

## CHRISTOPHER M. HORTON

### EDUCATION

University of Arizona

**M.S. Fisheries Science**

1997

Thesis: "Possible Limiting Factors for a Sustainable Crappie Fishery in the Salt River Chain of Reservoirs, Arizona"

Henderson State University

**B.S. in Biology**

1995

HSU Honors Graduate

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation

**Midwestern States Director/Fisheries Program Director**

September 2010 – Present

Work with the established state sportsmen's caucuses in the Midwest region by providing information on specific legislation or issues of interest; assist in management and infrastructure development within the caucuses to increase efficiency and effectiveness; identifying and engage potential legislative leaders to grow the NASC program in states missing from the NASC network, and serve as point of contact for inquiries from legislators/conservation organizations interested in establishing a state caucus; serve as a liaison for the Midwestern regional members of the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus, and identify and engage potential members from states not currently represented in the GSC; assist the caucuses and governors with identifying and addressing priority issues; provide comments on behalf of CSF to federal policy proposals in the 16-state region; serve as CSF's primary point of contact on fisheries-related issues nationally; develop comments and respond to federal fisheries administrative policy proposals; represent CSF's interests with fishing industry and NGO organizations, congressional staff, federal agencies and through serving on the appropriate boards and committees; develop CSF newsletter, press release and website content relevant to the Foundation's engagement on fisheries issues.

Bass Angler's Sportsmen Society (B.A.S.S.)

**Conservation Director**

December 2007 – August 2010

Served as the company's point of contact on aquatic resource conservation issues; represented B.A.S.S. on several national boards and committees; represented B.A.S.S.'s 500,000 members on Capitol Hill, the White House, federal and state agencies and with state legislators; wrote a bi-monthly column for BASS Times magazine; feature articles for Bassmaster.com and assisted with ESPN Outdoors saltwater angling content; oversaw the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation program consisting of 20,000 volunteer members of B.A.S.S.

Bass Angler's Sportsmen Society (B.A.S.S.)

**Associate Director of Conservation**

May 2003 – November 2007

Served as the company's fisheries biologist, assisting with tournament fish care and fish health issues; worked with state and federal agencies on regulatory proposals and aquatic habitat projects; assisted the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation volunteers with advocacy efforts, habitat conservation projects and tournament-caught fish survival; produced a bi-monthly column for BASS Times.

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

**Black Bass Biologist**

**April 2001 – April 2003**

Assisted district fisheries biologists with *Micropterus* species research needs; evaluated the genetic feasibility and growth characteristics of Florida-strain largemouth bass around the state; used modeling software to analyze the effectiveness of various harvest restrictions as management tools for district biologists; served as the agency's point of contact for the largemouth bass virus; tracked the incidence of occurrence and determined/predicted potential population level impacts; assisted bass tournament organizations with fish care and improving live-release techniques; administered the Arkansas Tournament Information Program.

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

**Reservoir Research Biologist**

**August 1998 – March 2001**

Assisted district fisheries biologists with research needs specific to game fish management around the state; developed and implemented various habitat enhancement projects for impounded waters; served as the agency representative on Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hydropower relicensing projects; worked with the US Army Corps of Engineers on rule curve development and alterations to benefit fish production, both in the impoundments and in the tailwaters.

**AWARDS**

Conservationist of the Year, <i>Professional Anglers Association</i>	2008
Bronze: Best Column, <i>Florida Magazine Association</i> (Publications with over 100,000 subscribers)	2010

**APPOINTMENTS**

<i>United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization</i> Part of a five-member United States delegation to develop a recreational fishing code of practice	2007
<i>National Fish Habitat Board</i> Appointed by state fish and wildlife agency directors	2007 - 2014
<i>University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation Advisory Board</i> Appointed by the University	2008 - 2010
<i>Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council</i> Federal Advisory Committee appointed by the Secretary of Interior to represent recreational anglers	2009 - 2010
<i>Recreational Fisheries Working Group of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee</i> Subcommittee of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee of the Secretary of Commerce	2013 - 2015

**OTHER RELEVANT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

American Sportfishing Association Government Affairs Committee  
Asian Carp Task Force  
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies - Fisheries and Water Resources Committee  
Black Bass Management Plan Technical Committee - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Center for Coastal Conservation Government Affairs Committee  
Future Fisherman Foundation Board of Directors  
Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper IFQ Review Ad Hoc Advisory Panel  
Reservoir Fish Habitat Partnership Executive Committee  
Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society Reservoir Committee  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fisheries Program Review Team

#### NOTABLE PRESENTATIONS

NOAA Fisheries 2014 Marine Recreational Fishing Summit  
Closing Panel Speaker (2014)

U.S. House of Representatives - Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs  
Testified on data collection issues of the National Marine Fisheries Service and problems with the Magnuson-Stevens Act (2013)

North American Wildlife Conference – Reservoir Symposium  
Closing speaker (2009)

EPA/North American Lake Management Society/AFS Fisheries Administrators Section Joint Conference  
Keynote speaker – “Building Partnerships for Quality Lakes” (2008)

University of Florida – Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences  
Guest lecturer – “Bass, Politics and The Other Side of Natural Resource Management” (2005)

American Fisheries Society  
“Reducing Tournament Mortality: A Common Goal” (2004)

Southern Division American Fisheries Society  
“Are Harvest Restrictions Promoting Catch and Release?” (2003)