

# SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS AT ALABAMA WATER RALLY 2019

## CLEAN WATER COUNTS:

### The Economic Benefit of Clean Water

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#### Biological Water Training with Alabama Water Watch

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#### Sergio Ruiz Córdova

Sergio RuizCórdova is the Associate Director of Global Water Watch (GWW), a worldwide network dedicated to promote community-based, science-based watershed stewardship (CBWS) through the development of long-term, citizen volunteer water monitoring of surface waters for the improvement of water quality, water policy, and public health. He oversees the activities of GWW including the implementation of CBWS projects outside Alabama, and the development and maintenance of the database through the Auburn University Water Resources Center. His work with

AWW primarily involves data management and reporting. He works closely with citizens of all backgrounds and ages encouraging awareness about water issues and the environment, and has led hundreds of water monitoring and CBWS workshops and surveys in the U.S.A. and internationally.

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# Drinking Water Guide

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## Katherine Baer, River Network

As an environmental advocate for over 15 years, Katherine has worked for River Network, American Rivers, Triangle Land Conservancy, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, and the Center for Progressive Reform. She has led efforts to improve policies for clean and reliable water at the local, state and national levels. In her current position as Director of Science and Policy for River Network, Katherine leads efforts to strengthen the capacity of watershed groups nationwide in the areas of clean and ample water. She

coauthored the recent report *Protecting and Restoring Flows in our Southeastern Rivers* and the forthcoming *Drinking Water Guide*.

## Cindy Lowry, Alabama Rivers Alliance

Cindy is the executive director of the Alabama Rivers Alliance. She joined the staff in 2005 as Watershed Leadership Coordinator and was promoted to Executive Director in 2007.

A native of Alabama, Cindy was born and raised in Oneonta, Alabama. She received her BS degree in Wildlife Science from Auburn University and her Masters of Public Administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. The focus of her masters' thesis was citizen participation in public policy. Cindy has more than 15 years of experience in the conservation nonprofit sector. She joined the staff of the Alabama Rivers Alliance in 2005 and was promoted to executive director in 2007.



Cindy has been recognized as a “Wonderful Outstanding Woman” from the Metro Birmingham branch of the NAACP (2012), named one of the “Women Who Shape the State” by al.com (2016) and awarded an Auburn University Alumni Spirit of Sustainability Award (2017). Cindy is the former President of the Board of Directors for Alabama Arise and has been a long-time member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Locust Fork River.

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## Legislation & Collaboration

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### **Curt Chaffin, Alabama Rivers Alliance**

Curt Chaffin joined the Alabama Rivers Alliance as the Policy Director at the beginning of 2018. With a degree in Political Science from Emory University, Curt earned his J.D. from Vanderbilt University in May 2018. He has political experience with the federal government and in local and federal elections, as well as with multiple environmental organizations. A registered lobbyist, he

uses his experiences and legal training to advocate for Alabama's waters.

Curt is relatively new to Birmingham, originally growing up in the Tallapoosa River watershed near the Alabama-Georgia line. He has early memories of paddling and hiking around the Southeast, crediting those experiences for creating his deep respect for nature and his enduring desire to protect it. When he can get out from behind his desk, he explores the state's rivers and trails and enjoys photographing the countless beautiful landscapes in Alabama.



### **Brittany Winfree Stuber, Conservation Alabama**

An Alabama native, Brittany will be responsible for directing Conservation Alabama's civic engagement and philanthropic programs. She comes to Conservation Alabama by way of USA Mitchell Cancer Institute, where she served as associate director of development. Brittany has worked with a variety of nonprofits during her career, including Spring Hill College, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, CA. A graduate of Birmingham-Southern College (B.A.) and Spring Hill College (M.B.A.), Brittany is currently pursuing a master's degree in public health at George Washington University, with a concentration in health policy and environmental health. She lives in Mobile with her husband Mat and their two rescue dogs, Clyde and Harley.

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# PANEL: The Economic Benefits of Clean Water

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## John Corbin of Red Clay Brewery

John was born in Opelika where Red Clay is located but was raised locally in Daphne. John is a co-owner of Red Clay Brewing Company along with Kerry McGinnis and Stephen Harle. John is a graduate in of Faulkner State where he received a AAS in Culinary Arts and Auburn University where he received a BA in Hospitality Management. He also owns a catering company!



