gulf coast states, fish stocks have responded in very positive ways to gillnet removal, and the majority of our finfish fisheries are in very robust shape, proving to be very sustainable and enormous economic drivers for the region. Texas in particular supports very robust fisheries for spotted seatrout, red drum, sheepshead, flounder, black drum, and many others using relatively simple trends analyses, public input, and proactive management. Interestingly, annual fishing mortality rates for red drum are some of the highest on record, even during the heyday of the commercial gillnet fishery; yet, Texas supports some of the highest abundance for these species due to precautionary approaches and proactive management, while controlling large-scale industrialized biomass extraction that is characteristic of commercial fisheries. In fact, our black drum populations are so abundant that even more fishing effort has been encouraged. However, because of proactive, responsible management, commercial fishing can no longer exert a level of

effort that would reduce an overabundant population of black drum. Clearly, that is a success story for responsible fisheries management.

The important point is that an aggressive precautionary approach to fisheries management, like Texas took, does and will result in rebuilt public trust fish stocks that exhibit all the characteristics of long-term stock viability (See Texas management section above). And this has occurred despite those stocks having even more fishing pressure and higher catch rates than occurred with historical exploitation during those days when netting and other destructive commercial practices were allowed for finfish harvest. That essentially means that in terms of long-term stock viability, all harvest is not equal, discussed more immediately below.

Currently, Texas is going through similar revolutionary and positive precautionary management approaches with its oyster fishery, based on the successful lessons learned from finfish management. This is mainly due to simple but effective management assessments (*i.e.*, responsive trends analyses) and very precautionary regulations. When we curbed or eliminated the industrialized commercial fisheries that were characterized by very directed, rapid removal of large amounts of stock biomass, managed species were interestingly able to support even higher extraction rates, even with less efficient gear or reduced fleet capacities. As is the case for North Carolina, the Texas shrimp trawl fleet was overcapitalized, and was thus well-known to have astonishingly high levels of both effort and resultant bycatch. To restore and rebuild its fisheries resources, Texas curbed this overcapitalization and excess fishing capacity by reducing fleet sizes and using commercial license buy-backs. Not surprisingly, the few commercial fisheries in Texas where there are still no or de minimis bounds on the capacity of the fleet (*e.g.*, Southern flounder, blue crab, Atlantic croaker), continue to suffer from poor population abundance, and other resource issues. Accordingly, Texas is currently considering measures to improve the status of these fisheries based on more precautionary management and new data inputs, especially for Southern Flounder.

In contrast to Texas fisheries management, in North Carolina I see no indication that fisheries managers have ever even recommended the State follow its southeastern sister states, and the Gulf coast states, in severely restricting or banning use of gillnets, and reaping the resource benefits seen in all the states that have done so. In fact, I was astounded to learn that in 2008 the DMF Fisheries Director estimate that 44 million yards (approximately 25,000 miles) of gillnets were fished in North Carolina coastal waters on an annual basis, and that currently, there is no limit on the amount of small mesh gillnet that can be fished by any individual fisherman. It is equally confounding that DMF maintains on behalf of commercial fishermen—at substantial taxpayer expense—two incidental take permits under the federal Endangered Species Act that allow commercial gillnetters to continue to fish in North Carolina estuarine waters, despite all of the adverse resource impacts (which include the incidental takes of protected species) associated with gillnet usage.

To the contrary, in North Carolina, significant management effort is expended by DMF to ensure that North Carolina remains the only southeastern or Gulf coast state with significant gillnet fisheries. In my opinion, given: (1) the potential bycatch wastage inherent in the design and use of gillnets, (2) the huge quantities of gillnets that are allowed to be fished annually in North Carolina coastal waters,<sup>7</sup> (3) the relative dearth of gillnet bycatch data possessed by fisheries managers in North Carolina, and (4) the fact that so many state-managed fish stocks exhibit neither long-term viability nor sustainable harvest, many State-managed species will be unable to recover to long-term stock viability, sustainable harvest, or to an abundance level that will make them reasonably available to public anglers for personal harvest, so long as gillnets continue to be allowed at a frequency, intensity and breadth approaching current levels.

This bears on a major concern I have as a fisheries expert from another state. Texas and North Carolina fisheries are strikingly similar, and it is troubling for me as a fisheries manager to see the potential for North Carolina, and it being hindered through poor management.

#### V. Prior Testimony.

I testified as an expert witness in two legislative proceedings. The first was in 2021 and then again in a related remand proceeding in 2022 against the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding the impact of desalination discharge of fisheries and marine life impacts, before the Texas State Office of Administrative Hearings. SOAH Docket No. 582-20-1895.

I also testified twice in 2021 before the Committee on Natural Resources for the U.S. House of Representatives. Once regarding abandoned offshore oil and gas infrastructure and artificial reefs. The other testimony was regarding Texas' "Rigs to Reefs Program" that also included general fisheries issues and in particular Gulf Red Snapper.

#### VI. Compensation.

I am billing plaintiffs on hourly rates, plus reasonable expenses, at \$150.00 an hour except for time in testimony, which is to be billed at \$250.00 an hour.

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<sup>7</sup> DMF data indicate that in 2023 there were 2,294 fishermen in North Carolina holding commercial estuarine gillnet permits.

*Gregory W. Stunz*

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Gregory W. Stunz, Ph.D.

## GREGORY W. STUNZ, PH.D.

### APPENDIX: DOCUMENTS REVIEW

Specific Species Plan Documents	Atlantic Croaker	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Atlantic Croaker Interjurisdictional FMP	2017 ASMFC Atlantic Croaker Stock Assessment Peer Review Report
Specific Species	Estuarine Striped Bass (AR)	FMPs	Stock Assessments
			2022 Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update
Specific Species	Red Drum	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Red Drum FMP	
Specific Species	River Herring	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for River Herring FMP	
Specific Species	Southern Flounder	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2005 FMP S Flounder (Exh 20)  2005 Southern Flounder Original FMP  2011 Supplement A to Southern Flounder FMP (Exh 22)  2011 Supplement A to Southern Flounder Original FMP  2013 Amendment 1 to Southern Flounder FMP (Exh 23)  2013 Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 1  2017 Supplement A to Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 1  2019 Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 2	2009. Stock status of North Carolina southern flounder (Exh 25)  2018 Southern Flounder Coastwide Stock Assessment  2019 Southern Flounder Stock Assessment Update  Wolff. 1977. Preliminary Stock Assessment, N.C.-Southern Flounder

		2022 Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 3 Overview  2022 Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 3  2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Southern Flounder FMP  DMF Paper - Phase Out Large Mesh Gill Nets, Appendix 3 to FMP (Exh 21)	
Specific Species	<b>Spot</b>	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Spot Interjurisdictional FMP	2017 ASMFC Spot Stock Assessment Peer Review Report
Specific Species	<b>Spotted Seatrout</b>	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2012 Spotted Seatrout Original FMP  2014 Supplement A to Spotted Seatrout Original FMP  2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Spotted Seatrout FMP	2014 Spotted Seatrout Stock Assessment  2022 Spotted Seatrout Stock Assessment
Specific Species	<b>Weakfish</b>	FMPs	Stock Assessments
		2023 DMF Annual Plan Update for Weakfish Interjurisdictional FMP	2019 ASMFC Weakfish Stock Assessment Overview  2019 ASMFC Weakfish Stock Assessment Update Report
DMF Stock Status Reports	1989. Scoping Study of Data Requirements for Fisheries Stock Assessment in North Carolina  DMF 2016 Stock Status Report (Exh 16)  DMF 2021 stock status reports (Exh 6)  DMF Stock Status Report Overview-1998-2022		
FMP Annual Review	DMF August 2022-DMF's Review of 2021 FMPs (Exh 5)  DMF webpage on FMPs (Exh 18)		
ITP Gill Nets	2001. The Large Mesh Estuarine Gill Net Fishery of N.C.  Bianchi. 2019. Estimating Effort in the N.C. Commercial Estuarine Gill-Net Fishery  Brown & Price. 2004. Documentation and Reduction of Bycatch in NC Fisheries-Gillnet Fisheries  Conrad. 2011. Estuarine bycatch assessment in NC commercial fisheries-report to NMFS, Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program		

	<p>Duke Environmental Law Clinic Feb. 22. 2023 Comments on ITP Renewal.ITP (Exh 52)</p> <p>Price. 2009. Estuarine Bycatch Assessment in N.C. Commercial Fisheries</p> <p>Price. 2010. N.C. Estuarine Gillnet Biological and Bycatch Assessment</p>
Trawl Issues	<p>Brown 2009-2010 pw06-rd13-characterization-of-the-inshore-commercial-shrimp-trawl-fishery-in-pamlico-sound-and-its-tributaries-north-carolina (Exh 30)</p> <p>Brown, K. 2015. Characterization of the NC Otter Trawl Fishery (Exh 28)</p> <p>Internal 2021 DMF email on ratios to estimate bycatch</p>
Commercial Licenses	<p>Hadley-Survey of Commercial Fishing License Holders for Personal Consumption of Seafood Caught with Commercial Gear-2015</p> <p>Latent License PowerPoint DMF to MFC, Feb 2022 (Exh 54)</p> <p>McInerny Jan 2018 memo on Unsold Commercial Catch</p>
NC Statutes	<p>Full Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 (Exh 26)</p> <p>GS_113-129. Definitions (Exh 19)</p> <p>GS_113-182.1 - Fishery Management Plans (Exh 3)</p>
Pleadings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Merged Answer and Complaint (Exh 4)</li> <li>2 State's responses to 1st set discovery requests</li> <li>3 State supplement to discovery responses</li> <li>4 Plaintiffs expert witness topics disclosure</li> <li>5 State's expert witness topics disclosure</li> </ol>
Sasser Docs	Weakfish Presentation-Executive Summary for ASMFC.pptx

MFC deliberations: Excerpt from August 2018 meeting, regarding motion to adopt precautionary principle.

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## GREGORY WAYNE STUNZ

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### Education:

<b>Institution:</b>	<b>Degree:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Field of Study:</b>
University of Texas at San Antonio	B.S.	1990	Biology
Texas A&M University	M.S.	1995	Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences
Texas A&M University	Ph.D.	1999	Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences

### Present Positions:

2022 – present	Senior Executive Director, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies.
2020 - present	Regents Professor, Texas A&M University System
2010 - present	Endowed Chair, Fisheries and Ocean Health, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
2013 - present	Director, Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
2011 - present	Professor of Marine Biology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

### Professional Background:

2007 - 2013	Chair and Program Coordinator for Marine Biology Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science Degree Programs
2007 - 2010	Endowed Associate Research Professor, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies-Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
2006 - 2011	Associate Professor of Marine Biology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
2002 - 2006	Assistant Professor of Marine Biology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
1999 - 2002	Research Fishery Ecologist, United States Department of Commerce, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Admin.
2001	Post-Doctoral Fellow, Texas A&M University/NOAA-Fisheries
1999 - 2002	Lecturer in Marine Biology, Texas A&M University at Galveston
1998 - 1999	Texas Institute of Oceanography Fellow, Texas A&M Univ. at Galveston
1987 - 1994	Senior Research Assistant, Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, San Antonio, Texas

### Areas of Research Specialization:

My research interests are in marine biology with an emphasis in sportfisheries and marine ecology. My research program focuses on marine ecological issues related to ocean health such as understanding the ecological role of marine habitats, fisheries ecology of exploited species, migration patterns of marine life, and marine fisheries management.

### Research Grants: (Cumulative Total - \$65,771,443; \$1.2M Pending)

- 2022-2027 Texas Oyster Resource and Recovery Center. **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**. G Stunz (PI), Jennifer Pollack (Co-PI), Carmen Osier (Co-PI) - \$5,157,377.
- 2023-2026 Post-release mortality and movement patterns of Cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*) in the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Marine Fisheries Initiative**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), M. Streich (Co-PI), M. Dance (Co-PI) - \$511,758.
- 2022-2025 Lavaca Bay Ecosystem Assessment: Gathering key baseline data among nursery habitats spread across a pollution gradient. **Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust** G. Stunz (PI), Kesley Banks (Co-PI) - \$445,382.
- 2022-2025 Trophic linkages and habitat connectivity of popular sportfish in the Matagorda Bay system. **Matagorda Bay Mitigation Trust**. M. Streich (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$399,932.
- 2024-2025 Combining natural and artificial tags to track southern flounder movement in estuaries. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department State Wildlife Grant**. M. Streich (PI), D. Coffey (PI), B. Walther (Co-PI), K. Banks (Co-PI) G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$307,719.
- 2024-2024 An ecological characterization of tarpon and snook nursery habitats in Texas. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department State Wildlife Grant**. M. Streich (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$153,855.
- 2024-2024 Partnering with recreational anglers to characterize the Texas shore-based shark fishery. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department State Wildlife Grant**. K. Banks (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$153,638.
- 2022-2024 Shining light on harvest and effort for the recreational flounder gig fishery in Texas. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI), Kesley Banks - \$445,382.
- 2022-2023 Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation Angler Engagement Program. **Hamman Foundation**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$30,000.
- 2022-2023 Expanding the CCA's citizen science tagging partnership to understand sportfish movements, habitat use, and population dynamics. **Coastal Conservation Association**. M. Streich (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$67,000.
- 2022-2023 "Science that Keeps You Hooked:" Empowering Anglers as Wise Stewards of Our Marine Resources. **Frazier Family Foundation** - G. Stunz (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$50,000.
- 2022-2023 "Science that Keeps You Hooked" Angler Engagement Program. **Gulf Coast Growth Ventures** - G. Stunz (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$50,000.

- 2021-2024 Estimating the absolute abundance of Greater Amberjack in the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), S. Powers (PI), J. Rooker (Co-PI), and J. Hoenig (Co-PI), Matt Streich (Co-PI), and 12 other Co-PIs - \$11,700,000 – Stunz Portion \$ 1,007,499.
- 2019-2022 A multi-disciplinary ecosystem assessment of West Matagorda Bay to inform conservation of threatened and endangered species: addressing potential habitat alterations caused by flooding events and sea rise with respect to shorebirds, colonial waterbirds, rails, and sea turtles. **Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI), E. Oborny (Co-PI), P. Plotkin (Co-PI), J. Pollack (Co-PI), J. Rooker (Co-PI), D. Wells (Co-PI), M. Wetz (Co-PI) and M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$3,443,377.
- 2019-2021 iSnapper for the private sector: improving electronic data collection in the red snapper recreational fishery. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI) - \$545,151.
- 2019-2020 Post-release mortality and behavior of sharks in shore-based recreational fisheries using citizen scientists and low-cost tags. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Cooperative Research Program**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Mohan, (PI), D. Wells (Co-PI), M. Drymon (Co-PI), M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$240,892.
- 2017-2020 Estimating Red Snapper absolute abundance on artificial reefs and natural structures in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Cowan (Co-PI), W. Patterson, S. Powers (Co-PI), J. Rooker (Co-PI), and J. Hoenig (Co-PI) and 12 other Co-PIs - \$12,000,000.
- 2017-2020 Evaluating the relative habitat value of intertidal and subtidal oyster reefs to improve restoration methods. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. J. Pollack (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Curtis (PI), and M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$336,794.
- 2019-2020 Movement Patterns and Discard Mortality of Cobia in the Gulf of Mexico. **Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI), and M. Streich (PI) - \$ 92,500.
- 2020 An Assessment of Tarpon Recruitment Patterns, Movements, and Habitat Use in the Texas Coastal Bend. **Harvey-Weil Sportsman Conservationist Trust**. G. Stunz (Co-PI) and M. Streich (PI) - \$ 10,000.
- 2017-2019 Scientific Research Disaster Recovery Grant. **National Academy of Sciences and Gulf Research Program** - J. Curtis (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$49,657.
- 2018-2019 Advancing Recreational Fisheries Policy and Management in an Evolving Cuba **Harte Charitable Foundation** - L. McKinney (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI), F. Bretos (Co-PI), M. Spalding (Co-PI) - \$250,000.
- 2018-2019 Fisheries Impact of Rio Grande Valley Reef. **Valley Crossing Pipeline Community Investment**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Streich (Co-PI) - \$ 350,000
- 2018-2019 Impacts of Hurricane Harvey on Cedar Bayou: a post-disturbance assessment of sportfish use of essential fish habitat. **Harvey-Weil Sportsman Conservationist Trust**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$6,000.

