

MATTHEW JOSEPH AJEMIAN

Assistant Research Professor
Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute
Florida Atlantic University
5600 US 1 North
Fort Pierce, Florida, USA 34946
Office: 772-242-2730
Cell: 516-987-1446
majemian@fau.edu

EDUCATION

- 2011 **Ph.D., Marine Sciences.** University of South Alabama. Mobile, AL.
- 2005 **M.S., Biology** (Marine Biology conc.): Hofstra University. Hempstead, NY.
- 2003 **B.S., Biology** (Hispanic studies minor): Boston College. Chestnut Hill, MA.
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conservation, ecology, and behavior of marine vertebrates; fisheries ecology, quantitative methods, predator-prey dynamics, food-web ecology, habitat use, telemetry, movement ecology, fisheries management, international relations.

SKILLS

- Languages:** English, Spanish (Conversational)
- Software:** MS OFFICE, SYSTAT, SigmaPlot, SigmaStat, XLSTAT, PRIMER, Minitab, SPSS, TEMA bio, Corel Draw, Adobe Photoshop, Picasa, ImageJ, ArcGIS, R, MATLAB
- Certs:** PADI Advanced Open Water (Underwater Naturalist, Reef Fish Identification), DOI Motorboat Operator, SLAM Rescue Diver, AAUS Scientific Diver (130'), Advanced Nitrox and Decompression, Wilderness First Aid, CPR, DAN
- Fisheries:** Gill-net, long/drum-line, seine, hook-and-line, fish surgery, telemetry
- Other:** High-speed videography, electromyography, ROV, marine husbandry

PUBLICATIONS

^ -denotes student

IN PREPARATION

Ajemian, M.J., Lamboy, C.^, Ibrahim, A.^, DeGroot, B.C.^, Bassos-Hull, K.B., and L. Chérubin. Capturing shell-crushing by large mobile predators using passive acoustics technology. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*.

IN REVIEW

Lombardo, S.M.^, Adams, A.J., Danylchuk, A.J., Luck, C.A.^, and **M.J. Ajemian**. *In Review*. Novel Deep-Water Spawning Patterns of a Shallow Water Fish. *Frontiers in Marine Science*.

Roskar, A.G.^, McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. Elasmobranch community dynamics in Florida's southern Indian River Lagoon. *Estuaries and Coasts*.

DeGroot, B.C.^, Roskar, A.G.^, and **M.J. Ajemian**. *In Revision*. Fine-scale Movement and Habitat Use of Whitespotted Eagle Rays, *Aetobatus narinari*, in the Indian River Lagoon. *Endangered Species Research*.

Ajemian, M.J., Drymon, J.M., Hammerschlag, N., Wells, R.J.D., Street, G., Falterman, B., McKinney, J.A., Driggers III, W.B., Hoffmayer, E.R., Fischer, C., and G.W. Stunz. *In Revision*. Movement patterns and habitat use of tiger sharks (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) across ontogeny in the Gulf of Mexico. *PLoS ONE*.