## Mary Halley of Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

Mary Halley is an Associate Consultant with Wood Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. She has 21 years of experience as a local government storm water policy consultant, working primarily in the southeast United States. Her work focuses primarily on MS4 permit compliance, water quality program management, and storm water program finance and strategic planning. Presently, the majority of her work is focused on the integration of LID and green infrastructure practices into local land development processes. She is assisting the City of Birmingham AL with the development of their post-construction storm water ordinance.



## Charles Hyland, MAWSS (Mobile Area Water & Sewer System)

Charles Hyland took over as Director of the Mobile Area Water and Sewer System, better known as MAWSS, in March 2013. He was no stranger to the organization having worked at MAWSS since 1988 in a variety of management positions overseeing Warehouse Operations, Customer Service, Collections / Disconnections, Meter Reading, Fleet and Facilities Management. Prior to working at MAWSS, he was an Administrator for the Mobile County Health Department.

A longtime resident of Mobile, he attended McGill Institute and earned both his undergraduate degree and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of South Alabama. He has served in leadership roles at St. Mary's School as well as other diverse community organizations including the Lebanese American Club of Mobile. He is a graduate of the American Water Works Association Utility Management Institute and the Leadership Mobile Class of 1997.

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# RESCUE YOUR RIVER OR LAKE WITH GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

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## **Beth Stewart, Cahaba River Society**

Beth Stewart, Executive Director of the Cahaba River Society (CRS) since 1995, leads the Society's work promoting water-smart growth. Raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Beth has a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture with a focus in urban and environmental planning from UC Berkeley. She worked in local government planning and development review for 15 years in Birmingham, New Orleans, Kentucky and the San Francisco Bay Area. She was the founding Executive Director of the Kentucky Waterways Alliance and is a board member with the national organization River Network, Inc., focusing on water equity, diversity and inclusion. She has been named a River Hero by the Alabama Rivers Alliance and a National River Hero by River Network and Tom's of Maine.



## **Mary Halley of Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.**

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## **Ashley Campbell, City of Daphne**

Ashley is a native of Baldwin County, Alabama. She received her Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of South Alabama. Ashley is married with 3 children and resides in Barnwell, Alabama. She is currently the City of Daphne's Environmental Programs Manager where she administers the City's ADEM Phase II MS4 Stormwater Management Program. Ashley is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control and has certification as an ICC Residential Building Inspector. She has managed multiple stream restorations projects in the impaired D'Olive Watershed. She has always had a love for nature with hobbies that include fishing and gardening.

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## THE ABCs of PFOA/PFOS

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### Michael Freeman, Auburn University

Michael has served as an Environmental Health and Safety Professional for Auburn University since 2006 where he deals with environmental compliance, response and mitigation. He grew up playing in the creeks, rivers and lakes of upstate South Carolina before serving in the US Army. Michael went back to South Carolina to work in parks and recreation, public safety and human health after finishing college at Auburn University, receiving a BS in Healthcare Administration. In 2008 Michael entered into the US Coast Guard Auxiliary as an environmental specialist working on projects related to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and later responding to issues related to Deepwater Horizon. He began to monitor waterways as an AWW Citizen Monitor in 2009 and later helped to implement the Mill Creek and Parkerson Mill Creek Watershed Management Plans as a stakeholder, monitor and volunteer organizer. Since then Michael has become very active in water quality initiatives with the Alabama Water Watch, Alabama Rivers Alliance, Mobile Baykeeper, Coosa and Apalachicola Riverkeepers along with various other water related and public service organizations. In 2014 Michael reentered into the world of competitive bass angling where he uses his talents to promote organizations that protect Alabama waterways. Michael received an award from the Auburn University Office of Sustainability in 2016 for his work in areas related to waterways and the environment. His love for the Gulf of Mexico is well known. In October of 2018 he personally led efforts to supply citizens in the panhandle of Florida with food, water and other needed items during the initial aftermath of Hurricane Michael.