- 2017-2018 iSnapper for the private sector: improving electronic data collection in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper recreational fishery. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI) - \$482,259.
- 2016-2018 Restoring and enhancing structurally complex nursery habitat to enhance reef fish. **Texas OneGulf**. J. Rooker (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI), R. Kline (Co-PI), D. Portnoy (Co-PI) - \$223,752.
- 2015-2018 South Texas artificial reef research program (STARR): Fish community assessment and reef site evaluations. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI), J. Wetz (Co-PI) - \$617,030.
- 2015-2018 A post-reefing assessment of the Port O'Connor Nearshore Reef. Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI) - \$35,214.
- 2016-2017 Refining rapid recompression techniques in Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper using descending devices and a unique acoustic telemetry approach. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI) - \$191,655.
- 2016-2017 Estimating Red Snapper absolute abundance on artificial reefs and natural structures in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (PI), S. Powers (Co-PI), L. Stokes (Co-PI) Jay Rooker (Co-PI), and M. Drymon (Co-PI) - \$99,595.
- 2015-2017 Optimizing rapid recompression strategies for increasing survival of discarded Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Curtis (Co-PI) - \$209,326.
- 2015-2017 Center for Integrated Modeling and Analysis of Gulf Ecosystems - CIMAGE. **Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative**. G. Stunz (Co-I) - \$308,698.
- 2015-2016 Opportunities for advancing coastal and ocean monitoring and conservation in Cuba. **Lounsbury Foundation**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), L. McKinney (PI), R. McLaughlin (Co-PI), P. Montagna (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI), J. Tunnell (Co-PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI), F. Bretos (Co-PI) - \$46,400.
- 2015-2016 Sharks with Spectators III: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas' Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach. **Texas State Aquarium Wildlife, Conservation, and Research Fund**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$15,000.
- 2015-2016 Center for Sportfish Science & Conservation shark research program. **Discovery Communications (Shark Week)**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$16,250.
- 2015-2016 The impact of Cedar Bayou on sportfish: electronically tracking Spotted Seatrout in a recently opened tidal inlet. **Harvey-Weil Sportsman Conservationist Trust**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$10,000.
- 2014-2018 Center for Sportfish Science & Conservation research program. **Coastal Conservation Association - Texas**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$250,000.
- 2014-2016 Why are Black Drum starving in Baffin Bay? An ecosystem-based approach. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea**

- Grant.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI), and J. Pollack (Co-PI) - \$176,947.
- 2011-2016 A Regional Ecosystem Approach for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Resources," R McLaughlin. (PI), D. Yoskowitz, (Co-PI), J. Tunnell W (Co-PI), J. Gibeaut, James (Co-PI), Montagna, Paul A. (Co-PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI), Gregory W. (Co-PI), "**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Environmental Cooperative Science Center** \$2,599,650.00. Stunz: \$347,908
- 2014-2015 Corpus Christi desalination pilot study – Phase 2. **Freese and Nichols Engineering.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Tunnell (PI), R. McLaughlin (Co-PI), P. Montagna (Co-PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI) - \$100,144.
- 2014-2015 Broadening the “TEXANN” footprint in the Gulf of Mexico: Offshore fish tracking at an unprecedented scale. **George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$25,000.  
*Note: Continuation of partnership with TEXAAN projects below*
- 2014-2015 Sharks with Spectators II: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas’ Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach. **Texas State Aquarium Wildlife, Conservation, and Research Fund.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$15,000.
- 2014-2015 Ecosystem-based approach to assess Baffin Bay’s Black Drum: Phase II - Year-round monitoring. **Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program.** G. Stunz (PI), J. Pollack (Co-PI), and M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$30,000.
- 2014-2017 Investigation of the relative habitat value of oil/gas platforms and natural banks in enhancing stock building of reef fish in the western Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Marine Fisheries Initiative.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$242,299.
- 2014-2015 Minimizing discard mortality in Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$258,275.
- 2014-2015 Implementation of the iSnapper smartphone application to collect data across all recreational sectors in the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Marine Recreational Information Program.** G. Stunz (PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI) - \$353,734.
- 2013-2015 South Texas artificial reef monitoring: Fish community assessment along the coastal bend. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$604,928.
- 2014-2015 Global Acoustic Fish Tracking Devices for Research and Education. **Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$20,000.
- 2013-2015 Broadening the “TEXANN” footprint in the Gulf of Mexico: Offshore fish tracking at an unprecedented scale. **The Fondren Foundation.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$50,000. *Note: partner project with the below grants*
- 2013-2015 Broadening the “TEXANN” footprint in the Gulf of Mexico: Offshore fish tracking at an unprecedented scale. **The Cullen Foundation.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$25,000. *Note: partner project with the above grant*
- 2013-2015 Broadening the “TEXANN” footprint in the Gulf of Mexico: Offshore fish tracking at an unprecedented scale. **The John M. O'Quinn Foundation.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$25,000. *Note: partner project with the above grants*

- 2013-2015 Broadening the “TEXANN” footprint in the Gulf of Mexico: Offshore fish tracking at an unprecedented scale. **George and Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$30,000. *Note: partner project with the above grants*
- 2013-2014 Sharks with Spectators: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas’ Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach. **Texas State Aquarium Wildlife, Conservation, and Research Fund**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI) - \$20,000.
- 2013-2014 Why are black drum starving in Baffin Bay? An ecosystem-based approach. **Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Pollack (Co-PI), M. Ajemian (Co-PI), and M. Zapp Sluis (Co-PI) - \$60,000.
- 2013-2014 MRI: Acquisition of Elemental Stable Isotope Chemistry (ESIC) Mass Spectrometer. **National Science Foundation**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), L. Cifuentes (PI), X. Hu (Co-PI), M. Wetz (Co-PI) T. Naehr (Co-PI) - \$419,259.
- 2013-2015 Determination of season abundance and density of nekton species in/near Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. **Aransas County**. G. Stunz (PI), Zapp Sluis (Co-PI) - \$153,184.
- 2012-2014 Seed funding to develop Center for Sportfish Science & Conservation research program. **Coastal Conservation Association - Texas**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$500,000.
- 2012-2014 Movement and population connectivity of fishes across estuarine seascapes. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Rooker (PI) - \$308,588.
- 2012-2013 Re-opening of Cedar Bayou: A fisheries abundance pre-assessment. **Coastal Conservation Association**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$32,000.
- 2011-2013 Characterizing the oyster reef community of Sabine Lake: A before-after-control-impact study. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), J. Pollack (PI) - \$137,981.
- 2011-2013 South Texas artificial reef monitoring: Fish community assessment. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$442,356.
- 2011-2012 Dolphin-fish in the Gulf of Mexico: an investigation of migration patterns, habitat use, and life history of this important sport-fish. **Harvey-Weil Sportsman Conservationist Trust**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$10,000.
- 2010-2011 iSnapper: Design, testing, and analysis of an iPhone-based application as an electronic logbook in the For Hire reef fish fishery. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Cooperative Research Program**. G. Stunz (PI), M. Johnson (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI) - \$178,179.
- 2010-2011 Estimating discard and bycatch rates in the commercial handline fishery for red snapper under the IFQ program. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Cooperative Research Program**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), S. Diamond (PI) - \$238,489.
- 2010-2012 Evaluating the effect barotrauma on regulatory discards in the red snapper fishery using the advanced acoustic telemetry and hyperbaric experimentation. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration -**

- Marine Fisheries Initiative.** G. Stunz (PI), S. Diamond (Co-PI), M. Johnson (Co-PI) - \$304,693.
- 2009-2010 Contaminant level of fishes in several coastal bend estuaries: screening investigation. **Environmental Protections Agency - Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$44,000.
- 2009-2012 Ecological importance of biodiversity hotspots to coastal sharks: Characterizing apex predator usage of Padre Island National Seashore. **United States Department of the Interior/USGS/ Park-Oriented Biological Support.** G. Stunz (PI), M. Wildhaber (Co-PI) - \$179,092.
- 2009-2011 Texas Coastal Management Program Section 309 Assessment and Strategies Report 2011 - 2015. **Texas General Land Office - Coastal Management Program.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), R. Mclaughlin (PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI), P. Montagna (Co-PI), T. Shirley (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI) - \$268,936.
- 2009-2011 Testing hypotheses on red snapper survival and stock and recruitment patterns. **Texas Tech University.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), S. Diamond (PI) - \$78,732.
- 2009-2011 CAMEO: Building the foundation - An integrative approach to managing the dewatering of estuaries. **National Science Foundation/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), P. Montagna (PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI), T. Shirley (Co-PI), R. Mclaughlin (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI) - \$454,180.
- 2009-2012 Acquisition of equipment to quantify environmental conditions in estuarine systems. **National Science Foundation.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), L. Smee (PI), P. Montagna (Co-PI), A. Mestas (Co-PI), Overath (Co-PI) - \$389,542.
- 2009-2010 Habitat use of spotted seatrout in Texas coastal waters: Using ultrasonic acoustic telemetry to determine movement patterns of this important recreational fishery. **Harvey-Weil Conservationist Trust.** G Stunz (PI) - \$60,000.
- 2008-2009 Are oyster reefs “essential” essential fish habitat for fishery species in Copano Bay, Texas? **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Texas General Land Office/Coastal Management Program.** G. Stunz (PI), J Simons (Co-PI) - \$24,984.
- 2008-2011 Evaluation of ecosystem services of coastal habitats. **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Gulf of Mexico Program.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (PI), J. Gibeaut (Co-PI) - \$199,762.
- 2008-2010 Estuarine Habitat Loss: Impacts of essential nursery habitat fragmentation on marine fishes. **Norman Hackerman Advanced Research Program.** G. Stunz (PI), J. Holt (Co-PI) - \$150,000.
- 2008-2011 Gulf of Mexico Alliance: Identification and Characterization of Gulf Habitats Priority Issues Team. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration- Gulf of Mexico Alliance** G Stunz (Co-PI). J. Gibeaut (PI), P. Montagna (Co-PI), T. Shirley (Co-PI), R. Mclaughlin, L. McKinney (Co-PI), D. Yoskowitz (Co-PI) and 7 other Co-PIs. - \$2,436,113.

- 2008-2010 Assessing stock enhancement efficacy and the success of hatchery-reared fish using a combination of genetics and otolith chemistry. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Saltonstall-Kennedy**. G. Stunz (Co-PI), R.D. Overath (PI), R. Vega (Co-PI) - \$96,945.
- 2007-2009 Is Padre Island National Seashore essential shark habitat?: Estimation of demographics feeding habitats, and nurseries for an important park fishery. **United States Department of the Interior/USGS**. G. Stunz (PI), Wildhaber (Co-PI) - \$34,066.
- 2007-2008 Are oyster reefs “essential” essential fish habitat for fishery species in Copano Bay, Texas? **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Texas General Land Office/Coastal Management Program**. G. Stunz (PI), J Simons (Co-PI) - \$32,213.
- 2007-2009 Closure of the Port Mansfield Channel: impacts to recreational fisheries in the Laguna Madre, Texas. **Coastal Conservation Association**. G. Stunz (PI), D. Overath (Co-PI) - \$32,000.
- 2007-2008 Effects of hypoxia on estuarine fishes in their nursery habitats. **Texas A&M University System Texas Research Development Fund**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$35,196.
- 2007-2008 Silting and closure of Port Mansfield Channel: Impacts to a \$1.3 Billion fishing industry in Texas. **Texas A&M University System Texas Research Development Fund**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$11,000.
- 2006-2009 Effects of a tidal channel opening on nekton abundance. **Environmental Protections Agency - Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program**. G. Stunz (PI), S. Holt (Co-PI) - \$90,000.
- 2006 - 2008 Recruitment, spatial distribution, and fine-scale movement patterns of red drum through major and shallow passes. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant**. G. Stunz (PI), S. Holt (Co-PI) - \$245,164.
- 2006 - 2007 Origins of spotted seatrout stocks: assessing contribution of nursery grounds to adult stocks? **Texas A&M University System Texas Excellence Fund**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$33,173.
- 2006 - 2007 Are oyster reefs “essential” Essential Fish Habitat for fishery species in Lavaca Bay, Texas? **United States Fish and Wildlife Service**. G. Stunz (PI), J. Simons (Co-PI) - \$71,086.
- 2005 - 2007 Impact of new tidal inlet on estuarine fish growth. **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$3,076
- 2005 - 2007 Southern flounder decline in Texas. **Coastal Conservation Association**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$17,350.
- 2005 - 2006 Effects of a tidal channel opening on nekton abundance. **Environmental Protections Agency - Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$50,000.
- 2005-2006 Essential Nursery Habitat for red drum. **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi**. G. Stunz (PI) - \$13,640.
- 2004 - 2006 The role of larval supply and post-settlement processes in recruitment variability of southern flounder populations. **National Oceanic and**

- Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant.** S. Holt (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) J. Rooker (Co-PI) - \$230,124.
- 2005 Are estuaries critical “nurseries” for marine fishes? **Texas A&M University System Texas Excellence Fund.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$31,000.
- 2004 - 2005 Catch and release mortality of spotted seatrout. **Coastal Conservation Association.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$15,000.
- 2004 - 2005 Recruitment of fishes through tidal passes. **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$5,778.
- 2003 - 2004 Catch and release mortality of spotted seatrout. **Coastal Conservation Association.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$12,000.
- 2003-2004 The role of oyster reef and Essential Fish Habitat. **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.** G. Stunz (PI) - \$12,650.
- 2002 Characterization of tropical habitat types as essential fish habitat for Caribbean fishery species. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Coral Reef Initiative.** T. Minello (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) R. Hill (Co-PI), P. Sheridan (Co-PI) - \$125,000.
- 2002 Ecopath models for the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Marine Fisheries Initiative.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), T. Minello (Co-PI), J. Browder (Co-PI) - \$25,000.
- 2001 - 2003 Origins of red drum stocks: assessing the contribution of different nursery grounds using biogeochemical fingerprints. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant.** J. Rooker (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI), S. Holt (Co-PI) - \$293,052.
- 2001 Rescue and integration of the most comprehensive data set available on commercially important shrimp species in the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Environmental Services Data and Information Management.** G. Stunz (PI), T. Minello (Co-PI), J. Ditty (Co-PI) - \$110,000.
- 2001 Ecopath models for the Gulf of Mexico. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Marine Fisheries Initiative.** G. Stunz (Co-PI), T. Minello (Co-PI), R. Zimmerman (Co-PI), J. Browder (Co-PI) - \$124,974.
- 1997 - 1999 Recruitment and post-recruitment of red drum in Galveston bay: what nursery habitats are critical? **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Sea Grant.** P. Levin (PI), G. Stunz (Co-PI) - \$84,753.
- 1997 Habitat related mortality and growth of juvenile red drum in Galveston bay. **Texas A&M University.** G. Stunz (PI), W. Evans (Co-PI) - \$7000.

