Announcing the 39th Annual Meeting of The Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists
September 17-18, 2026

We are excited to announce the 39th Annual Meeting of the Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists. The meeting will be held in-person at the Orlando Wetlands Education Center in Christmas, FL, at 25155 Wheeler Road, Christmas, FL 32709.

Call for Presentations

Oral Presentations and Posters

We welcome oral presentations and posters on any topic pertaining to aquatic animals or plants and their taxonomy, systematics, ecology, biogeography, physiology, behavior, or other topics related to aquatic habitats, communities or populations. Presentations or posters on methodology or experimental design are also appropriate and welcome. Submittals from students are particularly encouraged and as an incentive, students who deliver an oral presentation or poster will have their meeting registration fee waived. Two oral presentation formats are available—long-format 15–20 minute presentations and brief "Three Minutes, Three Slides" presentations. Long-format presentations are designed for in-depth presentations on more complex topics. Short-format presentations are designed to encapsulate interesting brief findings, taxonomic updates, exploratory data summaries, or any other relevant topic that does not merit a longer-presentation format. Three slides is a general recommendation for presentation format, however, time will be strictly restricted to three minutes total. In the event of a high volume of long-format presentation abstract submissions, presenters may be offered a short-format presentation slot. Annual meeting information is on the FAB website: https://www.floridaaquaticbiologists.org/events.html

Please submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations by August 21, 2026. Abstracts for papers and posters should be submitted digitally (in Microsoft WORD format) via email to FAB President, Matt Scripter, at president@floridaaquaticbiologists.org. Abstracts should be no more than one printed page in length; please use Calibri (body) 11-point font.

Abstract format:

Title
Presentation format: poster, long-form or short-form oral presentation
Author(s) [If more than one author, please indicate presenting author with an asterisk (*).]
Affiliation(s)
Body of abstract

Student Presentation Awards

FAB provides a relaxed, yet professional, opportunity for students to acquire presentation experience and expand their resumes. Registration fees will be waived for all student presenters. Please indicate with your abstract submission that you wish to be considered for a student award, and whether you plan to give an oral presentation or a poster.

The following student presentation awards are available:

- Best Oral Presentation for a Graduate Student - $200
- Best Oral Presentation for an Undergraduate Student - $200
- Best Poster Presentation - $100

Student Travel Awards

FAB offers travel awards for students attending annual meetings and taxonomy workshops. Awards will be given based on the applicant's distance in relation to the event location and responses to the questions on the application. Awards in the amount of $250 are available for the annual meeting. The application deadline is **August 21, 2026**. For more details and to apply, please click here.

Registration

You must register to attend the Annual Meeting and online registration is preferred. To register online, please click here. Registration fees are $70.00 for current FAB members, $125.00 for non-members, $35.00 for student members, and $45.00 for non-member students. **Student presenters have the registration fee waived**, but please fill out and submit the registration form on our website so that we have your contact information. You can pay with a credit card on our website or fill out the registration form on our website and then mail a check (made payable to FAB) to the following address: *Scott Duncan, FAB Treasurer, 395 Needle Boulevard, Merritt Island, FL 32953.* You can also pay for registration at the door with cash, check or credit card.

If you have not paid your membership dues for 2026, you may add your membership dues to your cart in addition to your meeting registration. If you need to check on your membership status, please email Carrie Scarola: memberships@floridaaquaticbiologists.org.

Annual Business Meeting of the Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists

The Annual Business Meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday afternoon September 17, 2026. This meeting is important for FAB as an organization and your participation is highly recommended and encouraged.

Hotels

Lodging is most convenient at the Titusville I-95 and S.R.50 interchange where nine hotels offer a range of quality lodging opportunities. These hotels are less than 14 miles from the meeting venue and the drive time is 18 minutes. This location offers excellent access to the Space Center, Black Point Wildlife Drive, and the pristine beaches of the Canaveral National Seashore. Alternatively, lodging west on S.R.50 is primarily around the North Alafaya Trail or 408 intersections. These hotels offer similar price options, but greater dining options for only a modest increase in time and distance from the venue (~16 miles and 24 minutes).

Optional Activities

The Orlando Wetlands Park offers guided tram tours of the wetlands for birdwatching and learning about this world-class constructed wetland designed to remove nutrients from wastewater before it flows into

the St. Johns River. Airboat tours of the St. Johns River are available at Airboat Rides at Midway (9 miles southeast of the Orlando Wetlands); if interest is high enough, a group tour can be arranged for Friday afternoon at the conclusion of the meeting. Jungle Adventures in Christmas, FL is a local animal park that exhibits a Florida panther, small exotic cats, deer, and other tropical animals, in addition to offering alligator feeding demonstrations and a guide-driven boat through the animal park. Fort Christmas Historical Park just outside of the Orlando Wetlands offers a look at settler life in Florida's pioneer era. The Kennedy Space Center is just minutes east of Titusville and well-worth extending your stay for the weekend.

Questions regarding the Annual Meeting?

Please contact:

Matt Scripter, President
Florida Association of Aquatic Biologists
president@floridaaquaticbiologists.org or matts@ecological-associates.com