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER BUDGETS

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### Mitch Reid, The Nature Conservancy of Alabama

Mitch Reid is the Director of External Affairs for The Nature Conservancy in Alabama. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and the University of Alabama School Of Law. At The Nature Conservancy, Mitch works with community partners and decision makers at all levels of government to build bridges and build consensus around TNC's conservation agenda to protect the land and water upon which all life depends. Prior to joining The Nature Conservancy in Alabama, Mitch served as the Program Director for the Alabama Rivers Alliance, a statewide network of groups working to protect and restore all of Alabama's water resources through building partnerships, empowering citizens, and advocating for sound water policy and its enforcement. Mitch is

a graduate of the international Water Diplomacy Workshop and serves on the executive committee of the Environmental Section of the Alabama State Bar and the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Environment, Energy and Resources (SEER) Water Quality and Wetlands Committee.

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## TRASH TALKIN'

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### Angela Underwood, Weeks Bay Reserve

Angela Spano Underwood is the Education Coordinator at the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and also serves as the state coordinator for the Alabama Coastal Cleanup. She completed her graduate studies and received a M.S. degree in Biological Sciences from Auburn University in December 2009. Angela's thesis focused on the interactions of white-topped pitcher plants with their insect associates. Angela is passionate about her love of nature and enjoys teaching others about the wonders and beauty of Alabama. When not working, she enjoys spending time outdoors with her two daughters as well as playing the French horn in the Baldwin Pops band.

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## THE DIRTY WATER RULE

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### Keith Johnston, Southern Environmental Law Center

Keith has years of experience with protecting our natural environment. He's worked all over the country from Alaska to DC to 'Bama. He has lent his expertise and talents to the US Forest Service, Environmental Enforcement Section, and New York State Attorney General, Environmental Protection Division. Keith opened the Birmingham office of SELC in 2010 and, along with SELC's team, is responsible for developing, implementing and leading SELC's legal

advocacy program in Alabama; serving as SELC lawyer in litigation and case-specific advocacy. That is his Big Fish.

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## CLIMATE CHANGE

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### Dr. Puneet Srivastava, Water Resources Center of Auburn University

Dr. Puneet Srivastava is the Director of the Water Resources Center at Auburn University. He is also the Butler-Cunningham Eminent Scholar in Agriculture and the Environment in the College of Agriculture and a Professor in the Biosystems Engineering Department. Dr. Srivastava received his Ph.D. degree from the Pennsylvania State University with a major in agricultural and biological engineering and a minor in computer science and engineering. At Auburn, he has been recognized for his research with seven awards, a

College of Agriculture Dean's Research Award for Senior Faculty, a College of Agriculture Dean's Research Award for Junior Faculty, and five Grantsmanship Awards. In addition, he has received the Distinguished Engineer Award from the Alabama Section of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). His research interests include climate variability (drought) and climate change impacts on water resources and agriculture; surface and groundwater quantity and quality; monitoring and modeling of hydrologic and nonpoint pollutant (nutrients and sediment) transport and transformation processes from point to regional scales; and application of geographic information and artificial neural network systems for water resources management. He is a principal or a co-principal investigator of more than \$24 million in research funding in the last 14 years. He maintains an active research program that is currently supported by a post-doc, 2 Ph.D. students, 4 M.S. students, and several undergraduate students.

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## IRRIGATION IN ALABAMA

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### **Cameron Handyside, Earth Systems Science Center at the University of Alabama at Huntsville**

Cameron Handyside received his Master's in Environmental Engineering in 2009 from, and currently works at, the University of Alabama in Huntsville. For the last 12 years, he has been researching the impacts irrigation can have on the Southeast and specifically, Alabama agriculture, economics and environment. He is currently working with a team to create the Irrigation Watershed Plans that will provide farmers with direct funding to expand sustainable irrigation in Alabama. Previously, he was appointed by the Governor of Alabama to lead the Alabama Water Agency Working Group

(AWAWG) sub-committee on water conservation efficiency and reuse. He also teaches GIS classes at the university. In 1993 Cameron received his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and spent 18 years as a structural/manufacturing engineer in the ship building and offshore platform industry.