## Publications:

### Publications in National and International Peer-Reviewed Journals:

- † Denotes student publications under direct mentorship of Stunz  
 - Co-authorship contribution follows the First-Author-Last-Emphasis (FLAE)
78. Banks, K.G., M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2024. Age, growth, and mortality of King Mackerel in the western Gulf of Mexico. **American Fisheries Society** 16:e10278. doi:10.1002/mcf2.10278
  77. Banks, K.G., M.K. Streich, J.M. Drymon, S.B. Scyphers, J.A. Mohan, R.J.D. Wells, A.L. Binstock, T.M. Richards, C.F. White, N.M. Whitney, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Talk is cheap: Evidence of conservation-based changes in angler behavior. **Conservation Science and Practice**. 5:e13001. doi: 10.1111/csp2.13001.
  76. Binstock, A.L., T.M. Richards, R.J.D. Wells, J.M. Drymon, K. Gibson-Banks, M.K. Streich, G.W. **Stunz**, C.F. White, N.M. Whitney, and J.A. Mohan. 2023. Variable post-release mortality in common shark species captured in Texas shore-based recreational fisheries. **PLoS ONE** 18:e0281441. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0281441.
  75. Banks, K.G., M.K. Streich, J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Influence of hurricane activity on acoustic array efficiency: A case study of Red Snapper within an artificial reef complex. **Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science** 14:e10220. doi: 10.1002/mcf2.10220.
  74. Anderson, T., E.N. Meese, J.M. Drymon, G.W. **Stunz**, B. Falterman, E. Menjivar, and R.J.D. Wells. 2022. Diel vertical habitat use observations of a scalloped hammerhead and a bigeye thresher in the northern Gulf of Mexico. **Fishes** 7:148. doi: 10.3390/fishes7040148.
  73. Hall, Q.A., D.M. Coffey, M.K. Streich, M.R. Fisher, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Social media shines light on the “hidden” impact of nighttime guided-gigging charters on Texas’ Southern Flounder fishery: A stab in the dark. **PLOS ONE** 17:e0269397. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0269397.
  72. Dance, M.A., J.R. Rooker, R.J. Kline, A. Quigg, G.W. **Stunz**, R.J.D. Wells, K. Lara, J. Lee, and B. Suarez. 2021. Importance of low-relief nursery habitat for reef fishes. **Ecosphere** 12:e03542. doi: 10.1002/ecs2.3542.
  71. Banks, K.G., J.M. Curtis, J.A. Williams, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2021. Designing cost-effective artificial reefs: fine scale movement and habitat use of Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) around a nearshore artificial reef complex. **North American Journal of Fisheries Management** 41:1850-1862. doi: 10.1002/nafm.10698.
  70. Scyphers et al. Understanding and Enhancing Angler Satisfaction with Fisheries Management: Insights from the “Great Red Snapper Count”. **North American Journal of Fisheries Management** 39(3):524-534. doi: 10.1002/nafm
  69. †Gibson, K.J., M.K. Streich, T.S. Topping, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2021. New insights into the seasonal movement patterns of Shortfin Mako Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico. **Frontiers in Marine Science** 8:623104. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2021.623104.
  68. Ajemian, M.J., J.M. Drymon, N. Hammerschlag, R.J.D. Wells, G. Street, B. Falterman, J.A. McKinney, W.B. Driggers III, E. Hoffmayer, C. Fischer, and

- G.W. **Stunz**. 2020. Movement patterns and habitat use of tiger sharks (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) across ontogeny in the Gulf of Mexico. **PLoS ONE** 15:e0234868. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0234868.
67. Wetz, J.J., M.J. Ajemian, B. Shipley, and G.W. **Stunz**. (*In Press*). An assessment of two visual survey methods for documenting fish community structure on artificial platform reefs in the Gulf of Mexico. **Fisheries Research** 225. doi:10.1016/j.fishres.2020.105492.
66. Brewton, R.A., C.H. Downey, M.K. Streich, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2020. Trophic ecology of red snapper *Lutjanus campechanus* on natural and artificial reefs: Interactions between annual variability, habitat, and ontogeny. **Marine Ecology Progress Series** 635:105-122. doi:10.3354/meps13210.
65. Curtis, J.M., A.K. Tompkins, A.J. Loftus, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. Recreational angler attitudes and perceptions regarding the use of descending devices in southeast reef fish fisheries. **Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science** 11:506-518. doi:10.1002/mcf2.10102.
64. Gibson, K.J., M.K. Streich, T.S. Topping, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. Utility of citizen science data: A case study in land-based shark fishing. **PLoS ONE** 14:e0226782. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0226782.
63. Topping, T.S., M.K. Streich, M.R. Fisher, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. A comparison of private recreational fishing effort for Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper during derby and extended seasons. **North American Journal of Fisheries Management** 39:1311-1320. doi:10.1002/nafm.10368.
62. \*Harwell, M.A., J.H. Gentile, L.D. McKinney, J. W. Tunnell Jr., W.C. Dennison, R.H. Kelsey, K.M. Stanzel, G.W. **Stunz**, K. Withers, and J. Tunnell. Conceptual framework for assessing ecosystem health. 2019 **Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management** 15:544-564. doi:10.1002/ieam.4152.  
\* **Top 10% downloaded paper**
61. Rooker, J.R., M.A. Dance, R.J.D. Wells, M.J. Ajemian, B.A. Block, M.R. Castleton, J.M. Drymon, B.J. Falterman, J.S. Franks, N. Hammerschlag, J.M. Hendon, E.R. Hoffmayer, R.T. Kraus, J.A. McKinney, D.H. Secor, G.W. **Stunz**, and J.F. Walter. 2019. Population connectivity of pelagic megafauna in the Cuba-Mexico-United States triangle. **Scientific Reports** 9:1663. doi:10.1038/s41598-018-38144-8.
60. Hall, Q.A., J.M. Curtis, J. Williams, G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. The importance of newly-opened tidal inlets as spawning corridors for adult Red Drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*). **Fisheries Research** 212: 48-55. doi:10.1016/j.fishres.2018.12.002.
59. Rezek, R.J., M. Lebreton, T.A. Palmer, G.W. **Stunz**, and J. Beseres Pollack. 2018. Structural and functional similarity of epibenthic communities on standing and reefed platforms in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. **Progress in Oceanography** 168:145-154. doi:10.1016/j.pocean.2018.09.020.
58. Wells, R.J.D., T.C. TinHan, M.A. Dance, J.M. Drymon, B. Falterman, M.J. Ajemian, G.W. **Stunz**, J.A. Mohan, E.R. Hoffmayer, W.B. Driggers, III, J.A. McKinney. 2018. Movement, behavior, and habitat use of a marine apex predator, the scalloped hammerhead. **Frontiers in Marine Science** 5:1-14. doi:10.3389/fmars.2018.00321.

57. †Downey, C.H., M.J. Ajemian, M.K. Streich, R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. Stunz. 2018. Habitat-specific reproductive potential of Red Snapper: A comparison of artificial and natural reefs in western Gulf of Mexico. **Transactions of the American Fisheries Society** 147:1030-1041. doi:10.1002/tafs.10104.
- \* *Featured Paper Award 2018 – Transactions of the American Fisheries Society.*
56. Rubio, K.S., M. Ajemian, G.W. Stunz, T.A. Palmer, B. Lebreton, and J. Beseres Pollack. 2018. Dietary composition of black drum *Pogonias cromis* in a hypersaline estuary reflects water quality and prey availability. **Fish Biology** 2:250-262. doi:10.1111/jfb.13654.
55. †Streich, M.K., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. Stunz. 2018. Habitat-Specific Performance of Vertical Line Gear in the Western Gulf of Mexico: A Comparison Between Artificial and Natural Habitats Using a Paired Video Approach. **Fisheries Research** 41:1410-1421. doi:10.1007/s12237-017-0363-6.
54. Ajemian, M.J., Mendenhall, J. Beseres Pollack, M.S. Wetz, G.W. Stunz. 2018. Moving Forward in a Reverse Estuary: Habitat Use and Movement Patterns of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) Under Distinct Hydrological Regimes. **Estuaries and Coasts** 204:16-25. doi:10.1016/j.fishres.2018.01.018.
53. †Streich, M.K., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, J.D. Shively, J.B. Shipley, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. Effects of a New Artificial Reef Complex on Red Snapper and the Associated Fish Community: an Evaluation Using a Before-After Control-Impact Approach. **Marine and Coastal Fisheries** 9:404-418. doi:10.1080/19425120.2017.1347116.
52. Liu, B., L. Stokes, T.S. Topping, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. Estimation of Total from a Population of Unknown Size and Application to Estimating Recreational Red Snapper Catch in Texas. **Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology** 5:350-371. doi.org/10.1093/jssam/smx006.
51. †Streich, M.K., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, J.A. Williams, J.B. Shipley, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. A Comparison of Size Structure, Age, and Growth of Red Snapper from Artificial and Natural Habitats in the Western Gulf of Mexico. **Transactions of the American Fisheries Society** 146:762-777. doi:10.1080/00028487.2017.1308884.
50. †Gain, I., R.A. Brewton, M.M. Reese Robillard, K.D. Johnson, D.L. Smee, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. Intertidal oyster reef supports elevated abundance of nekton in the estuarine mosaic. **Marine Biology** 164:1-16. doi:10.1007/s00227-016-3033-5.
49. †Moulton, D.L., M.A. Dance, J.A. Williams, M.Z. Sluis, G.W. Stunz, and J.R. Rooker. 2017. Habitat use and movement of juvenile red drum and spotted seatrout in the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve. **Estuaries and Coasts** 40:905-916. doi:10.1007/s12237-016-0189-7.
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1. Attanasio, R., R.E. Lanford, D. Dilley, G.W. Stunz, L. Notvall, A. B. Henderson, R.C. Kennedy. 1991. Immunogenicity of hepatitis B surface antigen derived from the baculovirus expression vector system: A mouse potency study. **Biologicals** 19:347-353. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S1045-1056(05)80024-7.

#### **Abstracts, Proceedings, and Conference Publications/Presentations:**

\* Best Paper Presentation; † International/National; <sup>Δ</sup> Regional

\*Co-authorship contribution follows the First-Author-Last-Emphasis (FLAE)

240. McMillan, R.H., M.K. Streich, and G.W. Stunz. 2024. Lavaca Bay Ecosystem Assessment: Gathering key baseline data among nursery habitats across a

- pollution gradient. Informal Science Education Association 2024. Corpus Christi, TX.
239. McMillan, R.H., M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2024. Lavaca Bay Ecosystem Assessment: Gathering key baseline data among nursery habitats across a pollution gradient. TCAFS 2024. Nacogdoches, TX
  238. McMillan, R.H., M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2024. Lavaca Bay Ecosystem Assessment: Gathering key baseline data among nursery habitats across a pollution gradient. GOMCON 2024. Tampa, FL. †
  237. Gibson-Banks, K., M. K. Streich, T. S. Topping, and G. W. **Stunz**. 2023. Utility of citizen science data: A case study in land-based shark fishing. American Fisheries Society Latin America & Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancun, MX. †
  236. Wetz, J. J., Q. Hall, M. K. Streich, T. S. Topping, and G. W. **Stunz**. 2023. Mind the gap: increasing recreational angler buy-in of science-based fisheries conservation methods. Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress Chapter meeting. Cancun, MX †.
  235. Topping, T. S. and G. W. **Stunz**. 2023. Creation of the Smartphone Application, iSnapper, for Data Collection and use in Fisheries Management. Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress Chapter meeting. Cancun, MX †.
  234. Cummings, I., K. G. Banks, L. Stokes, M. K. Streich, T. S. Topping, and G. W. **Stunz**. 2023. Nighttime survey use in monitoring harvest and effort of the Texas southern flounder gig fishery. Latin America and Caribbean Fisheries Congress Chapter meeting. Cancun, MX. †
  233. Cummings, I., K. G. Banks, M. K. Streich, and G. W. **Stunz**, 2023. Fall run: Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) migration timing and trends in Texas ship channels. Texas Chapter American Fisheries Society meeting. Corpus Christi, TX
  232. Meese, E.N., J.R. Rooker, G.W. **Stunz**, and R.J.D. Wells. 2023. Resource partitioning among sympatric predatory fishes revealed by a multi-tracer isotopic approach. Coastal Estuarine Research Federation (CERF) Biennial Meeting. Portland, OR. †
  231. Livingston, M., S. McHaney, E. Sikes, K. Banks, M. Streich, G. **Stunz**, L. Campbell, H. Bauer, and T. Hopper. 2023. Make it count: A novel approach in boat ramp data collection. 153rd Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Grand Rapids, MI. †
  230. Martin, K., M.K. Streich, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Artificial reef location and orientation matter for fish communities. 2023 Texas Artificial Reef Symposium. Corpus Christi, TX.
  229. Wetz, J.J., M.K. Streich, M.J. Ajemian, C. Downey, K. Banks, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Artificial reef impacts in the western Gulf of Mexico: What have we learned in the last decade? 2023 Texas Artificial Reef Symposium. Corpus Christi, TX.
  228. Gaiter, D., J. Kaiser, M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Ecological assessment of the Colorado River Delta in order to preserve the Matagorda Bay Ecosystem. Ronald E. McNair Day at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi, TX.

227. \*Meese, E.N., J. Williams, G.W. **Stunz**, J.R. Rooker, and R.J.D. Wells. 2023. Combining multiple isotope approaches and acoustic telemetry to determine trophic ecology and habitat use of the Atlantic Stingray (*Hypanus sabinus*). American Elasmobranch Society 2023 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Norfolk, VA. † \* Outstanding Student Oral Presentation Award
226. Meese, E.N., J. Williams, G.W. **Stunz**, J.R. Rooker, and R.J.D. Wells. 2023. Habitat use and trophic ecology of Atlantic Stingrays (*Hypanus sabinus*) in a subtropical estuary. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
225. Stephens, S., M.A. Dance, M.Z. Sluis, G.W. **Stunz**, R. Kline, M.K. Streich, R.J.D. Wells, and J. Rooker. 2023. Characterizing spatial and temporal trends of tarpon migrations in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
224. Binstock, A.L., Richards, T.M., Wells, R.J.D., Drymon, J.M., Banks, K.G., Mohan, J.A. 2023. Assessing population structure of Blacktip sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) in the Gulf of Mexico using stable isotope analysis of multiple tissues. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
223. Binstock, A., T. Richards, R.J.D. Wells, M. Drymon, K. Banks, M.K. Streich, G.W. **Stunz**, C. White, N. Whitney, and J. Mohan. 2023. Sink or swim? Post-release mortality of common shark species in a recreational shore-based fishery. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
222. Cummings, I.G., K. Banks, L. Stokes, M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Nighttime surveys' use in monitoring harvest and effort of the Texas southern flounder gig fishery. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
221. Wetz, J.J., Q. Hall, M.K. Streich, T. Topping, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Mind the gap: Increasing recreational angler buy-in of science-based fisheries conservation methods. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
220. Topping, T., and G. **Stunz**. 2023. Creation and utility of an electronic reporting application, *iSnapper*, and its use for fisheries management. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
219. Gibson-Banks, K., M.K. Streich, T.S. Topping, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Utility of citizen science data: A case study in land-based shark fishing. Latin American and Caribbean Fisheries Congress. Cancún, Mexico. †
218. Cummings, I.G., K. Banks, M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2023. Fall run: Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) migration timing and trends in Texas ship channels. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>^</sup>
217. Meese, E.N., M. Fisher, G.W. **Stunz**, J. Rooker, and R.J.D. Wells. 2023. Multivariate analyses of fish communities in Matagorda Bay, Texas. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>^</sup>
216. Powers, S., M. Albins, K. Boswell, J. Buckel, M. Catalano, G. Chiu, M. Dance, M. Drymon, J. Hoenig, S. Midway, S. Murawski, N. Phillips, J. Rooker, E. Saillant, S. Scyphers, L. Stokes, G.W. **Stunz**, T. Switzer, and D. Wells. 2023. The Greater Amberjack Count: An overview. Alabama-Mississippi Bays and Bayous Symposium. Mobile, AL. <sup>^</sup>
215. Stephens, S., M. Dance, R. Kline, M. Sluis-Zapp, M.K. Streich, G. **Stunz**, D. Wells, and J. Rooker. 2022. Habitat use and migrations of Atlantic Tarpon in the