PUBLISHED

42. Shiffman, D.S., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Bedore, C., Carrier, J, Daly-Engel, T.S, Davis, M., Dulvy, N.K., Grubbs, R.D., Hinojosa, N.A. , Imhoff, J.^, Kolmann, M., Nash, C., Paig-Tran, E.W.M. Peele, E.E., Skubel, R.A., Wetherbee, B, Whitenack, L., and Wyffels, J. 2020. Trends in chondrichthyan research: An analysis of three decades of conference abstracts. *Copeia* 108:122-131.
41. Brewton, R.A., Downey, C.H.^, Streich, M.K.^, Wetz, J.J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. 2020. Trophic ecology of Red Snapper *Lutjanus campechanus* on natural and artificial reefs: interactions between annual variability, habitat, and ontogeny. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 635:105-122.
40. Roskar, A.G.^, McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. 2020. Performance of two survey gears targeting elasmobranchs in a shallow, subtropical estuary. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries* 12(1): 50-63.
39. Wetz, J.J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Shipley, B., and G.W. Stunz. 2020. An assessment of two visual survey methods for documenting fish community structure on artificial platform reefs in the Gulf of Mexico *Fisheries Research* 225: 105492.
38. Perrault, J.R., Perkins, C.R., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Bresette, M.R., Mott, C.R., and C.A. Page-Karjian. 2020. Harmful algal and cyanobacterial toxins in foraging green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) in Florida's Big Bend. *Toxicon* (5): 100020.
37. McCallister, M.P., Nobre Sales, M.A.^, Mandelman, J., Bonfil, R., Danylchuk, A., and **M.J. Ajemian**. 2020. First observation of mating behavior in three species of pelagic Myliobatiform rays in the wild. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*. DOI: 10.1007/s10641-019-00943-x
36. Mejri, S., Luck, C.A.^, Wills, P.S., Adams, A.J., Shenker, J., and **M.J. Ajemian**. 2019. Reproductive Physiology of Bonefishes (*Albula* spp.) Across the Northwest Bahamas. *Fish Physiology and Biochemistry*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10695-019-00743-1>
35. Jargowsky, M.B.^, Cooper, P.T.^, **Ajemian, M.J.**, Colvin, M.E., and J.M. Drymon. 2019. Discerning the dietary habits of the smooth butterfly ray *Gymnura lessae* using two distinct methods, otolith identification and metagenetics. *Journal of Fish Biology*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.14221>
34. Mejri, S., Halstead, W.R.^, Luck, C.A.^, Robinson, C., Van Leeuwen, T.E., Shenker, J., Adams, A.J., **Ajemian, M.J.** and Wills, P.S. 2019. Novel attempt at the artificial spawning of captive bonefish (*Albula* spp.) in the laboratory. *Aquaculture Research*.
33. Rooker, J.A., Dance, M.A., Wells, R.J.D., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Block, B.A., Castleton, M.R., Drymon, J.M, Falterman, B.J., Franks, J.S., Hoffmayer, E.R., Kraus, R.T., McKinney, J.A., Secor, D.H., Stunz, G.W., Walter, J.F. 2019. Population connectivity of pelagic megafauna in the Cuba-Mexico-U.S. triangle. *Scientific Reports* 9 (2019): 1663. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-018-38144-8>.