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## #DEFENDRIVERS 101

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### Cade Kistler, Mobile Baykeeper

Cade grew up on Guntersville Lake in north Alabama. After earning his B.S. from Auburn University he took a position with the U.S. Forest Service as a wilderness restoration intern in Washington; however, sweet home Alabama called and Cade returned to work on his M.S. at Auburn University. He has completed all coursework and will receive his M.S. upon completion of his thesis. After getting married he followed his wife to her home in Baldwin County and has been exploring the treasures of the Gulf coast since. In his spare time Cade likes to kayak and bike with his wife and snow ski whenever he can. Cade is thrilled to have the opportunity to work for the citizens of the Alabama Gulf coast and preserve the environment of this majestic area.

As Program Director, Cade works to make sure that projects Mobile Baykeeper engages in fit the vision and strategic plan of the organization. He is responsible for determining how and when to engage in policy matters to ensure responsible growth throughout the area. Cade manages Mobile Baykeeper's activities in protecting our waterways and communities from pollution resulting from infrastructure issues such as sewage overflows, construction stormwater, and industrial pollution. With assistance from the Program Coordinator and Education and Outreach Coordinator and guidance of the Executive Director and Board of Directors he designs and implements new programs to educate and engage citizens on environmental issues. He also oversees work related to citizen concerns on environmental issues.

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## RIVERS, TREES AND SOIL: THE ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF WHOLE ECOSYSTEMS

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### Alan Booker, Eldenbridge Institute

Alan is the founder of the Eldenbridge Institute and currently acts as its Executive Director and Lead Instructor.

After completing his B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1990, Alan began working as a Systems Engineer and Systems Architect in the fields of computer systems and digital telecommunications. He has over 25 years' experience in designing and building large-scale systems across a wide range of technologies, including computer architecture, digital telecommunications, networking, and cloud computing infrastructure.

As Alan became more interested in sustainable design in the late 1990's, he began researching areas such as Permaculture, tracking and wilderness survival, health and nutrition, and technologies for creating healthy cultures.

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## LIGHTEN THE LOAD: THE PROBLEM WITH NUTRIENT LOADING

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### **Matt Rota, Healthy Gulf**



Matt is the Senior Policy Director for Healthy Gulf. Through his work with Healthy Gulf, he advocates for healthy waters throughout the Gulf of Mexico region. He also works with Mississippi River Basin organizations to promote policies that will reduce the Dead Zone-causing pollution flowing to the Gulf of Mexico. Matt currently focuses on water pollution issues in Louisiana, the Mississippi River, and the Gulf of Mexico, working to ensure adequate policies regarding the BP oil drilling disaster, wetlands, water quality, and nitrogen and phosphorus pollution are adopted and implemented in order to protect and restore waters of the Gulf of Mexico region. He has given numerous presentations on water pollution issues including the Dead Zone, sewage pollution, wetlands, and the BP Oil Drilling Disaster, at professional and technical conferences throughout the country. He earned his B.S. in Ecology, Evolutionary, and Organismal Biology from Tulane University and his Masters of Earth and Environmental Resources Management from the University of South Carolina.

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## THE TRUE COST OF COAL ASH

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## PUBLIC SPEAKING BASICS: HOW TO OVERCOME YOUR FEAR AND BE HEARD

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### Sam Norton, ARA Junior Board

SAM NORTON is a new member of the Alabama Rivers Alliance Junior Board and is currently an instructor at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). A native of Birmingham, Sam earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa before completing a Master's of Public Policy at Georgetown University. Sam's professional credentials prior to FEMA and ARA include teaching undergraduates at the University of Alabama, teaching English as a foreign language in Yemen, working at Peace Corps headquarters in Washington, DC, and serving as administrative officer at the Peace Corps post in Bamako, Mali. When he's not working, Sam can be found spending time with his wife and son, gardening and doing home improvement around his Jacksonville, AL house, and exploring Alabama's waterways and trails.

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

### ALABAMA'S WATER ECONOMY AND THE GROWING RIVER VOICE

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#### Dr. Bill Deutsch

Dr. Bill Deutsch is a Research Fellow Emeritus in the School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences at Auburn University. He is a founding director of Alabama Water Watch, a community-based volunteer water monitoring program that began in 1992 and has certified 8,000 citizens who have monitored water at more than 2,400 sites on 900 waterbodies statewide. Based on 30 years of traveling around Alabama, studying rivers, and interacting with river-loving folks, he recently published the book, *Alabama Rivers, A Celebration and Challenge*.

