

Member at Large: My name is Mark D'Ercole and I'm currently a student at the University of Georgia. In 2012, after receiving my bachelor's degree, I lucked into a position in my hometown working with sturgeon as a technician for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Along with working on other projects, I spent two years capturing and tagging the then only recently federally listed Atlantic sturgeon. I relocated to Charleston, SC in 2014 and worked first as a technician, then as a biologist for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. I spent much of my five years there on the Great Pee Dee River, implementing a long-term telemetry study monitoring adult Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. Despite my love for the job and for South Carolina, in 2019 I again decided to move on, this time to eventually pursue a graduate degree at the University of Georgia. I am once again lucky enough to be doing sturgeon research. My research while here is focused on potential fall spawning and recruitment of gulf sturgeon and how they relate to seasonal flows in the Apalachicola River, FL.

