



## Who Are We?

Minorities in Natural Resources Conservation (MINRC) was established in 2012 by the Directors of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA). The mission of the MINRC subcommittee is to assist SEAFWA member agencies and federal natural resource conservation agencies in the Southeastern U.S. in efforts to enhance the overall representation of minorities and women in professional occupations within the field of natural resource conservation.

The MINRC Subcommittee consists of representatives from each SEAFWA member agency member organizations (state/federal/academia), natural resource administrators and managers, career professionals, human resource coordinators, students, and others interested in workplace diversity issues and opportunities for women and ethnic minorities in the fields of natural resources conservation and management. The SEAFWA agency states are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands.

MINRC is actively seeking minority students to participate in the annual SEAFWA conference. Each fall conference provides a forum for the presentation of information and exchange of ideas regarding the management and protection of fish and wildlife resources throughout the nation but with emphasis on the southeast. Representatives from state and federal agencies, citizen's organizations, universities, and private wildlife research groups present their latest findings relative to resource management, both through scientific research and actual case histories. Fisheries and wildlife scientists present peer-reviewed papers at their respective sessions, agency enforcement personnel exchange information on tactics and mutual problems, agency attorneys discuss the latest developments in wildlife law and other pertinent legal issues, and information and education personnel address relative communication, marketing, and public relations matters. The conference provides a well-balanced exchange of ideas and information of significant benefit to the conservation community in its efforts to manage fish and wildlife resources. As a MINRC award winner students will also meet with conservation professionals and attend student workshops that will provide valuable career development information. Students will participate in roundtable discussions to share information on selected topics relevant to seeking employment in the natural resource field. A keynote speaker will motivate the students to continue their quest to reach their goals. There will also be opportunities for students to speak with professionals regarding employment prospects. For more information about the conference, go to <http://www.seafwa.org/conference/> and for information on how to apply visit for the MINRC student stipend to attend the conference visit [www.MINRC.org](http://www.MINRC.org).

## MINRC Committee Officers

**David Buggs**  
**Chairman**

Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744  
512-389-8595 office  
[david.buggs@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:david.buggs@tpwd.texas.gov)

**Maurice Jackson**  
**Vice-Chairman**

Family & Community Fishing  
Program Coordinator  
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
2 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205  
501 978-7301  
[Maurice.Jackson@agfc.ar.gov](mailto:Maurice.Jackson@agfc.ar.gov)

**Betty J. Bryant**  
**Student Coordinator**  
**Past Chairman**

Assistant Personnel Manager  
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
2 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501 223-6443  
[betty.bryant@agfc.ar.gov](mailto:betty.bryant@agfc.ar.gov)

**Mercedes Bartkovich**  
**Secretary**

Nongame Wildlife Biologist  
Alabama Department of Conservation and  
Natural Resources  
Division of Wildlife and Freshwater  
Fisheries  
64 North Union Street, Suite 584  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
(334) 242-3857  
[Mercedes.Bartkovich@dcnr.alabama.gov](mailto:Mercedes.Bartkovich@dcnr.alabama.gov)