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## BIO BLITZ!

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#### Sierra Hulseley Stiles

Sierra Hulseley Stiles is an Alabama native, and life-long nature lover. She was born in Birmingham and earned her Bachelor of Science degree at UAB. She has spent years researching wildlife all over Alabama. She studied biology at Auburn University where she earned a master's degree working on the reintroduction of a federally threatened species, the Eastern Indigo Snake. Sierra recently finished a second master's degree in Science Education. She cannot imagine a world without rivers.

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## ONE SIZE DOESN'T FIT ALL

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### Cindy Lowry, Alabama Rivers Alliance

Cindy is the executive director of the Alabama Rivers Alliance. She joined the staff in 2005 as Watershed Leadership Coordinator and was promoted to Executive Director in 2007.

A native of Alabama, Cindy was born and raised in Oneonta, Alabama. She received her BS degree in Wildlife Science from Auburn University and her Masters of Public Administration from the

University of Alabama at Birmingham. The focus of her masters' thesis was citizen participation in public policy. Cindy has more than 15 years of experience in the conservation nonprofit sector. She joined the staff of the Alabama Rivers Alliance in 2005 and was promoted to executive director in 2007.

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## STREAM BEAM

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### Gaylon Partain, Stream Beam

Gaylon Partain is an avid outdoor enthusiast with a love for whitewater kayaking and technical projects that provide a benefit to the outdoor recreation community. He is one of the founding members and software/hardware solution developers at StreamBeam, a non profit river gauging organization. He is also the operator of alabamawhitewater.com a valuable resource to the paddling community. He resides in Decatur, Alabama with his wife Michelle and their two beautiful daughters.

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## WHAT IS A SCENIC RIVER TRAIL?

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### Fred Couch, Alabama Scenic River Trail

Founder of ASRT - Alabama Scenic River Trail - Longest River Trail in one state - 650 miles ASRT is a National Recreation Trail; and National Water Trail (of just 21 USA's 3,000 waterways) Awarded by 3 Alabama Governors for Citizenship activities Former State VP and Humanitarian Chairman - Alabama JayCees Instigated MainStreet program in Anniston = over \$6 million in investments Berman Museum with its invaluable collection established via his leadership

Senior Citizen 6 story apartments built in Anniston from his initiative Safety Signs installed at Little River Canyon under his tutelage changed lives lost from 6/year to less than 1 every 6 years Former Jewelry store President, AGS Registered Jeweler, Appraiser for 30 years 25 years volunteer taught beginner canoe and some kayak - 6 years for JSU Has canoed over 100 waterways in the USA - up to Class 6 difficulty Past President Anniston Morning Rotary Club - increased membership 300% Sitting next to him you will become even more active (say his friends) Has traveled in 50 countries - several via backpacking - lived in Antarctica 6 months Lifetime Member Tennessee Scenic River Trail paddle club, Georgia Canoe Association Current Board of Camp Lee Christian camp, First United Methodist Church Board Blessed with Lovely very intellectual wife, 2 smart daughters and 4 great grandkids Low key, quiet leadership (for 60 years) has inspired others to excel Listens to, learns from others

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## LITTER GITTER

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### Don Bates, Litter Gitter

Don Bates, B.S. Geology-1992, has worked in the environmental and natural sciences field for 27 years, the last 18 with Thompson Engineering. Additionally, he has created Osprey Initiative, LLC, a boutique environmental services firm, specializing in unique approaches to litter reduction in waterways. Don is married to Greta Bates and has 4 children - Jack (19), Madison (16), Meredith (11) and Amelia (11). They live in Fairhope, Alabama. If not at the office, he can usually be found waist deep in a swamp, creek or ditch somewhere.

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## PADDLING FOR CLEAN WATER

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### Margo Pellegrino, Blue Frontier Campaign

Margo Pellegrino is a stay-at-home mother who does a lousy job of staying at home. Fortunately she has a very supportive husband, two patient kids, and a very saintly mother making up her home support team. Since 2007 she has paddled her outrigger canoe along the coasts of the US in partnership with various local and national environmental nonprofits and is currently a project of Blue Frontier Campaign. The goal of all of her paddles has been to educate as many people as possible, via traditional and social media, about the problems facing our ocean and to connect them with the local groups and organizations she meets along the way. She also highlights easy things the individual can do to help our waterways, water, and ocean. Margo has a BA from Rutgers University and lives in Medford Lakes, which is in the Rancocas Watershed of NJ, with her two children, Billy and Julia, and her ever patient husband, Carl.