32. Luck C.A.[^], Mejri, S., Lewis, J., Wills, P.S., Riche, M., Shenker, J., Adams, A., and **M.J. Ajemian**. 2019. Seasonal and Spatial Changes in Sex Hormone Levels and Oocyte Development of Bonefish (*Albula vulpes*). *Environmental Biology of Fishes* (2019) 102:209.
31. Mejri, S., Luck, C.A.[^], Tremblay, R., Riche, M., Adams, A., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Shenker, J., and P.S. Wills. 2019. Bonefish (*Albula vulpes*) oocyte lipid classes and fatty acid profiles during a reproductive cycle. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* (2019) 102: 221-232.
30. Wells, R.J.D., TinHan, T.C., Dance, M.A., Drymon, J.M., Falterman, B., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Stunz, G.W., Mohan, J.A., Hoffmayer, E.R., Driggers III, W.C., and J.A. McKinney. 2018. Movement, behavior, and habitat use of a marine apex predator, the Scalloped Hammerhead. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 5:321. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2018.00321
29. Downey, C.H.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Streich, M.K., Brewton, R.A., Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. 2018. Habitat-specific reproductive potential of Red Snapper. A comparison of artificial and natural reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 147(6): 1030-1041.
28. Curtis, T.H., Metzger, G., Fischer, C., McBride, B., McCallister, M.P., Winn, L.J., Quinlan, J.[^], and **M.J. Ajemian**. First insights into the movements of young-of-the-year white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) in the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Scientific Reports* 8: 10794.
27. Mendenhall Rubio, K.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Stunz, G.W., Palmer, T.A., Lebreton, B., and J. Beseres Pollack. 2018. Dynamics in black drum diet in a hypersaline estuary subject to water quality variation. *J. Fish. Bio* 93(2): 250-262.
26. Serrano-Flores, F.[^], Pérez-Jiménez, J.C., Méndez-Loeza, I., Bassos-Hull K.B., and **M.J. Ajemian**. 2018. Feeding habits of the spotted eagle ray, *Aetobatus narinari*, and characterization of potential prey in the southern Gulf of Mexico. *J. Mar. Biol. Assn. UK*. 99(3): 661-672.
25. Streich, M.K.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. 2018. Habitat-specific performance of vertical line gear in the western Gulf of Mexico: a comparison between artificial and natural habitats using a paired video approach. *Fisheries Research* 204: 16-25.
24. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Mendenhall, K.[^], Beseres Pollack, J., Wetz, M., and G.W. Stunz. 2018. Moving forward in a reverse estuary: movement and habitat use of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) under distinct hydrological regimes. *Estuaries. Coast.* 41(5): 1410-1421.
23. Streich, M.K.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., Williams, J.A., Shipley-Lozano, B., and G.W. Stunz. 2017. Effects of a new artificial reef complex on Red Snapper and the associated fish community: An evaluation using a before-after control-impact approach. *Mar. Coast. Fish* 9(1): 404-418.
22. Jones, C.M, Hendon, J. Hoffmayer, E.R., Quattro, J.M., Lewandowski, J., Driggers III, W.B., Roberts, M.A., Poulakis, G., **Ajemian, M.J.**, de Carvalho, M.R., Rego, M., Hazin, F.H.B., Márquez-Farias, J.F. Morphological conservation of rays in the genus *Rhinoptera* (Elasmobranchii, Rhinoptera) conceals the occurrence of a large batoid, *Rhinoptera brasiliensis* Müller, 1836, in the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Zootaxa* 4286(4): 499-514.
21. Streich, M.K.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., Williams, J.A., Shipley-Lozano, B., and G.W. Stunz. 2017. A Comparison of Size Structure and Age and Growth of Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) from Artificial and Natural Habitats in the Western Gulf of Mexico. *Trans. Am. Fish. Soci.* 146: 762-777.
20. Streich, M.K.[^] **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. 2017. A comparison of fish community structure at mesophotic artificial reefs and natural banks in the western Gulf of Mexico. *Mar. Coast. Fish.* 9(1): 170-189.
19. Flowers, K.I.[^], **Ajemian, M.J.** Hull, K.B., Feldheim, K.A., Hueter, R.E., Papastamatiou, Y.P., Chapman, D.D. 2016. A Review of Residency and Return Migrations in Batoids (Rays and Skates). *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser.* 562: 251-261.
18. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Jose, P.[^], Froeschke, J., Wildhaber, M.L., and G.W. Stunz. 2016. Was everything bigger in Texas? Characterization and trends of a land-based recreational shark fishery. *Mar. Coast. Fish.* 8: 553-556.
17. Hall, Q.[^], Robillard, M.R., Williams, J.A., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. 2016. Reopening of a remote tidal inlet increases recruitment of estuarine-dependent nekton. *Estuaries. Coast.* 39(6): 1769-1784. DOI: 10.1007/s12237-016-0111-3.
16. Brewton, R.A., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Young, P.[^], and G.W. Stunz. 2016. Feeding Ecology of Dolphinfinh *Coryphaena hippurus* in the western Gulf of Mexico. *Trans. Am. Fish. Soci.* 145: 839-853. DOI: 10.1080/00028487.2016.1159614
15. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Kenworthy, M.D., Cebrian, J., and J.L. Sánchez-Lizaso. 2016. Striped Red Mullet (*Mullus surmuletus*) aggregation dynamics and foraging behavior in the western Mediterranean Sea: Spatial and habitat related variability. *J. Fish. Bio* 88: 2051-2059. DOI: 10.1111/jfb.12932