- northern Gulf of Mexico. 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Fort Walton Beach, FL.
214. Zapata, H., K. Banks, M.K. Streich, J. Mohan, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Comparing post-release fates to landing locations of sharks in the shore-based recreational fishery in Texas. Ronald E. McNair Day at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi, TX.
213. \*Martin, K.L., M.K. Streich, J.C. Thompson-Grim, J.J. Wetz, T.S. Topping, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Comparing fish communities between Texas artificial reefs and natural banks. NOAA EPP/MSI Biennial Research Forum. Tallahassee, FL. †
212. Binstock, A., T.M. Richards, K. Banks, M.K. Streich, G.W. **Stunz**, C. White, N. Whitney, M. Drymon, R.J.D. Wells, and J. Mohan. 2022. Sink or swim? Variability in post-release mortality of four common shark species captured in shore-based recreational fisheries. 152<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Spokane, WA. †
211. Anderson, T., E.N. Meese, J.M. Drymon, G.W. **Stunz**, B. Falterman, E. Menjivar, and R.J.D. Wells. 2022. Diel vertical habitat use of a scalloped hammerhead and bigeye thresher shark. 2022 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Spokane, WA. †
210. Hall, Q., D. Coffey, M.K. Streich, M. Fisher, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Assessing the impacts of guided gigging on Texas' southern flounder population using social media: A stab in the dark. Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission Symposium "Floundering Around – Evaluating a declining species in the SE United States.". Baton Rouge, LA. ^
209. Kuntz, J., D. Coffey, J. Kaiser, J. Williams, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Comparing diversity of estuarine-dependent nekton between Aransas Pass and Packery Channel inlets. TAMU-CC Marine Science Graduate Student Organization 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Forum. Corpus Christi, TX.
208. \*Zapata, H., K. Banks, J. Smith, M.K. Streich, D. Coffey, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2022. Characterizing landing locations in the shore-based recreational shark fishery in Texas. TAMU-CC Marine Science Graduate Student Organization 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Forum. Corpus Christi, TX.
207. Richards, T.M., J.A. Mohan, A. Binstock, J.M. Drymon, K.G. Banks, M.K. Streich, G.W. **Stunz**, C. White, N. Whitney, and R.J.D. Wells. 2022. Post-release mortality and behavior of sharks in shore-based recreational fisheries using citizen scientists and low-cost tags. Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Hunt, TX. ^
206. Meese, E.N., G.W. **Stunz**, J.R. Rooker, and R.J.D. Wells. 2022. Using a bottom-up isotopic approach to establish baseline data on an estuarine food web system in Matagorda Bay, Texas. Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Hunt, TX. ^
205. Batchelder, L., E. Meese, R.J.D. Wells, G.W. **Stunz**, and J.R. Rooker. 2022. Recruitment dynamics of fishes in estuarine nursery habitats of Matagorda Bay, Texas. Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Hunt, TX. ^
204. Ajemian, M.J., M.P. McCallister, J.J. Wetz, M.K. Streich, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2020. Challenges and prospects for scientific monitoring of artificial reefs: Lessons

- learned from Texas to Florida. Florida Artificial Reef Summit. Melbourne Beach, FL. <sup>Δ</sup>
203. Mostowy, J., P. Sanchez, R.J.D. Wells, G. **Stunz**, and J. Rooker. 2020. Spatial distribution of demersal fish abundance across the continental shelf in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Waco, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
  202. McKinney, L., J.H. Gentile, H. Kelsey, K.M. Stanzel., G.W. **Stunz**, K. Withers, M. Wetz, J. Pollack, and J. Tunnell. 2020. A conceptual framework for assessing ecosystem health. Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference. Tampa, FL. <sup>†</sup>
  201. Martin, K.L., and G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. Fish community comparison over differing habitats on the Texas Shelf. Council of Principal Investigators and Research Administrators Research Forum. Corpus Christi, TX.
  200. Martin, K.L., G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. Fish Community Comparison over Differing Habitats on the Texas Shelf. Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Snowbird, UT. <sup>†</sup>
  199. Martin, K.L., G.W. **Stunz**. 2019. Characterizing Large Predatory Fish across Gulf of Mexico Habitats. Marine Science Graduate Student Organization 8th Annual Research Forum. Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
  198. Gibson, K.J., T.S Topping, M.J. Ajemian, G.W. **Stunz**. 2018. Migration Patterns of Shortfin Mako Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico. MarCuba 2018: XI Congreso de Ciencias del Mar. La Habana, Cuba. <sup>†</sup>
  197. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, S.P. Powers, and F.J. Fodrie. 2018. Reconstruction Recreational Fisheries Catch Data Using Historical Tournament Records. MarCuba 2018: XI Congreso de Ciencias del Mar. La Habana, Cuba. <sup>†</sup>
  196. Drymon, J.M., and G.W. **Stunz**. 2018. An Overview of Methods for Estimating Absolute Abundance of Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. Panama City Beach, FL. <sup>†</sup>
  195. Murawski, S.A., M. Olascoaga, C. Paris, P. Miron, I. Bernstein, F. Beron-Vega, E. Chancellor, G.W. **Stunz**, K. Gibson, A. Garcia, M. Armenteros, W. Tunnell, E. Peebles. 2018. Factors Determining Observed Patterns of Continental Shelf Fish Species Distribution and Apparent Connectivity in the Gulf of Mexico. Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference, New Orleans, LA. <sup>†</sup>
  194. Ajemian, M.J., M.K. Streich, J.J. Wetz, R.A. Brewton, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Rigs-to-Reefs in the Gulf of Mexico. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Tampa, FL. <sup>†</sup>
  193. Curtis, J.M., and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Estimating Discard Mortality in a Deep-Water Reef Fish; An Evolution in Fate Assignment Using Acoustic Telemetry. 147<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Tampa, FL. <sup>†</sup>
  192. \*Gibson, K.J., A.B. Ferguson, M.J. Ajemian, G.W. **Stunz**. 2017 Recreational Anglers as Citizen Scientists: Tournaments Promote a Better Understanding of Texas Coastal Shark Populations. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
  191. Gibson, K.J., T.S. Topping, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. The Use of Migratory Shark Data as a Proxy for the Potential Impact of an Oil Spill in the Northern Gulf

- of Mexico. Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program Retreat. Texas A&M University- Galveston, Galveston, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
190. Gibson, K.J., J.M. Curtis, J.A. Williams, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017 Fine-Scale Movements of Juvenile Red Snapper at the Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  189. Rodriguez, J., M. Streich, and G. **Stunz**. 2017. Across-shelf comparison of Red Snapper size and age structure at artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Symposium. San Antonio, Texas.<sup>Δ</sup>
  188. Streich, M. K., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Enhanced production of Red Snapper at a newly constructed artificial reef in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  187. Streich, M. K., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. A Comparison of Fish Community Structure at Mesophotic Artificial Reefs and Natural Banks in the Western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  186. \*Tompkins, A.K., J.M. Curtis, G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Determining effective release methods for reducing discard mortality in the Gulf of Mexico recreational Red Snapper fishery. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  185. Tompkins, A.T., J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Utility of rapid recompression devices in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper fishery. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  184. \*Tompkins, A.K., J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Saving Red Snapper one drop at a time. Three-minute Thesis Competition. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  183. Tompkins, A.T., J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Utility of rapid recompression devices in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper fishery. Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program Retreat. Texas A&M University-Galveston, Galveston, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  182. Tompkins, A.T., J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2017. Utility of rapid recompression devices in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper fishery. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  181. Ajemian, M.J., K.J. Gibson, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Movement patterns of large sharks in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 69th Annual Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.<sup>†</sup>
  180. Ajemian, M.J. and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Migratory behavior and habitat use of large sharks in the western Gulf of Mexico. Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Grand Cayman Island, Cayman Islands.<sup>†</sup>
  179. Ajemian, M.J., J.J. Wetz, R.A. Brewton, M.K. Streich, C.H. Downey, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Relative value of Rigs-to-Reefs habitats to Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) stock building in the western Gulf of Mexico. Benthic Ecology Meeting. Portland, ME.<sup>†</sup>

178. Ajemian, M.J., K. Mendenhall, J.B. Pollack, M. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Moving forward in a reverse estuary: trophic ecology and habitat use of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) in hypersaline Baffin Bay, Texas. 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Benthic Ecology Meeting. Portland, ME. †
177. Beseres Pollack J., G.W. **Stunz**, M.J. Ajemian, M. Wetz, T. Palmer, K. Mendenhall, and N. Breaux. 2016. Linking benthic food resources, water quality, and Black Drum in Baffin Bay, TX. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
176. Downey, C.H., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX <sup>Δ</sup>
175. Downey, C.H., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Wheeling, WV. <sup>Δ</sup>
174. Downey, C.H., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Diet analysis of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
173. \*Downey, C.H., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Diet analysis of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Education and Science Forum: NOAA Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions. New York City, NY. †
172. Gibson, K.J., T.S. Topping, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. The Use of Migratory Shark Data as a Proxy for the Potential Impact of an Oil Spill in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. C-IMAGE All Hands Meeting: Part II. St. Petersburg, FL. †
171. Streich, M.K., J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Relative abundance, age, and growth of Red Snapper: A comparison between artificial and natural habitats in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX <sup>Δ</sup>
170. Streich, M.K., J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Relative abundance, age, and growth of Red Snapper: A comparison between artificial and natural habitats in the western Gulf of Mexico. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Wheeling, WV. <sup>Δ</sup>
169. Tompkins, A.T., J. M. Curtis, G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Reducing discard mortality in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper fishery. Marine Biology Interdisciplinary Program Winter Retreat. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
168. \*Tompkins, A.K., J.M. Curtis, G.W. **Stunz**. 2016. Reducing discard mortality in the Red Snapper fishery. 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Education and Science Forum: NOAA Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions. New York City, NY. †
167. Wetz, J., M. Ajemian, and G. **Stunz**. 2016. Good, Better, Best. A comparison of SCUBA and ROV fish community surveys. Texas Parks and Wildlife Artificial Reef Science and Research Consortium. Corpus Christi, TX <sup>Δ</sup>

166. Ajemian, M.J., S.P. Powers, J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Can't we all just tag along? Acoustic telemetry compatibility in the Gulf of Mexico. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Fish Telemetry. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. †
165. Ajemian, M.J., P. Jose, J.T. Froeschke, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Characterization and trends in Texas' land-based shark fishery. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, American Elasmobranch Society. Reno, NV. †
164. Ajemian, M.J., and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Migration and habitat use of large sharks from the western Gulf of Mexico. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, American Elasmobranch Society. Reno, NV. †
163. Ajemian, M.J. J. Pollack, G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Movement patterns of Black Drum in Baffin Bay. Texas Sea Grant Meeting. Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
162. Brewton, R.A., M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Highly opportunistic foraging of Common Dolphinfish, *Coryphaena hippurus*, in the western Gulf of Mexico. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Reno, NV. †
161. Brewton, R.A., M.J. Ajemian, M.R. Robillard, J.M. Curtis, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Trophic ecology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, among various habitat types in the western Gulf of Mexico. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Reno, NV. †
160. Curtis, J.M., M.J. Johnson, S.L. Diamond, and G.S. **Stunz**. 2015. Estimating delayed mortality of discarded Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico with acoustic telemetry. Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Portland, OR. †
159. Curtis, J.M., J.A. Williams, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. TexAAN: Texas Acoustic Array Network. iTAG 2015 Conference. St Petersburg, FL. <sup>Δ</sup>
158. Downey, C., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Reno, NV. †
157. Downey, C. H., R.A. Brewton, J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
156. Hall, Q.H., M. Robillard, J. Williams, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Determination of seasonal abundance, density, and distribution of nekton species proximal to Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Spring Meeting. Savannah, GA. <sup>Δ</sup>
155. Hall, Q.H., M. Robillard, J. Williams, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Determination of seasonal abundance, density, and distribution of nekton species proximal to Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
154. \*Mendenhall, K., J. Pollack, M.J. Ajemian and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Trophic relationships between Black Drum (*P. cromis*) and benthic food resources in Baffin Bay, TX: an evaluation using multiple approaches. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
153. Walker, L., M. Streich, J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2015. Colonization of the Corpus Christi Nearshore Reef: Comparison of underwater video and traditional sampling

- gears for monitoring reef fish presence and abundance. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
152. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2014. Ultrasonic acoustic telemetry reveals delayed mortality estimates and post-release behavior patterns in Gulf of Mexico red snapper. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Charleston, SC. <sup>Δ</sup>
151. \*Hall, Q.H., M. Robillard, J. Williams, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2014. Determination of seasonal abundance, density, and distribution of nekton species proximal to Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. Marine Science Graduate Student Organization 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Research Forum. Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
150. Hall, Q.H., M. Robillard, J. Williams, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2014. Determination of seasonal abundance, density, and distribution of nekton species proximal to Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. Gulf Estuarine Research Society Biennial Meeting. Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
149. \*Hall, Q.H., G.W. **Stunz**, J. Williams, and M. Robillard. 2014. Effects of Reopening Cedar Bayou on Estuarine-Dependent Species. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
148. \*Jose, P., G.W. **Stunz**, and M.J. Ajemian. 2014. Historical and current trends in Texas' nearshore shark assemblage. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
147. Lowerre-Barbieri, S.K., G.W. **Stunz**, and M.J. Ajemian. 2014. Telemetry network and networking in the Gulf of Mexico. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Charleston, SC. <sup>Δ</sup>
146. Mendenhall, K., J. Pollack, M.J. Ajemian, T. Palmer, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2014. Characterizing the benthic food resources and habitat utilization of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) in Baffin Bay, TX. Gulf Estuarine Research Society Biennial Meeting. Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
145. Streich, M.K., M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2014. Abundance and size structure of Red Snapper among natural and artificial habitats in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. The Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Pottsboro, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
144. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Johnson, D. Yoskowitz, M. Robillard. 2014. iSnapper: Smartphone technology for fishery data collection. National Workshop for Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting. Seattle, WA. <sup>†</sup>
143. Ajemian, M.J., J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Micro-ROV survey methodology for submerged oil and gas platform artificial reefs. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. <sup>†</sup>
142. Ajemian, M.J., J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Crunching the numbers: The importance of offshore artificial reefs to Texas fisheries. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
141. Fligor, C.W., and G.W. **Stunz**. 2014. Habitat characterization of year-one and year-two red drum and spotted seatrout. National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Lexington, KY <sup>Δ</sup>
140. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2013. Hiding in plain sight: Tracking the red snapper spawning stock in the western Gulf of Mexico. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Charleston, SC. <sup>Δ</sup>

