



## Southeast Coast Network News May 2019

<https://www.nps.gov/im/secn/index.htm>



### Starkey, McDonald attend Water Resources Conference

Southeast Coast Network Aquatic Ecologist Eric Starkey and network Fluvial Geomorphologist Jacob McDonald gave presentations at the biennial Georgia Water Resources Conference held April 16–17 at the University of Georgia.

Eric gave a short presentation entitled "Multiscale Assessment of Estuarine Water and Sediment Quality" that included an overview of the SECN's water-quality monitoring program and highlighted results at [Cumberland Island National Seashore](#) from 2007 to 2017.

Jacob presented "Knickpoints, Undercuts and Slumps: Stream Habitat Monitoring at Chattahoochee National Recreation Area" which focused on the geomorphic surfaces and landforms observed on the monitored reaches at the park in suburban Atlanta. The presence or absence of these surfaces and landforms were interpreted within the theoretical framework of channel evolution. Jacob added that while a stream may now be classified as stable (in stage 4 or 5), headward migration of knickpoints (especially in the smaller tributaries) may cause significant changes and greatly increase sediment yield as the stream equilibrates to a new base level.

The goal of the conference, which started in 1989, is to provide an open forum for the discussion of current water policies, research, projects and water management in Georgia.



Kelsey Mack, above, will join the Southeast Coast Network later this month as a coastal monitoring intern, duty stationed at the network office in Jacksonville, Florida. NPS photo / SECN

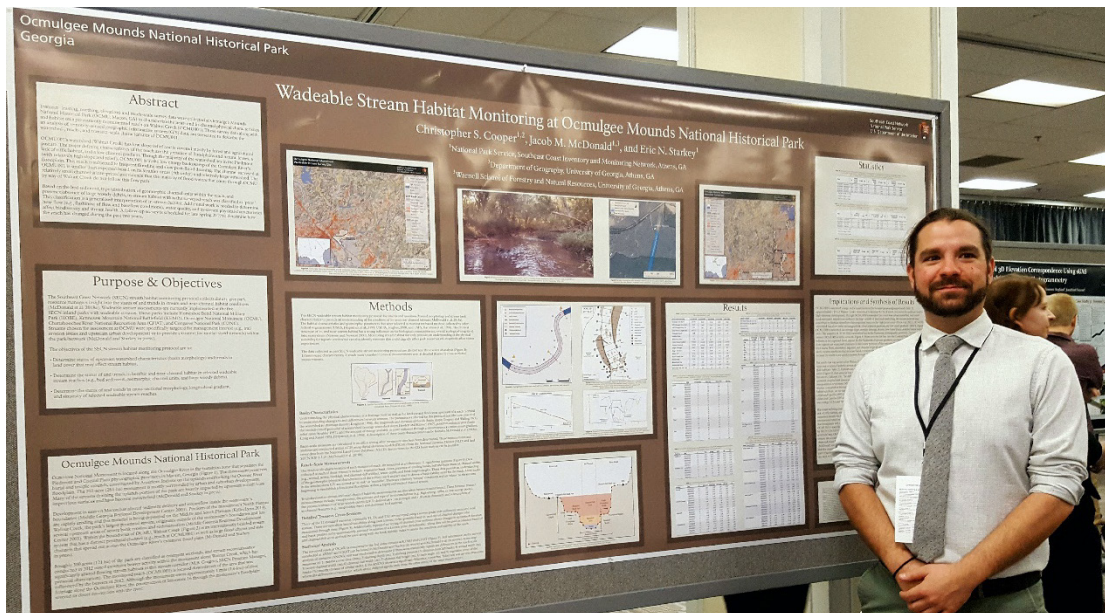
## Kelsey Joins the Coastal Team

Kelsey Mack recently joined the Southeast Coast Network as the seasonal coastal monitoring intern. Her main focus will be working on the shoreline monitoring project which will involve the processing, analysis, and creation of shoreline reports for the parks. Kelsey will also assist in installing benchmarks and leading the benchmark survey effort, which is the final part of the shoreline project development. Kelsey will be duty stationed at the network field office located at [Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve](#). Kelsey is originally from the Columbus, Ohio area, and graduated in 2017 with a B.S. in Biology and Minor in Marine Science from Wittenberg University. Her experience includes studying at the Duke University Marine Lab and working as an Environmental Research Intern for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, where she was involved in monitoring the health and restoration of mangrove forests. Please contact Lisa Cowart Baron, SECN coastal ecologist, with any upcoming events or opportunities that would expand Kelsey's experience.

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## Network Presentations at American Association of Geographers Meeting

The Southeast Coast Network was represented at the 2019 American Association of Geographers meeting held last month in Washington, D.C. Fluvial Geomorphologist Jacob McDonald and Graduate Assistant Stephen Cooper gave presentations at the annual conference. Jake's presented his paper, "Variable-ity in Power to Detect Change," during the Fluvial Forms and Processes I session. This study analyzed the results of 66 stream surveys to determine whether there is sufficient statistical power to detect changing conditions in these studies. Stephen presented his poster "Wadeable Stream Habitat Monitoring at Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park" during the Remote Sensing and UAS poster session and highlighted the network's approach to stream habitat monitoring.



Stephen Cooper presents his poster, "Wadeable Stream Habitat Monitoring at Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park," at the AAG meeting in Washington, D.C. NPS photo / SECN



Fluvial geomorphologist Jake McDonald, left, and hydrologic technician Daniel McCay, right, check out a total station during wadeable stream habitat and suitability survey at Horseshoe Bend Military Park on April 23. NPS photo / Eric Starkey

## In the Field

### Upcoming in May:

- Wadeable stream habitat surveys are scheduled for [Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park](#) through May 2 and [Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park](#) May 8–10.

**Completed in April:**

- Spring shoreline surveys were completed at [Cape Hatteras National Seashore](#), [Fort Matanzas National Monument](#), [Cumberland Island National Seashore](#) and [Canaveral National Seashore](#).
- Stream temperature monitoring probes were installed at [Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area](#), and [Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park](#) as part of a Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) research project.
- Water quality data was collected at [Congaree National Park](#), [Fort Pulaski National Monument](#), [Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve](#), [Canaveral National Seashore](#) and [Cumberland Island National Seashore](#).
- A wadeable stream habitat and suitability survey was conducted at [Horseshoe Bend National Military Park](#).

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**For More About the SECN:** <https://www.nps.gov/im/secn/index.htm>