14. **Ajemian, M.J.** and S.P. Powers. 2016. Seasonality and ontogenetic habitat partitioning of Cownose Rays in the northern Gulf. *Estuaries Coast* 39(4): 1234-1248. DOI 10.1007/s12237-015-0052-2.
13. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz J.J., Shively J.D., Shipley-Lozano B. and G.W. Stunz. 2015. An analysis of artificial reef fish community structure along the Texas coast: Potential consequences of “Rigs-to-Reefs” programs. *PLoS ONE* 10(5): e0126354. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0126354
12. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz J.J., Shipley-Lozano B., and G.W. Stunz. 2015. Rapid assessment of fish communities on oil and gas platform reefs using remotely operated vehicles. *Fish. Res.* 167: 143-155.
11. Aven, A.^, Carmichael, R.H., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and S.P. Powers. 2015. Addition of passive acoustic telemetry mitigates lost data from satellite tracked manatees. *Mar. Freshw. Res.* 66(4): 371-374.
10. Bethea, D.M., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Carlson, J.K., Hoffmayer, E.R., Burgess, G.H., Imhoff, J.L.^ and R.D. Grubbs. 2015. Distribution and community structure of coastal sharks in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. *Environ. Biol. Fish.* 98(5): 1233-1254.
9. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Sohel, S.^, and Mattila, J.M. 2015. Effects of turbidity and habitat complexity on antipredator behavior of three-spined sticklebacks. *Environ. Biol. Fish.* 98: 45-55.
8. **Ajemian, M.J.**, and J.A. Neer. 2014. Preface: Biology and ecology of the durophagous stingrays. *Environ. Biol. Fish.* 97 (9): 965-966.
7. **Ajemian, M.J.**, and S.P. Powers. 2014. Towed-float satellite telemetry tracks large-scale movement and migratory behavior of myliobatid rays. *Environ. Biol. Fish.* 97 (9): 1067-1081.
6. Drymon, J.M., **Ajemian M.J.**, and S.P. Powers. 2014. Distribution and dynamic habitat use of young bull sharks (*Carcharhinus leucas*) in a highly stratified northern Gulf of Mexico estuary. *PLoS ONE* 9(5): e97124. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0097124
5. **Ajemian, M.J.** and S.P. Powers. 2013. Foraging effects of cownose rays along barrier island habitats of the northern Gulf of Mexico. *J. Exp. Mar. Biol. Ecol.* 439: 119-128.
4. **Ajemian, M.J.** and S.P. Powers. 2012. Habitat-specific feeding in cownose rays *Rhinoptera bonasus* of the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Environ. Biol. Fish.* 95: 79-97.
3. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Powers, S.P. and T.J.T. Murdoch. 2012. Estimating the potential impacts of large mesopredators on benthic resources: Integrative assessment of spotted eagle ray foraging ecology in Bermuda. *PLoS ONE* 7: e40227.
2. **Ajemian, M.J.**, Dolan, D., Graham, W.M. and S.P. Powers. 2011. First evidence of elasmobranch predation by a Waterbird: Stingray attack and consumption by the Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*). *Waterbirds.* 34 (1): 117-120.
1. **Ajemian, M.J.** and Sanford, C.P. 2007. Food capture kinematics in the deep-water chain catshark *Scyliorhinus retifer*. *J. Mar. Biol. Assn. UK.* 87: 1277-1286.

