

# New River Symposium 2024

APRIL 11-12, 2024 • RADFORD UNIVERSITY  
STUDENT RECREATION & WELLNESS CENTER



## RIVERS<sup>3</sup>

RECONNECT | RESTORE | RECREATE  
SYMPOSIUM 2024



New River Conservancy

## Program & Schedule

## Keynote Speakers – Walleye Room

**THURSDAY 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

***Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Radford University President, is ensuring that the transformative benefits of higher education are readily accessible to the diverse populations served by Radford University.***

**FRIDAY 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM**

***Chief Jamie Poteat Harris, of the New River Catawba Nation As Chief, Harris serves as the contact person between the Tribe and both Federal and State agencies. She oversees all Tribe activities and is the “face” of the New River Catawba Nation at all public functions.***

## Panel Discussions – Walleye Room

**THURSDAY 1:30 PM - 2:00 PM**

### ***New River Water Trail Expansion Project***

Kathleen Armstrong, Regional Planner, NRV Regional Commission  
Cora Gnegy, Giles County Tourism Director  
Chris McKlarney, Giles County Administrator

This session will explore the initial and ongoing local planning efforts which are crucial to the success of the current regional Water Trail expansion and implementation.

**FRIDAY 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM**

### ***What’s New on the New?***

Tracy Minton, Park Superintendent New River State Park  
Sam Sweeney, Park Manager, New River Trail State Parks  
Eve West, Chief of Interpretation & Education, New River Gorge National Park

This session will provide an opportunity for the conference attendees to compare and contrast how the different land agencies are managing their land. The presenters from state and federal parks will discuss current and anticipated challenges and what that means for the long-term management of their lands.

# Schedule at a Glance

## **THURSDAY**

9:45 AM - 12:00 PM • Field Trip • Ingles Ferry Tavern

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM • Registration

1:00 PM • Opening Session • Walleye Room

Panel Discussion • *"New River Water Trail"*

2:10 PM - 3:50 PM • Presentations • Darter & Salamander Rooms

4:00 PM - 5:20 PM • Poster Sessions • Walleye Room & Halls

6:30 PM • Reception • Highlander Hotel

## **FRIDAY • AM SESSION**

8:00 - 8:50 AM • Breakfast • Walleye Room

9:00 - 10:00 AM • Chief Jamie Harris, Keynote • Walleye Room

10:00 - 10:20 AM - BREAK

10:20 AM - 12:00 PM • Presentations • Darter & Salamander Rooms

## **FRIDAY • PM SESSION**

12:00 - 1:00 PM • Lunch • Walleye Room

Panel Discussion • *"Parks in the Watershed"*

1:10 PM - 2:10 PM • Presentations • Darter & Salamander Rooms

2:20 PM - 3:40 PM • Presentations • Darter & Salamander Rooms

**CLOSING REMARKS 3:45 - 4:00 PM WALLEYE ROOM**

# Presentation Schedule

**THURSDAY 2:10 PM - 3:50 PM • Concurrent**

**Darter Room    *Reconnect: Wildlife***

Crayfishes of the New River Watershed  
and Factors Affecting Their Distributions

Joshua Mouser

Effects of non-native crayfish invasions  
in the New River Valley

Bryan L. Brown

Development and Application of a Multiscale  
Model of Habitat Suitability for Candy Darter

Mariana Castaneda-Guzman

Status of an Undescribed Endemic Sculpin  
in the New River Drainage, Virginia

Mike Pinder

Qualitative Analysis of Mussel Populations  
in the New, Bluestone and Gauley Rivers

Price Sewell

**Salamander Room    *Restore: Community***

Public/Private Urban Stormwater Management:  
Crab Creek Beautification Project

Patricia Colatosti

Plant SWVA Natives: A Guide to Gardening  
with Native Plants from Southwest Virginia

Nicole Hersch

Wild Edibles of the New River Valley

Jesse Kelly

Learning to be a Good Relative to Land  
Through Foodways

Mae Hey

# Presentation Schedule

**FRIDAY**      **10:20 AM - 12:00 PM • Concurrent**

**Darter Room**      ***Recreate: Activities***

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| The Water and Lands Recreation<br>Opportunity Spectrum Along the New River | Joshua Carroll        |
| Using the New River in our Backyard for<br>Research in our Classrooms      | Kristina Stefaniak    |
| The Art of Sustainability  | Brooke Love           |
| Bikepacking the New River Trail  | Anja Whittington      |
| A Little Fat Boy Growing Up on New River                                   | Charles Harmon Lytton |

**Salamander Room**      ***Restore: Cleanups***

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Reducing Litter in our Waterways   | John Pence    |
| Trapping the Trash: Intercepting Floating<br>Litter on New River Tributaries   | Luke Stevens  |
| August is Clean River Month in<br>Grayson County   | Keith Andrews |
| Rural Resilience: Friends of Peak Creek and<br>the Reliance on Grassroots Conservation<br>Groups in Fostering Environmental<br>Stewardship Throughout the Headwaters of<br>the New River | John Crockett |
| New River Scenic Views: You Don't<br>Know What You've Got Till it's Gone   | Lynn Crump    |

# Presentation Schedule

**FRIDAY**            **1:10 PM - 2:10 PM • Concurrent**

**Darter Room**    ***Reconnect: Mountain Valley Pipeline***

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC's Assault on  
the Headwaters of the New River

Donna Pitt

Sediment Pollution in Sinking Creek  
from MVP activities

Jonathan Czuba

Sinking Creek, Giles County, Virginia: A  
significant karst system under environmental  
threat

Ernst H. Kastning

**Salamander Room**    ***Reconnect: Water Quality and Stewardship***

Making Bank on the Bank: Finding Value in  
Appalachia's Riparian Buffers

Joey Aloï

Realizing a Dream: Linking Sustainable  
Enterprise Development with Sound Forest  
Management – the Case for Black Walnut Syrup

Tom Hammett

# Presentation Schedule

**FRIDAY**                    **2:20 PM - 3:40 PM • Concurrent**

**Darter Room**    ***Reconnect: Technology and Ground Truth***

Linking Streamflow Trends with Land Cover Change in a Southern US Water Tower                    Alexander Miele

Using Deep Learning to Detect Land Cover Change and Correlate with Water Quality for the New River                    Andrew Foy

The state of Global Rivers and Lakes: Monitoring Surface Water Resources from Space                    George Allen

Estimation of Light Availability on River Water Surfaces using Remote Sensing and Geospatial Data                    Yohtaro Kobayashi

**Salamander Room**    ***Reconnect: Perspectives***

New Relationships: New Problems                    Cameron Lockett

Chasing Bugs not Balls                    Stella Cybulski

Wilderness and (the Coddling Of) the American Mind: Can we Recreate Responsibly?                    Benjamin Erlandson,

Borne by the River                    Rick Van Noy

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**Program Committee Chair** ~ Christine Blackwelder

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New River Conservancy