137. Ajemian, M.J., J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Micro-ROV survey methodology for submerged oil and gas platform artificial reefs. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
136. Downey, C.H., T.R. Kling, M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Vertical longline gear performance on artificial reefs of the Texas Coastal Bend. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
135. Streich, M., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Relative abundance and size structure of red snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, across habitat types in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
134. **Stunz**, G.W., J.J. Wetz, M.J. Ajemian, M. Streich, D. Shively, B. Shipley-Lozano. 2013. Artificial reefs in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico as fisheries habitat. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
133. Wetz, J.J., M.J. Ajemian, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Fish community structure and abundance on artificial reefs of South Texas: a preliminary assessment. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
132. Zimmermann, D., M.J. Ajemian, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. A Comparison of trophic structure among artificial reefs of the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Corpus Christi, TX. †
131. **Stunz**, G.W., T.J. Minello, P. Levin, J.R. Rooker. 2013. Contrasting fine-scale habitat use and population connectivity of red drum in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. American Fisheries Society. Little Rock, AR. †
130. Ajemian, M.J., J.J. Wetz, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Crunching the numbers: The importance of offshore artificial reefs to Texas fisheries. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
129. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2013. Hiding in plain sight: Tracking the red snapper spawning stock in the western Gulf of Mexico. Joint meeting of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists. Albuquerque, NM. †
128. \*Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2013. Hiding in plain sight: Tracking the red snapper spawning stock in the western Gulf of Mexico. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
127. Jose, P, G.W. **Stunz**, and M.J. Ajemian. 2013. Sharks in Texas coastal waters: Are we swimming in essential shark habitat? 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
126. Nevins, J.A., J.B. Pollack, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2013. Characterizing the pristine oyster reef community of Sabine Lake Estuary relative to surrounding marsh edge and non-vegetated bottom habitats. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
125. Palacios, R.R., J. M. Curtis, G. **Stunz**. 2013. Determining the age and growth of the spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) using marginal otolith extraction techniques. Annual TAMUS Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Symposium. College Station, TX. <sup>Δ</sup>
124. Swain, M.A., G.W. **Stunz**, and J. Wetz. 2013. ROV Adventures: A Comparison of Standing and Cut-Off Artificial Reef Structures in the Gulf of Mexico. Annual

- Meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Altoona, Florida.<sup>Δ</sup>
123. Williams, J.A., G.W. **Stunz**, M.Z. Sluis, and M.M. Reese Robillard. 2013. The effect of reopening Cedar Bayou on estuarine-dependent species. 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. The University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  122. \*Curtis, J. M., G. W. **Stunz**, M. W. Johnson, S. L. Diamond. 2012. Estimating delayed mortality of red snapper discards using acoustic telemetry. 6th NOAA-EPP Education & Science Forum. Florida A&M University. Tallahassee, FL.<sup>†</sup>
  121. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2012. Estimating delayed mortality of red snapper discards using acoustic telemetry. Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society. Biloxi, MS.<sup>Δ</sup>
  120. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2012. Quantifying delayed post-release mortality in the Gulf of Mexico recreational red snapper fishery using acoustic telemetry. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society 37th Annual Meeting. Galveston, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  119. Drumhiller, K.L., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2012. Evaluating the effects of barotrauma on red snapper ( *Lutjanus campechanus* ) using hyperbaric experimentation. 37th Annual Meeting of the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Galveston, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  118. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2011. Quantifying Delayed Post-Release Mortality in the Gulf of Mexico Recreational Red Snapper Fishery Using Acoustic Telemetry. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA.<sup>†</sup>
  117. Johnson, M.W., G.W. **Stunz**, and D. Yoskowitz. 2011. iSnapper: Design, testing, and analysis of smartphone-based application as an electronic logbook in the fore-hire fisheries. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA.<sup>†</sup>
  116. Froeschke, B.F., P. Tissot, and G.W. **Stunz**. 2011. Comparison of spatio-temporal models for juvenile southern flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) habitat use along the northern Gulf of Mexico using boosted regression trees and artificial neural networks. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA.<sup>†</sup>
  115. Bivins, L., G.W. **Stunz**, and M.M. Reese Robillard. 2011. Large-scale movements of spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) among south Texas coastal waters using acoustic telemetry. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. San Marcos, TX.<sup>Δ</sup>
  114. Overath, R. D., J. M. Curtis, Y. Blandon, C. Morales, K. C. Rainer, G.W. **Stunz**, and R. R. Vega. 2011. Cost-benefit analysis of combining genetic markers and otolith chemistry to track the fate of hatchery-reared fish in the wild. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA.<sup>†</sup>
  113. Curtis, Judson, G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S. L. Diamond. 2011. The fate of regulatory discarded red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico: Insights into delayed post-release mortality and behavior. Ecological Society of America. Austin, TX.<sup>†</sup>
  112. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and S.L. Diamond. 2011. Estimating post-release mortality in the red snapper fishery using V9AP accelerometer tags and acoustic telemetry. Benthic Ecology Meeting. Mobile, AL.<sup>†</sup>

111. Overath, R.D., J.T. Froeschke, C. Morales, G.W. **Stunz**, and R.R. Vega. 2011. Combining genetic markers and otolith chemistry to examine connectivity issues: connectivity of spotted seatrout in South Texas as an example. Benthic Ecology Meeting. Mobile, AL.†
110. Pillado, M., G.W. **Stunz**, and M.M. Reese Robillard. 2011. Contamination level of fishes in three Texas estuaries. 25<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Undergraduate Research. Ithaca, NY.†
109. Pizano, R.I., G.W. **Stunz**, M.W. Johnson, and J.M. Curtis. 2011. Effects of barotrauma on red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) in the Gulf of Mexico. Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol. Austin, TX.△
108. **Stunz**, G.W., M.W. Johnson, S. Diamond, M.L. Wildhaber, L. Bivins, and J. Curtis. 2011. The South Texas Acoustic Network (TexAN). Benthic Ecology Meeting. Mobile, AL.†
107. Williams, J., G. **Stunz**, J. Holt, G. Hensgen, and M. Robillard. 2011. Using juvenile red drum density, growth, and movement patterns to assess the impact of seagrass fragmentation on an estuarine-dependent species. Benthic Ecology Meeting. Mobile, AL.†
106. Alfonso, J.V., G.W. **Stunz**, and L. Bivins. 2010. Testing the detection range of Vemco VR2W acoustic receivers used to study large-scale movements of spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) in south Texas estuaries. NSF Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium. Corpus Christi, TX.△
105. Brewton, R, G. **Stunz**, M. Reese Robillard, I. Gain. 2010. The role of oyster reefs as habitat in estuarine ecosystems. Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Conference 2010. Biloxi, MS.△
104. Bivins, L., G. **Stunz**, R. Vega, M. Johnson, and M. Reese Robillard. 2010. Evaluation of surgery procedures for implanting telemetry transmitters into the body cavity of spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*). Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Athens, TX.△
103. Curtis, J.M., G.W. **Stunz**, R.D. Overath, and R. R. Vega. 2010. Detection of wild versus hatchery-reared spotted seatrout using otolith chemistry. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting. Providence, RI.†
102. Froeschke, B., G. **Stunz**, M. Reese Robillard, and J. Williams. 2010. Using a modeling approach to determine essential fish habitat within the Mission-Aransas National Estuarine Research Reserve. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting. Providence, RI.†
101. Froeschke, J., G. **Stunz**, B. Sterba-Boatwright, and M. Wildhaber. 2010. Testing the “shark nursery area concept” in Texas Bays using a long-term fisheries-independent dataset. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting. Providence, RI.†
100. Lee, C.T., C. Morales, G. **Stunz**, R. Vega, and R.D. Overath. 2010. Microsatellites reveal stock structure in spotted seatrout, *Cynoscion nebulosus*, in the western Gulf of Mexico. Society for the Study of Evolution. Portland, OR.†
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34. **Stunz**, G. W., J.M. Curtis, M.K. Streich, and J.J. Wetz. 2019. A post-reefing assessment of the Port O'Connor Nearshore Reef. Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation. Project End Report. 15 pp.
33. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, and T.S. Topping. 2019. iSnapper: Electronic Data Collection in the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Recreational Fishery (TX). National Fish and Wildlife Foundation: 0304.16.054237. Final Report. 16 pp.
32. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, J.J. Wetz. 2018. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 7. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 474362 Annual Progress Report. 9 pp.
31. **Stunz**, G.W., and J.M. Curtis. 2018. Reefing Rapid Recompression Techniques in Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Using a Unique Acoustic Telemetry Approach. NOAA Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program NA16NMF4720280 Final Report. 49 pp.
30. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, J.J. Wetz. 2017. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 6. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 474362 Annual Progress Report. 20 pp.
29. **Stunz**, G.W., J. Beseres Pollack, and M.J. Ajemian. 2017. Why are black drum starving in Baffin Bay? An ecosystem-based approach. Texas Sea Grant NA14OAR4170102 Final Report. 13 pp.
28. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, A.K. Tompkins. 2017. Techniques for minimizing discard mortality of Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper and validating survival with acoustic telemetry. NOAA Bycatch Reduction Engineering Program NA14NMF4720326 Final Report. 69 pp.
27. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, J.J. Wetz. 2016. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 5. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 474362 Annual Progress Report. 48 pp.
26. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, and T.S. Topping. 2016. Sharks with Spectators III: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas' Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach. Texas State Aquarium Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Rehabilitation Program Final Report. 8 pp.
25. **Stunz**, G.W., M.J. Ajemian, M.K. Streich, R. Brewton, C. Downey, and Q. Hall. 2016. Investigation of the relative habitat value of oil/gas platforms and natural banks in enhancing stock building of reef fish in the western Gulf of Mexico. NOAA Marine Fisheries Initiative NA14NMF4330219 Final Report. 107 pp.
24. **Stunz**, G.W., D. Yoskowitz, M. Fisher, M. Robillard, and T. Topping. 2016. Implementation of the iSnapper smartphone application to collect data across all recreational sectors in the Gulf of Mexico. NOAA Marine Recreational Information Program FY 2014 Final Report. 42 pp.
23. **Stunz**, G.W. and M.J. Ajemian. 2015. Sharks with Spectators II: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas' Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach.

- Texas State Aquarium Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Rehabilitation Program Final Report. 10 pp.
22. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Ajemian, and J. Pollack. 2015. Ecosystem-based approach to assess Black Drum in Baffin Bay. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program CBBEP1523 Final Report. 52 pp.
  21. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Ajemian, and J.J. Wetz. 2015. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 3 & 4. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 439195 Final Report. 61 pp.
  20. **Stunz**, G.W., Q. Hall, and M. Robillard. 2015. Determination of seasonal abundance and density of nekton species in/near Cedar Bayou pre- and post-opening. Performance Final Report to Aransas County, Texas. 101 pp.
  19. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Ajemian, and J. Pollack. 2015. Ecosystem-based approach to assess Black Drum in Baffin Bay. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program CBBEP1421 Final Report. 27 pp.
  18. **Stunz**, G.W., J.M. Curtis, J.J. Wetz. 2014. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 3. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 439195 Annual Progress Report. 32 pp.
  17. **Stunz**, G.W. and M.J. Ajemian. 2014. Sharks with Spectators: Real-time, Global Tracking of Texas' Marine Apex Predators for Science, Education, and Outreach. Texas State Aquarium Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Rehabilitation Program Final Report. 5 pp.
  16. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Johnson, S. Diamond, J. Curtis, and K. Drumhiller. 2014. Evaluating the effect of barotrauma on regulatory discards in the Red Snapper fishery using advanced acoustic telemetry and hyperbaric experimentation. Marine Fisheries Initiative NA10NMF4330126 Final Report. 48 pp.
  15. Pollack, J., J. Nevins, M. Robillard, and G. W. **Stunz**. 2014. Characterizing the oyster reef community of Sabine Lake estuary: A before-after-control-impact study. State Wildlife Grants Program Final Report. 47 pp.
  14. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Johnson, D. Yoskowitz, M. Robillard, and J. Wetz. 2014. iSnapper: Design, testing, and analysis of an iPhone-based application as an electronic logbook in the for-hire Gulf of Mexico red snapper fishery. Cooperative Research Program NA10NMF4540111 Final Report. 64 pp.
  13. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Ajemian, and J.J. Wetz. 2013. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 2. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 415254 Annual Progress Report. 20 pp.
  12. **Stunz**, G.W., M. Ajemian. 2013. Dolphinfish in the Gulf of Mexico: an investigation of migration patterns, habitat use, and life history of this important sportfish. Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist Award Final Report. 7 p.
  11. Montagna, P., J. Gibeaut, R. McLaughlin, T. Shirley, G.W. **Stunz**, and D. Yoskowitz. 2012. An Integrative Approach to Managing the Dewatering of Estuaries. CAMEO NA09NMF4720179 Final Report. 16 pp.
  10. **Stunz**, G.W. and J.J. Wetz. 2012. South Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring – Fish Community Assessment Year 1. Texas Parks and Wildlife Contract 415254 Annual Progress Report. 44 pp.
  9. Diamond, S.L., T. Hedrick-Hopper, G.W. **Stunz**, M. Johnson, and J. Curtis. 2011. Reducing discard mortality of red snapper in the recreational fisheries using

- descender hooks and rapid recompression. MARFIN NA07NMF4540078 Final Report.
8. Overath, R. D., G. W. **Stunz**, and R. R. Vega. 2011. Assessing Stock Enhancement and Success of Hatchery-Reared Fish Using a Combination of Genetics and Otolith Chemistry. Saltonstall-Kennedy NA08NMF4270415 Final Report. 28 pp.
  7. **Stunz**, G.W., M.M. Reese Robillard, and A.M. Bushon. 2011. Recruitment, spatial distribution, and fine-scale movement patterns of red drum through major and shallow passes. Texas Sea Grant NA060AR4170076 Final Report. 59 pp.
  6. **Stunz**, G.W. and M.M. Reese Robillard. 2011. Gulf of Mexico surface longline alternative gear workshop. Pew Environment Group, The Pew Charitable Trusts LOA633750 Final Report. 141 pp.
  5. **Stunz**, G.W., J. Williams, and M.M. Reese Robillard. 2011. Habitat fragmentation in marine ecosystems: Impact of habitat loss to marine fishes. Norman Hackerman Advanced Research Program 01116100072007 Final Report. 28 pp.
  4. **Stunz**, G.W. and M. Reese Robillard. 2011. Contaminant Level of Fishes in Several Coastal Bend Estuaries: Screening Investigation. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program CBBEP1012 Final Report. 27 pp.
  3. Reese M.M., J.L. Wrast, G.W. **Stunz**, and J. Simons. 2009. Characterizing oyster reefs in Lavaca Bay. State Wildlife Grants Program Texas S070026 Final Report. 31 pp.
  2. **Stunz** G.W. and M.M. Reese. 2008. Impacts of a new tidal inlet on estuarine nekton: Fisheries recruitment assessment of Packery Channel post-opening in Corpus Christi, Texas. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program CBBEP0721 Final Report. 30 pp.
  1. **Stunz** G.W., M.M. Reese, and A.M. Bushon. 2006. Impacts of a new tidal inlet on estuarine nekton: The opening of Packery Channel in Corpus Christi, Texas. Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program CBBEP0720 Final Report. 38 pp.

### Theses Titles:

- 1995 - 1999 Ph.D. Dissertation: Causes and consequences of recruitment patterns in red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*): The significance of settlement and post-settlement loss.
- 1994 - 1995 Master's Thesis: Age and Growth of Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigma*) from Matagorda Bay, Texas.