GRAY LITERATURE PUBLICATIONS:

5. **Ajemian, M.J.** and M.P. McCallister. 2019. Fish community assessment of shelf-edge artificial reefs of St. Lucie County. Final report submitted to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Artificial Reef Program. 53 p.
4. Carlson, J.K., D.M. Bethea, E.R. Hoffmayer, J. Tyminski, R. Heuter, R. D. Grubbs, **M.J. Ajemian**, G. H. Burgess. 2013. Relative abundance of Atlantic sharpnose and bonnethead shark from the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. HMS SEDAR 34, Panama City, FL, USA.
3. Bethea, D.M., LaPorte, A., Carlson, J.K., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Grubbs, R.D., Hoffmayer, E.R., Imhoff, J., Campbell, C.A., and Romine, J. 2010. Shark nursery grounds and essential fish habitat studies. Gulfspan Gulf of Mexico-FY09. An Internal Report to NOAA's Highly Migratory Species Division. Sust. Fisheries Division Contribution No. PCB-10/01.
2. Bethea, D.M., Hollensead, L., Carlson, J.K., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Grubbs, R.D., Hoffmayer, E.R., Del Rio, R., Peterson, G.W., Baltz, D.M., and Romine, J. 2009. Shark nursery grounds and essential fish habitat studies. Gulfspan Gulf of Mexico-FY08. An Internal Report to NOAA's Highly Migratory Species Division. Sustainable Fisheries Division Contribution No. PCB-09/02.
1. Bethea, D.M., Hollensead, L., Carlson, J.K., Conrath, C.L., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Hoffmayer, E.R., and Peterson, G.W. 2008. Shark nursery grounds and essential fish habitat studies. Gulfspan Gulf of Mexico-FY07. An Internal Report to NOAA's Highly Migratory Species Division. Sust. Fisheries Division Contribution No. PCB-08/02.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016 - **Assistant Research Professor:** FAU's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. PI – Fisheries Ecology and Conservation Program.
- 2015 **Co-chief Scientist:** *OCEARCH Gulf of Mexico Expedition:* Habitat use and migration patterns of the Gulf's large sharks: associations with natural and artificial habitats.
- 2012 – 2015 **Postdoctoral Research Associate / Assistant Research Scientist:**
Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico studies, Texas A&M – Corpus Christi.
Projects:
- Texas Artificial Reef Monitoring Program – Fish Community Assessment
 - Shark tracking and habitat use along the Texas coast
 - Migratory behavior of dolphinfish
 - Black Drum foraging ecology and habitat use in a hypersaline estuary
- 2012 **Co-chief Scientist:** *Schmidt Ocean Institute R/V Falkor Cruise:* Sustainability of Reef Fishes and HABs (October 8-20).
Activities: Multi-beam mapping of Texas mid-coast artificial reefs, 3D ROV surveys of associated fish communities, CTD transects of shelf waters
- 2010 – 2011 **Subcontractor:** NOAA Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) via Industrial Economics, Inc. Impacts of Deepwater Horizon Incident on eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) and *Sargassum*. Duties: Oyster processor, aerial surveyor.
- 2006 – 2011 **Graduate Research Assistant:** Dauphin Island Sea Lab – Fisheries Ecology Lab.
Projects Assisted: Alabama Oyster Reef Restoration, Competition Among Artificial Reef Fishes of the northern Gulf of Mexico (NGOM), Trophic Ecology of Coastal Sharks in the Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Ocean Shelf Tracking (Rockfish, Lingcod) in Prince William Sound, Alaska, Effects of Temporal Variation in Predation Risk on Predator-Prey Interactions, Fisheries Ecosystem Survey, Influence of Avian Predators on Nearshore Communities of the NGOM, Alabama Coastal Breakwaters, Age Distribution and Relative Abundance of Red Drum in the NGOM, Alabama Coastal Pelagic Fisheries
- 2006 – 2011 **Dissertation Research:** University of South Alabama, Marine Sciences.
Topic: Foraging ecology of large benthic mesopredators: Effects of myliobatid rays on shellfish resources
Advisor: Dr. Sean P. Powers, University of South Alabama.
- 2005 – 2006 **Research Assistant:** Hofstra University – Sanford Laboratory, Hempstead, NY.
Research: The origin of novel feeding behaviors in salmonid fishes
Advisor: Christopher P. Sanford / Nicolai Konow.
- 2003 – 2005 **Thesis Research:** Hofstra University – Sanford Laboratory, Hempstead, NY.
Thesis: Prey capture kinematics of the chain catshark *Syliorhinus retifer*.
Advisor: Christopher P. Sanford.
- 2003 **Summer Intern:** Mote Marine Laboratory – Center for Shark Research, Sarasota, FL.
Research: Elasmobranch conservation biology and behavioral ecology.
Advisor: Colin A. Simpfendorfer.
- 2003 **Spring Intern:** The New England Aquarium – Medical Center, Boston, MA. Research: Rehabilitation of cold-stunned Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles.
Advisor: Kristin Dubé.
- 2002 – 2003 **Undergraduate Research:** Boston College – Department of Biology
Research: Evaluating a rapid assessment model for estimating ecological health of urban green spaces.
Advisor: Dr. David A. Krauss.
- 2001 **REU Intern:** SUNY Stony Brook – Marine Sciences Research Center.
Research: Predator-prey interactions between Bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*) and Atlantic silversides (*Menidia menidia*). Advisor: Dr. David O. Conover.