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## TOO LITTLE TIME, TOO LITTLE MONEY

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### Curt Chaffin, Alabama Rivers Alliance

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### Justinn Overton, Coosa Riverkeeper

Justinn has a deep family connection to the Coosa Valley and has always loved playing outside as much as possible. She's proud to work to restore and protect the Coosa. Growing up in the Coosa Valley, Justinn spent time fishing and exploring the banks of the river with her parents and learned how to bait her own hook on Logan Martin Lake. Years later, she got married at Alabama 4-H Center on Lay Lake. As the Executive Director, she ensures Coosa Riverkeeper has the resources needed to fight for swimmable, drinkable, and fishable water. She also coordinates many other aspects of our organization such

as membership, capacity building, special events, and outreach. She provides direction to our staff, volunteers, and robust internship programs with local universities. In 2015, Justinn was one of four women highlighted by Southern Living as "Women of Worth," a short list of women who are dedicated to improving the lives of Southerners in need. Click [here](#) to see the article. In 2017, Justinn was featured in the Voices for Clean Air campaign highlighting her love of water, yoga, and environmental justice. Justinn is happiest when she's outside- swimming, canoeing, hiking, practicing yoga, or camping- with her husband, Spence, and their dog Stella Blue.

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## PLENARY: BUILDING YOUR BENCH

*presented by the Alabama Rivers Alliance Junior Board*

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### **Felicia Buck, Alabama Environmental Council**

Felicia Buck is the Executive Director of Alabama Environmental Council. Born and raised in Alabama with an appreciation for nature and health, she always knew that she wanted her life's work to make a difference by protecting our beautiful and biodiverse state. In her early twenties she owned three small businesses where she gained valuable work experience as an entrepreneur. She graduated with a bachelor's degree of science in 2016 from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) with an Individually Designed Major in Sustainability where she combined classes from various departments such as environmental engineering, public health, political science, and business. She serves on UAB's College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Board and U.S. Greenbuilding Council's Leadership Advisory Board. In addition, she is a member of the National Association of Women in Construction, Alabama Fundraising Professionals and this spring will be installed as a Birmingham Chapter member of Executive Women International. Felicia and her

husband have two sons: Blake and Bryant.



### **Direcus Cooper, City of Birmingham**

Mr. Direcus Cooper serves as a Storm Water Specialist in the Stormwater Division of Planning, Urban Design, and Watershed Management department for the City of Birmingham. In that capacity, he is responsible for the development and execution of the stormwater education and water quality programs. He also assists with the delivery of development services, capital improvement programming services, watershed planning services, and public outreach activities related to the protection of the City's five principal watershed basins. Mr. Cooper started his career as an environmental scientist intern with the Tennessee Valley Authority. Prior to his current position with the City of Birmingham, he served as Co-Op

Environmental Engineer with SCA Tissue Americas. Mr. Cooper holds an A.S. in Environmental Science from Shoals Community College, a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Auburn University, and an M.S. in Occupational Health and Safety/Environmental Management from Columbia Southern University. Mr. Cooper is currently enrolled a dual degree between the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Stratford University, UK, where he will receive a M.S. in Sustainable Smart Cities from both Universities.



## **Dawn Lee, Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

Dawn C. Lee is the Education Activities Specialist for the Birmingham Botanical Gardens. She is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (B.A. Art History) and The George Washington University (M.A.T. Museum Education) Dawn began her career of service by volunteering with the Birmingham Museum of Art followed by internships with The Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center and The National Museum of African American History and Culture. She is a supporter of the Humanities as well as environmental stewardship.



## **Karli Riley, Coosa Riverkeeper**

Karli is the Program Manager for Coosa Riverkeeper. As the Program Manager, she is responsible for the successful implementation of the Swim Guide, Fish Guide, and Education and Outreach Initiatives. In 2017, Karli received her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science with a Chemistry Concentration and a minor in Business Administration from Berry College in Rome, Georgia on the Coosa River.