### Editorships:

- 2011 - Present Editorial Board, *Reviews in Fisheries Science*
- 2015 - 2017 Editorial Board, *Gulf and Caribbean Research*
- 2006 - 2008 Associate Editor, *American Midland Naturalist*

### Journal Reviewer:

- 2012 - present *Ecology*
- 2012 - present *Marine and Coastal Fisheries*

2011 - present	<i>PLoS One</i>
2011 - present	<i>Fisheries Management and Ecology</i>
2010 - present	<i>Journal of Shellfish Research</i>
2008 - present	<i>ICES - Journal of Marine Science</i>
2006 - present	<i>Southwestern Naturalist</i>
2005 - present	<i>Marine Ecology Progress Series</i>
2005 - present	<i>Marine and Freshwater Research</i>
2005 - present	<i>Gulf of Mexico Science</i>
2005 - present	<i>Gulf and Caribbean Research</i>
2003 - present	<i>Bulletin of Marine Science</i>
2002 - present	<i>Fishery Bulletin</i>
2002 - present	<i>Wetlands</i>
2001 - present	<i>North American Journal of Fisheries Management</i>
2001 - present	<i>Copeia</i>
2001 - present	<i>Estuarine Coastal and Shelf Science</i>
1999 - present	<i>Transactions of the American Fisheries Society</i>
1998 - present	<i>Journal of Fish Biology</i>

#### **Scientific Review Panels:**

2022	NOAA – National Sea Grant Program Review Panel
2022	South Atlantic Red Snapper Advisory Panel/Steering Committee
2022	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Sampling Steering Committee
2016	NOAA - RESTORE - Science Program Review Panel
2016	Northern Gulf of Mexico Ecosystems and Hypoxia Assessment Research Program (NGOMEX)
2011, 2008, 2013	NOAA - North Carolina Sea Grant
2008, '12, '15-'17	NOAA - Cooperative Research Program
2011	Northern Gulf Institute - Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative
2011	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation 2009 - present
2008, 2011	NOAA - North Carolina Sea Grant
2009	NOAA - Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization
2009	NOAA - National Estuarine Research Reserve
2009	U.S. Dept. of Ed. - Grant Assistantships in Areas of National Need
1999, 2002	NOAA - Marine Fisheries Initiative
2012	National Marine Sanctuary Program - Flower Gardens
2008	Maryland Sea Grant
2002	Water Resources Research Institute
2004	National Science Foundation
2001	NOAA Coastal Ocean Program
2001	Canadian Foundation for Innovation
1999	NOAA Sea Grant College Program
1999	NOAA Marine Fisheries Initiative (MARFIN)

**Awards:**

2023	South Texas Leaders – KEDT Corpus Christi – Public Broadcasting System.
2021	Regents Professor -Texas A&M University System Board of Regents
2020	Sports Fishing Wall of Fame - Perry R. Bass, Texas Maritime Museum
2019	Professional Conservationist of the Year - Harvey Weil Rotary Club of Corpus Christi
2018	The Innovator Series Marine Science Icon - Coastal Conservation Association – Award for contribution to fisheries conservation.
2015	Presidential Order of the Silver Wave - For bringing exception recognition to the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
2015	Special Congressional Recognition for Marine Educator- Congressman Blake Farenthold - Coastal Bend Education Award
2015	Coastal Bend Bays Foundation, Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award in Higher Education
2014	Marine and Coastal Fisheries Journal - Best Paper for 2013
2013	Lifetime Conservationist Award - CCA-Texas, Dallas Chapter
2009	Outstanding Islander - TAMU-CC
2008	Coastal Bend Bays Foundation, Conservation and Environmental Stewardship Award in Higher Education
2007 - 2008	Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity, TAMU-CC - nominee from the College of Science Technology
2007	Best Paper/Oral Presentation. American Fisheries Society - San Antonio, Texas
2005	Best Paper/Oral Presentation. American Fisheries Society - Grapevine, Texas
2003	Best Paper/Oral Presentation. American Fisheries Society - College Station, Texas
1999 - 2000	Texas Institute of Oceanography Fellow
1997	Best Paper/Oral Presentation. Gulf Estuarine Research Society/Benthic Ecology Meeting - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
1999	Best Paper/Oral Presentation. American Fisheries Society - College Station, Texas
1997	Academic Excellence Award, Ellison Miles, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
1996	Academic Excellence Award, George and Mary Lewis, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

**Teaching Experience (Evaluation Average 4.6/5.0; College Mean 4.3):**

\*Teaching portfolio available.

**Teaching Leadership:**

2007 - 2013	Chair and Program Coordinator for Marine Biology Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science Interdisciplinary Degree Program
2010 - present	Honors Faculty

### **Degrees and Programs Developed (Chair and Program Coordinator):**

- 1. Doctor of Philosophy - Marine Biology**
- 2. Master of Science - Marine Biology**

### **Individual Courses:**

#### **Graduate:**

Environmental Biology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 2 Sections
Fisheries Ecology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 7 Sections
Marine Biology Seminar - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 1 Section
Marine Ecology - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 5 Sections

#### **Undergraduate:**

Marine Fish Management - Texas A&M University at Galveston	- 3 Sections
Ichthyology - Texas A&M University at Galveston	- 1 Section
Introduction to Biology I - Texas A&M University (Corpus/Galveston)	- 5 Sections
Introduction to Biology II - Texas A&M University (Corpus/Galveston)	- 5 Sections
Field and Sampling Techniques - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 1 Section
Fisheries - Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	- 4 Sections
Professional Skills - Texas A&M University-Corpus Chris	- 1 Sections

### **Research-Related Courses (Graduate and Undergraduate):**

Directed Independent Study (BIOL 4396/5396)
Thesis/Dissertation Proposal (CMSS/BIOL/ESCI/MARB 5392)
Thesis/Dissertation Research (CMSS/BIOL/ESCI 5393/6393)
Thesis/Dissertation Submission (BIOL/CMSS/ESCI 5394/6394)
Project Research (CMSS/BIOL/ESCI/MARB 5940)

### **Graduate Students (Chairman):**

#### **Doctor of Philosophy – Dissertation Advisor (Name/Current Position):**

*Note: Ph.D. program began in 2006*

2023 - present	Ulsia Urrea Marino, Ph.D. Candidate Coastal and Marine System Science
2018 - 2022	Kelsey Martin, NOAA Fisheries
2015 - 2019	Kesley Gibson, Post-doctoral Researcher, Texas A&M University-CC

2015 - 2019 Zach Olsen, Scientist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
 2012 - 2015 Matthew Streich, Asst. Research Scientist, Texas A&M University-CC  
 2008 - 2014 Judd Curtis, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
 2009 - 2011 Bridgette Froeschke, Associate Professor, University of Tampa  
 2006 - 2010 John Froeschke, Dep. Director, Gulf of MX Fishery Management Council

**Master of Science - Thesis Advisor (Name/Current Position):**

2021 - present Robinson McMillan  
 2021 - present Isabelle Cummings  
 2018 - 2020 Jill Thompson-Grim  
 2015 - 2017 Alex Tompkins - Dow Chemical  
 2014 - 2016 Charles Downey - Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife  
 2013 - 2015 Quentin Hall - Research Specialist, TAMU-CC  
 2012 - 2015 David Moulton (Co-Chair)- Research Assistant, TAMU-G  
 2010 - 2014 Phil Jose (Co-Chair) - Biology Lab Coordinator, TAMU-CC  
 2010 - 2014 Peter Young - Private Captain, Port Aransas, TX.  
 2011 - 2013 Jamie Nevins (Co-Chair) - Research Assistant, NC State Univ.  
 2010 - 2012 Karen Drumhiller - Research Asst. - HRI TAMU-CC  
 2009 - 2011 Kimberly Johnson - NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service  
 2008 - 2011 Laura Payne - Marine Surveyor, Eagle Maritime Consultants Inc  
 2008 - 2011 Jason Williams - Research Specialist, HRI TAMU-CC  
 2008 - 2012 Jason Slocum - Technician, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
 2009 - 2010 Elani Morgan (Co-Chair) - Harte Research Institute  
 2008 - 2010 Isis Dominguez – Environmental Engineer, Flint Hills Resources  
 2006 - 2008 Jenny Wrast - Research Assoc., Univ. of Houston Environ. Inst.  
 2004 - 2006 Amanda Bushon - Fishery Biologist, North Carolina Commission  
 2004 - 2006 Megan Reese Robillard – Program Manager, HRI TAMU-CC  
 2004 - 2006 Todd Neahr - Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
 2003 - 2006 Suraida Nanez-James – High school Teacher – Corpus Christi ISD  
 2003 - 2006 Jason James – High school Teacher – Corpus Christi ISD  
 2002 - 2004 Dana Burfeind - Post-Doc Griffith University, Gold Coast AU

**Graduate Committee Membership (60 total):**

Current: 1 Ph.D.; 22 M.S. Committees  
 Previous: 7 Ph.D.; 46 M.S. Committees

**Mentoring Programs:**

2009 - present McNair Scholars Program (4 interns)  
 2002 - present Alliance for Minority Participation in the Sciences (11 interns)  
 2002 - present Faculty Mentors, TAMU-CC (50+)  
 2013 - 2016 Title V - STEM Outreach, Access, and Retention (SOAR)

2007 - 2010	National Science Foundation Building Undergraduate Research Opportunities (BUENO) (3 interns)
2003 - 2014	National Science Foundation Summer Undergraduate Research Focus (SURFers) (29 interns)
2004	Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology, NSF (2 interns)

### **Undergraduate Research Project Mentor (Independent Studies):**

2024	Sara Gurani - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2023	Maddie Rotunno - Southern Flounder creeling study
2023	Boone Stauber - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2023	Austin Willson - Species composition and size trends of sharks
2023	Daunte Gaiter - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2022	Makenzie Zapata - Shark distribution in nearshore S. Tx waters
2022	Kimber Montanye - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2022	Lauren Potter - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2022	Collin Reed - Southern Flounder creeling study
2022	Coy Gillum - Southern Flounder creeling study
2021	Anastasia Canu - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
2020	Joe Kuntz - Nekton Abundance in Aransas Bay/iSnapper surveys
2020	Jacob Hernandez - Nekton abundance in Aransas Bay/iSnapper surveys
2020	Jensen Smith - Texas Shark Rodeo demographic composition
2018	Jasmine Rodriguez - Age and Growth of Red Snapper
2017	Meghan Hargis - Artificial Reef in the Gulf of Mexico
2017	Daniel Martinez - Nekton use of Cedar Bayou
2016	Whitney McClain - Red Snapper Ecology in the Gulf of Mexico
2016	Josh Leeder - Nekton use of Cedar Bayou and Red Snapper Ecology
2016	Zach Crain - Age and growth of red snapper in Gulf of Mexico
2016	Melissa Hammond - Nekton use of Cedar Bayou
2015	Ashley Ferguson - Shark ecology in the Gulf of Mexico
2015	Lily Walker- Artificial Reef in the Gulf of Mexico
2015	Alex Tompkins - Dolphinfinh migration patterns in the Gulf of Mexico
2014	Jesse Smith - Age and growth of red snapper in Gulf of Mexico
2014	Jordan Pesik - Feeding habitat of dolphinfinh in the Gulf of Mexico
2013	Caleb Fligor - Acoustic tracking of red drum
2013	Colton Raab - Dolphinfinh migration patterns in the Gulf of Mexico
2013	Chas Downey - Development of vertical longline gear for artificial reef sampling
2013	Danielle Zimmermann -Role of Artificial Reefs in supporting fisheries in the Gulf
2012	Kevin Jeffrey - Development of vertical longline gear for artificial reef sampling
2012	Ruben Palacios - Connectivity of spotted seatrout in Texas Coastal waters
2012	Melissa Swain - ROV assessment of fish assemblages on offshore artificial reefs
2011	Matt Klaser - Movement patterns of sharks in Texas' coastal waters
2011	Maurico Mancera - Lab trials on hyperbaric experimentation on red snapper
2010	Joseph Alfonso - Large-scale movement patterns of spotted seatrout
2010	Carissa Lannon - Mortality of red snapper due to barotrauma and depredation

- 2010 Maria Pillado - Bioaccumulation of toxins in fishes from south Texas bays
- 2009 Laura Fargas - Lozada - Evaluation of acoustic surgery methods in fish
- 2009 Alin Gonzalez - Assessment of suture materials transmitter implantation in fish
- 2009 Channelle Desamours - Effect of seagrass fragmentation on nekton abundance
- 2009 Rebecca Pizano - Relative habitat importance of oyster reefs for nekton
- 2009 Ruben Palacios - Determination of movement patterns of spotted seatrout
- 2009 Norma Martinez - Density dependent growth of marine fishes
- 2009 Lew Lampton - Food web dynamics of oyster reef habitat
- 2008 Chris Bost - Bioaccumulation of total mercury in spotted seatrout
- 2008 Ben Hale - Evaluation of acoustic transmitter surgery methods in spotted seatrout
- 2008 Courtney Lee - Historical trends in fisheries based on 70 years of tournament data
- 2008 Rachel Brewton - Fish habitat use of oyster reef
- 2007 Michael Carrillo - The closure of a tidal inlet fisheries recruitment
- 2007 Miranda Lopez - Growth of fishes in a new tidal inlet
- 2006 Rafael Calderon - Oyster reef as essential fish habitat
- 2006 Sarah Bayer - Opening of Packery Channel
- 2006 Jason Hart - Overview of temporary threshold shift in bottlenose dolphins
- 2005 Lynne Shearer - Habitat selection pattern for spotted seatrout
- 2005 Ramiro Cervantes - Impacts of Packery Channel on nekton
- 2005 Mollie McIver - Survey of reef fishes in Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
- 2005 Ryan Fikes - Impact of propeller scars on benthic infauna
- 2004 Annette Cardona - Monitoring and assessment of water quality in fish hatchery
- 2004 Crystal Sanders - Techniques for otolith examination
- 2004 Paul Gonzales - Effect of propeller scars on invertebrates
- 2004 Ramiro Cervantes - Distribution and abundance of fishes in a lowland rainforest
- 2004 Paul Gonzales - Age and growth of tropical fishes of Corcovado, Costa Rica
- 2003 Edward Sardoni - Oyster reef as essential fish habitat
- 2003 Ramiro Cervantes - Characterization of decapod crustaceans on oyster reefs
- 2001 Adam Cohen - Systematic studies of *Fundulus singularis*
- 2000 Michael Lowe - An examination of growth rate of white shrimp in Galveston Bay
- 1998 Klayre Simon - Growth of red drum in various estuarine habitat types
- 1998 Marissa Weber - Examining habitat preferences for juvenile Sciaenids
- 1997 Laura Bivins - Estuarine habitat preferences for red drum
- 1997 Cori Kretzschmar - Selection of estuarine habitat by juvenile red drum
- 1997 Todd Barron - Critical habitat of red drum in Galveston Bay
- 1997 Christina Davis - Habitat preferences for Atlantic croaker and red drum

### **Bench Tutorials – High School Advanced Placement Students:**

- 2002 Torey McBeth – Fish use of oyster reefs
- 2001 Kelly Finn – Collection of red drum otoliths for microchemistry studies
- 2001 Larry Perez - Growth of red drum under different salinities and temperatures

### **Teaching Assistantships:**

- 1997 Marine Fish Management - Texas A&M University at Galveston

1997 Mariculture - Texas A&M University at Galveston  
 1996 Fish Population Dynamics - Texas A&M University at Galveston  
 1996 Marine Fish Management - Texas A&M University at Galveston (Spring)  
 1996 Marine Fish Management - Texas A&M University at Galveston (Fall)  
 1995 Animal Ecology - Texas A&M University  
 1995 Ecology for Teachers - Texas A&M University  
 1995 Microbiology Laboratory - Texas A&M University at Galveston  
 1995 Marine Fish Management - Texas A&M University at Galveston  
 1994 Microbiology Laboratory - Texas A&M University  
 1994 Ecology for Teachers - Texas A&M University  
 1994 Animal Ecology - Texas A&M University