GRANTS

Developing: **NSF CAREER:** “Breaking ground with underwater sound: a novel approach to unraveling elusive predator-prey interactions in benthic communities” (Target funding level: \$ 900,000; July 2020; Note: Re-submission)

Pending: **NOAA/NMFS Bycatch Reduction and Engineering Program:** “Mitigating depredation in snapper-grouper fisheries via novel deterrents (\$ 199,950; PI; Co-PIs: L. Brewster; S. Kajiura, J. M. Drymon)

NOAA/NMFS Cooperative Research Program: “Characterizing and mitigating interactions between sharks and snapper-grouper fisheries along artificial reefs of the South Atlantic: (\$ 187,205; PI; Co-PIs: L. Brewster; S. Kajiura).

Specialty License Plate Program, Aquaculture: “Understanding interactions between on-bottom bivalve culture and suspected large mobile predators” (PI: \$ 80,000)

Specialty License Plate Program, Save Our Seas: “A novel continuous monitoring approach for HABS in the IRL” (Co-PI (PI-M. Twardowski: \$ 165,130)

Specialty License Plate Program, Save Our Seas: “The microbiome of stingray spines from the IRL” (Co-PI (PI-A. Schaefer: \$ 89,911)

Funded:

2020 – 2021 **Mote Scientific Foundation:** “Comprehensive diet description for the Whitespotted Eagle Ray (*Aetobatus narinari*) in Florida” (PI: \$ 15,577)

2019 – 2020 **Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation:** “Establishing a Florida Center for Coastal and Human health – Year 2” (\$ 850,000; Co-PI)

2018 – 2022 **Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency PALS program:** “Unveiling the Grouper Guard – the first line of subtropical defense to unmanned underwater vehicles (\$ 6,880,000; Co-PI)

2018 – 2019 **Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute Foundation:** “Establishing a Florida Center for Coastal and Human health” (\$ 650,000; Co-PI)

2018 – 2019 **Disney Conservation Fund:** “Conserving coastal sharks and rays” (\$ 40,335; Co-PI)

2017 – 2018 **Specialty License Plate Program, Save Our Seas:** “Snap, crackle, pop: capturing mollusk predation with passive acoustics technology” (PI: \$ 31,000)

2016 – 2017 **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission** (via St. Lucie County): “Fish community assessment on mesophotic reefs of St. Lucie County” (PI: \$ 57,250)

2016 – 2017 **Specialty License Plate Program, Save Our Seas:** “Indian River Lagoon Elasmobranch Assessment” (PI: \$ 34,554)

2016 – 2021 **Bonefish and Tarpon Trust (via NFWF):** “Developing Husbandry and Stocking Technology of Bonefish as a Management Tool for FL Sport Fisheries” (\$ 2,966,781; Co-PI)