### University Service:

2020 Sr. Executive Director, Search Committee Harte Research Inst.  
 2018 - present Shimano/CCA Graduate Scholarship Committee  
 2018 - present Dan and Carolyn Pedrotti Scholarship Committee  
 2017 - present Science and Engineering Field Operations Committee  
 2016 - present Dept. Life Sciences Leadership Council  
 2015 - present Promotion and Tenure Committee, University  
 2015 - present Conolly Graduate Student Scholarship Committee  
 2010 - present Honors Faculty - TAMU-CC  
 2007 - present Promotion and Tenure Committee, Dept. Life Sciences  
 2005 - present Center for Coastal Studies, Scholarship Committee  
 2005 - present Coastal Conservation Association - Texas, Scholarship Committee  
 2002 - present Faculty Advisor, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi  
 2011 - 2015 Promotion and Tenure Committee, Col. of Science and Eng.  
 2012 - 2014 Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee  
 2011 - 2014 Steering Committee, College of Science and Engineering  
 2010 - 2014 Laguna Madre Field Station Executive Committee  
 2008 - 2013 Chair and Program Coordinator for Marine Biology Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science Degree Program  
 2008 - 2013 Department of Life Sciences - Graduate Program Committee  
 2012 Member, 2 Faculty Search Committees  
 2012 Member, Search Committee for Diving Safety Officer  
 2012 Program Review Committee - Fisheries and Mariculture  
 2011 Coral Reef Ecologist Search Committee - TAMU-CC  
 2011 Proposal Development Group -TAMU-CC  
 2010 Chair, Marine Biologist Search Committee - TAMU-CC  
 2010 Doctoral Program Coordinators Committee - TAMU-CC  
 2009 Assistant Research Scientist - Fisheries and Mariculture Search Committee-TAMU-CC  
 2009 Oceanography Search Committee - TAMU-CC  
 2009 - 2012 McNair Scholar Program Mentor  
 2009 - 2012 Department of Life Sciences Executive Committee

2008 - 2011	Promotion and Tenure Committee - Department of Life Sciences
2008 - 2010	College of Science and Technology Field Trip Committee
2008	Department Chair Search - Texas A&M University at Galveston
2008	Curriculum Committee - Coastal and Marine System Science
2008	Invited Speaker - TAMU-CC; Employee Development Day
2007 - 2009	Texas Science Technology Engineering, Math Initiative instructor
2007 - 2009	Science and Technology Distinguished Lecturer Series, Chair
2006 - 2008	Marine Biology MS/Ph.D. Degree Development Committee, Chair
2006	Department Chair Search Committee, Life Sciences
2005	Dean Search Committee
2005 - 2010	Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
2005	Momentum 2015, Excellence and Engagement Committee
2005	Harte Research Institute, Strategic Planning Committee
2005	Coastal and Marine System Science PhD Handbook Committee
2005 - 2010	Harte Research Institute, Library Committee
2005	Faculty Search Committee, 3 positions
2004	Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Physiologist
2003 - 2010	Faculty Mentors Program, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
2003 - 2005	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Member
2000 - 2002	Academic Advisor - Texas A&M at Galveston
2000 - 2002	Texas A&M Aggie Mentor
2000 - 2001	Steering Committee for the Office of Academic Enhancement
1996 - 1998	President-Graduate Student Association-Texas A&M University
1996 - 1998	Academic Advisory Committee - Texas A&M at Galveston
1996 - 1998	Texas A&M University at Galveston-CEO/Vice President's Program Council
1996 - 2000	Graduate Student Coordinator- Graduate Student Association
1996	Selection Committee: Campus Dean/CEO and Vice President- Texas A&M University at Galveston

### **Professional Organizations:**

2021 - present	Texas Wildlife Association
2004 - present	Council on Undergraduate Research
1999 - present	Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society
1997 - present	Gulf Estuarine Research Society (Secretary/Treasurer 2004-2006)
1997 - present	Estuarine Research Federation
1995 - present	The Honor Society of Agriculture, Gamma Sigma Delta
1995 - present	American Society of Ichthyologist and Herpetologists
1994 - present	American Fisheries Society
1990 - present	Coastal Conservation Association

**Certifications:**

Current	First Aid/CPR/AED/O <sub>2</sub> - American Red Cross
2012 - Current	Enriched Air Nitrox - SSI
2012 - Current	Remotely Operated Vehicle Pilot Training - Video Ray
1980 - Current	Advanced Open Water Diver -SSI

**Board Membership and Community Service:**

2018 - present	Gulf Offshore Research Institution – Board of Directors
2015 - present	Building Conservation Trust – Science Advisor
2014 - present	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council – Chair/Councilman
2014 - present	Texas Sea Grant Advisory Committee
2009 - present	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department - Coastal Resources Advisory Committee to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission
2004 - present	Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, Scientific Advisory Panel - Habitat and Living Resources Team
2020 - 2021	NOAA - Recreational Electronic Reporting Task Force
2019 - 2021	iTag – Integrated Tagging of Animals in the Gulf of Mexico – Steering Committee
2017 - 2000	Poco Bueno Fishing Tournament Steering Committee
2016 - 2021	Majesty Outdoors Board of Directors
2016 - 2021	Port Aransas Boatmen, Inc. - Member
2014	Recreational Fisheries Working Group, Committee Member NOAA Fisheries - Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee
2014 - 2016	Marine Resource Education Program, Southeast Region – Gulf of Maine Research Institute
2012 - 2014	Vice, Chair - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Ad- hoc Artificial Substrate Committee
2011 - 2014	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Standing Scientific and Statistical Committee.
2013	Managing our Nations Fisheries 3, Panelist - Washington, DC
2013	Fisheries Leadership Forum, Annapolis, MD
2011 - 2013	Marine Fisheries Representative - American Fisheries Society
2010 - 2012	Nueces and Baffin Bays Expert Science Team - Environmental Flows Program - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
2008 - 2012	Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, Scientific Advisory Panel - Water Quality and Sediment Team
2007	Session Chair - Estuarine Research Federation, Providence RI
2006 - 2008	Associate Editor, <i>American Midland Naturalist</i>
2006	Program Chair - Gulf Estuarine Research Society Meeting
2004 - 2010	Lower Colorado River Authority/San Antonio Water System, Blue Ribbon Scientific Panel
2003 - 2007	Nueces County Dune/Beach Management Advisory Committee
2002 - 2007	Coastal Conservation Association, Board Member, Corpus Christi

2002 - 2003	The Cabeza De Vaca Center, Inc., Advisory Board Member
2003	Corpus Christi Independent School District, science fair judge
2002	West Oso Elementary, Corpus Christi, Texas. Introduction to marine biology at Texas A&M at Corpus Christi
2001	Mentor- Ball High School, Galveston Texas. Mentor high school student in the sciences
2001 - 2002	Friends of Galveston Island State Park Texas, Board Member
2000	Seacamp, Career Seacamp, Texas A&M University at Galveston
1999 - 2002	Delegate Trustee, Galveston Bay Foundation. Galveston, Texas
1996 - 2001	Science Fair Judge, Galveston Independent School District
1993	Assistant to the chairman of the San Antonio City Council
1993	Infectious Disease Commission, San Antonio, Texas
1993	Advisory Committee of the Texas Branch of the American Cancer Society, San Antonio, Texas

### **Congressional Testimony:**

2017	Before the House Committee on Natural Resources - <i>Scientific advances with the Rigs-to-Reef program in the Gulf of Mexico.</i>
2021	Before the House Committee on Natural Resources - <i>Abandoned Offshore Oil and Gas Infrastructure and Artificial Reefs.</i>
2021	Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources – <i>The Great Red Snapper Count.</i>

### **Panels/Reviews/Workshops/Fisheries Stock Assessment and Related Activities:**

2019 - 2021	Advisory Panel for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review
2019	Texas Game Warden Workshop – Fish Identification
2018	iCAST – International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades – Panelist for Artificial Reef Symposium sponsored by Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Program.
2018	National Recreational Fisheries Summit – Panelist.
2017	National Artificial Reef Workshop, Washington, DC. – Panelist
2017	American Fisheries Society, Steering Committee for Symposium on, “Recent Advances in Artificial Reef Research.”
2017	Steering Committee - NOAA - National Artificial Reef Workshop, Washington, DC.
2016	Panelist - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s For-Hire Inventory Workshop, iSnapper Data Collection Tool. Alexandria, VA.
2014	SEDAR 33 – Gulf of Mexico Gag and Greater Amberjack - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Miami, FL
2013 - 2014	Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Ad-hoc Panelist Member of Artificial Substrate.

- 2013 SEDAR 31 - Red Snapper Stock Assessment - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Miami, FL.
- 2013 Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Panelist, Washington, DC.
- 2012 Shrimp Stock Assessment Workshop and Review - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Galveston, TX.
- 2012 SEDAR 28 - Spanish Mackerel and Cobia Assessment Workshop - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Miami, FL.
- 2012 Marine Recreational Information Program - Calibration Workshop Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council - Raleigh, NC.
- 2012 Marine Restoration Workshop - Gulf of Mexico University. Research Consortium and Ocean Conservancy - Tampa, FL
- 2012 FishSmart Workshop - Tampa, FL.
- 2012 Living Marine Resources Workshop - Geospatial Assessment of Marine Ecosystems (GAME) - Tampa, FL.

### Invited Speaker:

\* Keynote Address

- 2022 The Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Rockport Regatta on Little Bay. Rockport, TX.
- 2022 The Great Red Snapper Count. Coastal Conservation Association National Board Meeting. Houston, TX.
- 2022 Save the...Sharks?! South Texas Press Association Convention. Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2021 The Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Texas Lyceum Society
- 2020 Bays and Bayous Red Snapper Panelist
- 2019 Tidal Inlet-fisheries along the Texas Coast. FlatsWorthy - Rockport, TX.
- 2019 Hot Talks, Cool Science - Austin, TX.
- 2019 Master of Ceremonies – Billfish Pachanga, Port Aransas, TX.
- 2019 Sportfisheries in Coastal Bend, Christi Rotary Club of Corpus, TX.
- 2019 Gulf of Mexico Alliance – Artificial Reefs in Gulf of Mexico
- 2019 Tidal Inlet-fisheries Dynamics. Port Aransas Boatmen – Port Aransas, TX.
- 2019 Coastal Conservation Association – San Antonio, TX.
- 2019 Sportfisheries in Coastal Bend, Corpus Christi Rotary Club, South Side, Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2018 Presidents Circle, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2018 Corpus Christi Surf Riders - Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2018 Coastal Conservation Association - Austin, TX.
- 2018 Ananias Fishing Club – Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2017 U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Natural Resources – Reviewing Recent State Successes with Rigs to Reef Programs; Expert Testimony, Washington, DC.

- \*2017 Building Conservation and Shell Oil Conservation Partnership Summit, Partnerships to Advance Habitat Restoration and Conservation. New Orleans, LA.
- 2017 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council – Descender devices as a means to reduce discard mortality. Birmingham, AL.
- 2017 American Zoological Society, Save the... Sharks?!. Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2017 iTag – Acoustic Telemetry in the nwGulf of Mexico. Tampa, FL.
- \*2016 Save the...Sharks?! TEDx San Antonio – You THINK You Know. San Antonio, TX.
- 2016 National Artificial Reef Workshop – Science Informing Artificial Reefing. Washington, DC.
- 2016 Save the...Sharks?! University of Texas Marine Science Inst. Lecture Series, Port Aransas, TX.
- 2016 Lionfish Invasion in Texas – Texas State Aquarium. Corpus Christi, TX
- 2016 Artificial Reef Created by Oil and Gas Platforms. Decommissioning and Abandonment Summit – “Decomworld,” Houston, TX.
- 2016 Save the... Sharks?! – Olsen Elementary, Port Aransas, TX.
- 2015 Tracking Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico. Houston Museum of Natural Science. Houston, TX.
- 2015 Expert Chat – Sharks - Texas State Aquarium. Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2015 Shark Week Kickoff Party Guest Speaker. Texas State Aquarium. Corpus Christi, TX.
- \*2015 Tidal Inlet Dynamics along the Texas Coast. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting – Keynote Address. Port Aransas, TX.
- 2015 Global Fisheries Status and Discussion Forum – “End of the Line.” University of Texas Marine Science Inst. Green Team. Port Aransas, TX.
- 2015 Sportfish Research in the Coastal Bend. Port Aransas Rotary Club. Port Aransas, TX.
- \*2014 Save the...Sharks?!: Abundant apex predators are key to healthy bays. Coastal Bend Bays Foundation. Keynote Address - Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2014 How much water does an estuary need? Water, Wildlife, and Wide Open Spaces. San Marcos, TX.
- 2014 Building Conservation Trust – Fisheries Research in the Gulf of Mexico, Coastal Conservation Association. Lake Charles, LA.
- 2014 Coastal Conservation Association National Board Meeting, Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation Research Initiatives, Houston, TX
- 2013 Prospects for large-scale artificial reefs in tropical southeast Asian seas. Rigs to Reefs Workshop. National University of Singapore, Centre for International Law
- 2013 Red Snapper Recreational Catch Accounting Methods Workshop, NOAA-MRIP. New Orleans, LA
- 2013 Research at the Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Managing our Nation’s fisheries. Washington, DC
- 2013 Fisheries Leadership Forum - Keynote Address - Annapolis, MD
- 2013 Coastal Conservation Association - Austin, TX
- 2013 Coastal Conservation Association - Victoria, TX

- \*2012 Keynote Address - Texas' Artificial Reef - Texas Coral Reefs: Today, Yesterday and Tomorrow, Baker Institute, Rice University - Houston, TX
- 2012 FishSmart Workshop - Tampa, FL
- 2012 Coastal Conservation Association - Houston, TX
- 2012 Coastal Conservation Association - Beaumont, TX
- 2011 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council- iSnapper-Austin, TX
- 2011 Kiwanis - Corpus Christi, TX
- 2011 Olsen Elementary - Corpus Christi, TX
- 2011 Coastal Bend Bays Foundation - Corpus Christi, TX
- 2011 Coastal Conservation Association - Orange, TX
- 2011 Coastal Conservation Association - New Braunfels, TX
- 2010 Coastal Conservation Association - Austin, TX
- 2010 Coastal Conservation Association - Brenham, TX
- 2008 TAMU-CC; Employee Development Day - Corpus Christi, TX
- 2009 Invited Speaker - Coastal Conservation Association (Austin, Brush Country, and Orange TX. Chapters)
- 2008 Invited Speaker - Coastal Conservation Association (Brenham and LaGrange TX. Chapters)
- 2008 TAMU-CC; Employee Development Day - Corpus Christi, TX
- 2007 Dauphin Island Sea Lab - Dauphin Island, AL

### **Media Coverage:**

### **Full Feature Television Programming:**

#### **2023**

Public Broadcasting Service – KEDT Corpus Christi, “*South Texas Leaders.*” Host Libby Averyt, President and CEO of the United Way of the Coastal Bend, sits down with different South Texas leaders. Each of them has a unique personal story with something all of us can learn from.

#### **2022**

Shark Week 2022 – Discovery Channel, “*Monster Mako Under the Rig.*” This program features a team of researchers that discovered a mysterious group of mako sharks of the Gulf of Mexico who migrate from Florida to Rhode Island. They call these sharks "Mavericks." Now, the team is trying to learn what sets them apart from others of their kind. Produced by ITV America, Filmed Spring 2022, Aired July 2022.

Shark Week 2022 – Discovery Channel, “*Tracy Morgan Presents: Shark! with Tracy Morgan.*” Comedian and shark enthusiast Tracy Morgan teams up with shark experts throughout the country to identify the craziest and most ferocious sharks in the ocean. From rare species to stealth predators, Tracy shows off his favorite sharks and their incredible capabilities and adaptations. Produced by ITV America, Filmed Spring 2022, Aired July 2022.

## 2018

Shark Week 2018 – Discovery Channel, “*Monster of the Shallows.*” Produced by ITV America, Filmed Fall 2017, to be aired 2019.

National Geographic Wild - “When Sharks Attack.” Produced by Optomen Productions, LLC, to be aired 2019.

Majesty Outdoors 2018 – CBS Sports, “*Episode 1802 Corpus Part 2.*”

Majesty Outdoors 2018 – CBS Sports, “*Episode 1801 Corpus Part 1.*”

“*Ford Trucks Carry Conservation.*” Texas Ford Truck Commercial to promote CCA-Texas Star Tournament and highlight Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Filmed May 2014, Aired May – August 2018.

## 2017

Shark Week 2017 - Discovery Channel, “Lost Cage” This program following scientists as they seek to better understand artificial reef and fish aggregating devices in the Gulf of Mexico and how sharks use these structures. Produced by Gurney Productions, Filmed fall 2015 and spring 2016, will air July, 2017.

“*Ford Trucks Carry Conservation.*” Texas Ford Truck Commercial to promote CCA-Texas Star Tournament and highlight Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Filmed May 2014, Aired May – August 2017.

## 2016

Shark Week 2016 - Discovery Channel, “Monster Mako II.” This program following scientists as they outfit some of the largest of the Mako species with cameras in order to unlock and reveal the mysteries of their swift, immediate, and unseen world. A rare sighting is caught on film as a Mako shark breaches the waters during the expedition. Produced by Gurney Productions, Filmed Summer 2015, will air June, 2016.

CBS This Morning – CBS – OCEARCH finds sharks – and much more – in the Gulf of Mexico, Multipart Series - First Aired November 13, 2015.

“*Ford Trucks Carry Conservation.*” Texas Ford Truck Commercial to promote CCA-Texas Star Tournament and highlight Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Filmed May 2014, Aired May – August 2016.

## 2015

Shark Week 2015 - Discovery Channel, “Monster Mako.” This program following scientists as they outfit a Mako shark with cameras in order to unlock and reveal the mysteries of their swift, immediate, and unseen world. A rare sighting is

caught on film as a Mako shark breaches the waters during the expedition?  
Produced by Gurney Productions, Filmed March 2015, Aired July 2015.

CBS This Morning – CBS – Ocearch finds sharks – and much more – in the Gulf of Mexico, Multipart Series - First Aired November 13, 2015.

Public Broadcast Network, "*Save Our Sharks.*" A documentary about shark research and illegal shark fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. Produced by Texas Parks and Wildlife Television. Aired February 2015.

"*Ford Trucks Carry Conservation.*" Texas Ford Truck Commercial to promote CCA-Texas Star Tournament and highlight Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Filmed May 2014, Aired May – August 2015.

## 2014

Shark Week 2014 - Discovery Channel, "*Monster Hammerhead.*" The program trails the legendary hammerhead that has been swimming along the Florida shoreline for the past 60 years. Produced by Gurney Productions, Filmed June 2014, Aired August 2014.

"*Ford Trucks Carry Conservation.*" Texas Ford Truck Commercial to promote CCA-Texas Star Tournament and highlight Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation. Filmed May 2014, Aired May – August 2014.

## 2013

Public Broadcast Network, "*Towers of Life.*" A 30-minute documentary program on Rigs to Reefs. Produced by KEDTV, Inc. 2013, Aired August 2013.

## 2012

Majesty Outdoors Adventure, "*Dolphinfish Tagging Initiative, the Gulf of Mexico.*" A 30-minute program on TAMU-CC dolphinfish research in the Gulf of Mexico. Produced by Majestic Outdoors Adventure, Inc., Filmed September 2011, Aired February 2012.

## 2011

National Geographic Wild Channel, "*Sharks in the City.*" A 60-minute science special documentary that unlocks the secrets to the world's most mysterious and dangerous shark – the Bull Shark. Produced by Markland Communications and Kip Spidell Factual, Filmed September 2010, Aired 2011- 2012.

## 2010

Majesty Outdoors Adventure, "*Southwest Texas' Greatest Blessing, the Gulf of Mexico.*" A 30-minute program on TAMU-CC red snapper research in the Gulf of Mexico. Produced by Majestic Outdoors Adventure, Inc., and the Ocean Conservancy, September 2010.

The Nature of things with David Suzuki, *"One Ocean, Footprints in the Sand."* A 60-minute documentary concerning human impacts to and loss of marine habitats worldwide. Produced by Canadian Broadcasting Company, August 2009.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bQZkzRHnjw>.

## 2008

National Geographic Wild, *"Guardians of Nature."* A documentary concerning how scientists carry out research that protects coastal habitats. Produced by Miriam Elhadad for National Geographic Channel – France, May 2008.

## TV Newscasts, Radio, and Podcasts:

### 2024

1. Speckled Truth. *"Episode 8: Truth on Tap Livestream w/ Dr. Greg Stunz"*. January 4, 2024. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfHW\\_qdVFQ0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfHW_qdVFQ0)

### 2023

*Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*". December 21, 2023.

5. KIII-TV. *"Fishermen provide input to Texas Parks & Wildlife Department about spotted sea trout regulations."* October 20, 2023.  
<https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/fishermen-provide-input-to-texas-parks-wildlife-department-about-spotted-sea-trout-regulations/503-77ff191e-0109-4b41-8b5f-c42fd017499e>
4. The Great Outdoors, AM1300. *"Center for Sportfish Science and Conservation's work in the Gulf of Mexico with Dr. Banks."* June 3, 2023.  
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/139-the-great-outdoors-sunday-27879659/episode/great-outdoors-segment-12--116470269/>
3. USFWS Fish of the Week! Podcast. *"Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico."* June 2023.  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/red-snapper/id1546630514?i=1000615663516>
2. KEDT-TV. *"New HRI Leadership."* April 26, 2023.
1. The Great Outdoors. *"Gulf of Mexico fishing with Dr. Greg Stunz."* March 8, 2023.  
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/139-the-great-outdoors-sunday-27879659/episode/the-great-outdoors-show-3-4-23-110143252/>

### 2022

20. KRIS-TV. *"Local surfer bitten by shark near North Packery Channel."* December 7, 2022.
19. KIII-TV. *"Corpus Christi surfer bitten by shark while surfing at North Packery Channel."* December 6, 2022
18. Moore Outdoors with Chester Moore. *"Chester talks with shark expert Dr. Greg Stunz."* September 7, 2022.

- <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/528-moore-outdoors-with-cheste-28256643/episode/moore-outdoors-with-chester-moore-090922-chester-talks-101786705/>
17. Texas Fauna Project. “Red Snapper.” August 30, 2022.  
[https://www.texasfauna.org/?s=stunz&post\\_types=interview](https://www.texasfauna.org/?s=stunz&post_types=interview)
  16. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*The importance of sharks.*” August 2, 2022.  
[https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/080222-the-importance-of-sharks?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/tfb-archives-7/s-OlrZqQTjnQh&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/080222-the-importance-of-sharks?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/tfb-archives-7/s-OlrZqQTjnQh&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)
  15. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*Texas scientists study mako sharks in Gulf of Mexico.*” August 1, 2022.  
[https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/080122-texas-scientists-study-mako-sharks-in-gulf-of-mexico?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/tfb-archives-7/s-OlrZqQTjnQh&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/080122-texas-scientists-study-mako-sharks-in-gulf-of-mexico?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/tfb-archives-7/s-OlrZqQTjnQh&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)
  14. KRIS-TV. “*Harte Research Institute breaks down stigma surrounding shark fishing.*” July 27, 2022.  
<https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/harte-research-institute-breaks-down-stigma/503-9efc06a2-b3e8-460c-ae2e-400ae970a091>
  13. Coastal Living. “*Happy 1st Day of Shark Week: Learn About Sharks in the Coastal Bend.*” July 26, 2022.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OBhZiNuBjKU>
  12. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*Texas researchers appear on Sharkfest, Shark Week.*” July 25, 2022.  
<https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/072522-texas-researchers-appear-on-sharkfest-shark-week>
  11. KEDT Public Radio 90.3 FM. “*Dr. Greg Stunz discusses how his current research is being featured on Shark Week.*” July 18, 2022.
  10. KIII-TV. “*Island University researchers will be featured in Shark Week and SHARKFEST.*” July 15, 2022.
  9. The Great Outdoors. “*Gulf of Mexico fishing with Dr. Greg Stunz.*” July 15, 2022.  
<https://am1300thezone.iheart.com/featured/the-great-outdoors/about/>
  8. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*Matagorda Bay ecological assessment wrapping up.*” June 14, 2022.  
<https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/061422-matagorda-bay-ecological-assessment-wrapping-up>
  7. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*Southern flounder research underway in Coastal Bend.*” June 2, 2022.  
[https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/060222-southern-flounder-research-underway-in-coastal-bend/s-QOcmlo3kL1b?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/texas-wildlife&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/060222-southern-flounder-research-underway-in-coastal-bend/s-QOcmlo3kL1b?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/texas-wildlife&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)
  6. Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Wildlife Radio. “*Southern flounder research in Texas.*” June 1, 2022.

- [https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/060122-southern-flounder-research-in-texas/s-48tnguleyzy?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/texas-wildlife&utm\\_source=clipboard&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=social\\_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/texasfarmbureau/060122-southern-flounder-research-in-texas/s-48tnguleyzy?in=texasfarmbureau/sets/texas-wildlife&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)
5. KRIS-TV. “Scientists study red snapper with app.” May 29, 2022.
  4. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Kesley Banks discusses shark tagging and bluefin tuna in the Gulf of Mexico.*” May 26, 2022.
  3. The Great Outdoors. “*Gulf of Mexico fishing with Dr. Greg Stunz.*” May 21, 2022.  
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/139-the-great-outdoors-sunday-27879659/episode/great-outdoors-talking-fishing-with-local-97255615/>
  2. Browning, Oliver. “Hundreds of sharks filmed swimming in ‘rare’ cluster off Texas coast”. *Independent TV*. February 11, 2022.  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/climate/sharks-texas-rare-cluster-video-b2013246.html>
  1. The Great Outdoors. “*Gulf of Mexico fishing with Dr. Greg Stunz.*” January 15, 2022.  
<https://www.iheart.com/podcast/139-the-great-outdoors-sunday-27879659/episode/great-outdoors-talking-fishing-with-local-91636427/>

## 2021

19. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Danny Coffey and Quentin Hall, M.S., discuss Billfish anglers teaming up with scientists for research project*”. October 21, 2021.
18. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Matt Streich and Quentin Hall, M.S., discuss the Lone Star Ling citizen science project*”. September 29, 2021.
17. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Kesley Banks discusses sportfish in the Gulf of Mexico.*” September 24, 2021
16. NPR National Radio. “*A Battle On The Gulf Pits The Coast Guard Against Mexican Red Snapper Poachers*”. August 12, 2021.  
<https://www.npr.org/2021/07/18/1014782927/gulf-coast-guard-mexican-red-snapper-poachers>
15. The Speckled Truth podcast with Captain Wayne Davis. “*CSSC director Dr. Greg Stunz and researcher Quentin Hall, M. S., discuss the truth behind catch and release.*” July 28, 2021.  
<https://speckledtruth.podbean.com/e/episode-17-the-truth-behind-catch-and-release-dr-greg-stunz-quentin-hall-capt-wayne-davis/>
14. KIII-TV. “*Increase in shark sightings in local waters.*” July 26, 2021.  
[https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/increase-in-shark-sightings-in-local-waters/503-37bc6440-f57b-4254-bbec-462410cb9a12?fbclid=IwAR11VuJfA-cgkbDP8WrFm6zdEsIIQPD2BwkyITJGsw\\_NujFc\\_o7gvhVIh8](https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/increase-in-shark-sightings-in-local-waters/503-37bc6440-f57b-4254-bbec-462410cb9a12?fbclid=IwAR11VuJfA-cgkbDP8WrFm6zdEsIIQPD2BwkyITJGsw_NujFc_o7gvhVIh8)
13. Texas Sea Grant. “*Shark Week Question and Answer Session.*” Presentation by Dr. Banks explaining shark science being conducted off the coast of Texas and how people can interact safely with sharks. Aired July 15, 2021.
12. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Kesley Banks discusses sportfish in the Gulf of Mexico*”. July 15, 2021.

11. KRIS-TV. “*Shark rodeo spurs competition, yields invaluable information.*” July 14, 2021.  
<https://www.kristv.com/news/local-news/shark-rodeo-spurs-competition-yields-invaluable-information>
10. KRIS-TV. “*iSnapper App*”. June 21, 2021.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YGRQGdyNKuw>
9. Univision. “*iSnapper App*”. June 3, 2021.
8. KIII-TV. “*Red Snapper season officially underway, app helps you track what you catch.*” June 2, 2021.  
<https://www.kiiitv.com/article/sports/outdoors/red-snapper-season-officially-underway/503-67319356-4af9-4e5b-bde3-698fc55f597c>
7. The Zone, Austin’s Sports Talk Radio AM 1300, The Great Outdoors with Ken Milam. “*Dr. Greg Stunz on Sportfish of the Gulf of Mexico.*” May 29, 2021.
6. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Kesley Banks discusses sportfish in the Gulf of Mexico.*” May 13, 2021.
5. KBSO Jalapeno Country 94.7 FM, Blake’s Morning Show. “*Dr. Kesley Banks discusses sportfish in the Gulf of Mexico.*” April 29, 2021.
4. KIII-TV. “*Report: Gulf of Mexico home to 110 million red snapper, 3x more than previously estimated.*” March 24, 2021.  
<https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/report-gulf-of-mexico-home-to-110-million-red-snapper-3x-more-than-previously-estimated/503-51b03e24-5b9e-4dbb-b79d-8761e9e09111>
3. The Zone, Austin’s Sports Talk Radio AM 1300, The Great Outdoors with Ken Milam. “*Dr. Greg Stunz on Sportfish of the Gulf of Mexico.*” March 19, 2021.
2. KIII-TV. “*Coastal Bend fish supply not affected after millions of fish washed up dead on coast.*” March 10, 2021.  
<https://www.kiiitv.com/article/news/local/coastal-bend-fish-supply-not-affected-after-millions-of-fish-washed-up-dead-on-the-the-coast/503-344eb5a1-7ddf-411a-be52-e85c97d9da02>
1. Chip Howard’s Sports Talk. “*Dr. Greg Stunz discusses Sportfish Center Happenings.*” March 2021.  
<http://www.chiphoward.com/AudioPlayer.aspx?type=archives&id=1050>

## 2020

14. The Zone, Austin’s Sports Talk Radio AM 1300, The Great Outdoors with Ken Milam. “*Dr. Greg Stunz on Sportfish of the Gulf of Mexico.*” November 11, 2020.
13. KSAT. “*Two Texas anglers catch same 10+ foot lemon shark on Padre Island National Seashore 1 year apart.*” September 23, 2020.  
[https://www.ksat.com/news/local/2020/09/23/two-texas-anglers-catch-same-10-foot-lemon-shark-on-padre-island-national-seashore-1-year-apart/?\\_\\_vz=medium%3Dsharebar&fbclid=IwAR09fa0jQDsQHGA8iyu8mbrJnjPrBJPCzpuHgNNv5oh0tD1r5fFkdWEajpk](https://www.ksat.com/news/local/2020/09/23/two-texas-anglers-catch-same-10-foot-lemon-shark-on-padre-island-national-seashore-1-year-apart/?__vz=medium%3Dsharebar&fbclid=IwAR09fa0jQDsQHGA8iyu8mbrJnjPrBJPCzpuHgNNv5oh0tD1r5fFkdWEajpk)
12. KZTV. “*Shark Week: Why sharks are important to our Coastal Bend waters.*” August 10, 2020.  
<https://www.kztv10.com/community/coastal-living/shark-week-why-sharks-are-important-to-our-coastal-bend-waters>

11. The Zone, Austin's Sports Talk Radio AM 1300, The Great Outdoors with Ken Milam. "*Dr. Greg Stunz on Sportfish of the Gulf of Mexico.*" August 8, 2020.
10. KRIS-TV. "*South Texas shark fishing population growing.*" June 19, 2020.  
<https://www.kristv.com/news/local-news/south-texas-shark-fishing-population-growing>
9. The Zone, Austin's Sports Talk Radio AM 1300, The Great Outdoors with Ken Milam. "*Dr. Greg Stunz on Sportfish of the Gulf of Mexico.*" May 16, 2020.
8. ThrillGeek. "*Texas Stingray officially opens at SeaWorld San Antonio.*" March 1, 2020.  
<https://thrillgeek.com/2020/03/texas-stingray-officially-opens-at-seaworld-san-antonio>
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