2016 – 2017 **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation:** “Optimizing rapid recompression strategies for increasing survival of discarded Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico” (\$ 209,326; Co-PI)

2015 **University of Alicante:** Visiting Scientist Research Grant (\$ 2,000)

2014 – 2016 **Texas Sea Grant:** “Why are Black Drum starving in Baffin Bay? An ecosystem-based approach to develop community resilience and sustainable fisheries in a hypersaline estuary” (\$ 177,227; Co-PI)

2014 – 2016 **NOAA/NMFS Bycatch Reduction and Enhancement Program (BREP):** “Minimizing discard mortality of Red Snapper using novel release methods” (\$ 266,108; Co-PI)

2014 **Bermuda Zoological Society:** Spotted eagle ray conservation” (PI: \$ 5,000)

2014 – 2016 **NOAA/NMFS Marine Fisheries Initiative:** “Investigation of the relative habitat value of oil/gas platforms and natural banks” (\$ 242,299; Co-PI)

2014 – 2015 **Multiple foundations: Earl C. Sams, O’Quinn, Fondren, Hamman, Cullen:** “Broadening the Texas Acoustic Array Network” (\$ 140,000; Co-PI)

2014 – 2015 **Harvey Weil Sportsman Conservationist Award:** “Why are Black Drum starving in Baffin Bay?” (\$ 10,000; Co-PI)

2013 – 2015 **Texas State Aquarium Wildlife Care, Conservation, and Rehabilitation Program:** “Sharks with Spectators” (\$ 35,000; Co-PI)

- 2013 – 2015 **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department:** “Fish community assessment along artificial reefs of the Texas coastal-bend” (**\$ 604,928**; Co-PI)
- 2013 – 2015 **Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program:** “Why are Black Drum starving in Baffin Bay? A preliminary assessment” (**\$ 90,000**; Co-PI)
- 2013 – 2014 **Save Our Seas Foundation:** “Myliobatid ray conservation through research dissemination and outreach” (**PI: \$15,798**)
- 2013 **American Elasmobranch Society:** Durophagous Stingray Symposium (**PI: \$1,750**)
- 2012 – 2013 **Coastal Conservation Association:** Restoring Cedar Bayou (**\$32,000**, Co-PI)
- 2012 – 2013 **Texas Research and Development Fund:** Postdoctoral Support Grant (**\$25,000**)
- 2010 – 2011 **BP-MESC Small Grant for Exploratory Research (SGER):** Improving Deepwater Horizon Risk Assessment for large pelagic rays (**\$14,375**, Co-PI)

Graduate Funding

- 2010 Bermuda Zoological Society Research Grant (PI: \$4,500)
- 2009 – 2010 Northern Gulf Institute Graduate Fellowship (\$38,000)
- 2009 Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences Grant-in-aid (PI: \$2,300)
- 2009 Bermuda Zoological Society Research Grant (PI: \$4,815)
- 2009 Shelby Center for EBFM: Coastal Alabama Acoustic Monitoring Program (Co-PI: \$88,785)
- 2008 Bermuda Zoological Society Research Grant (PI: \$8,000)
- 2008 Tag2008 International Symposium Student Travel award (\$1,000)
- 2007 Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences Grant-in-aid (PI: \$1,000)
- 2007 Bermuda Zoological Society Research Grant (PI: \$5,600)
- 2006 – 2008 University of South Alabama Graduate Fellowship (\$48,000)
- 2005 American Elasmobranch Society (AES) Student Travel Award (\$300)
- 2004 Hofstra University Graduate Summer Fellowship (\$4,500)
- 2003 – 2004 Donald E. Axinn Fellowship in Ecology/Conservation: (\$38,200)
- 2001 National Science Foundation Summer REU Fellowship (\$2,500)

OUTREACH

ARTICLES

- 2014 **“Mysterious Icon,”** TIDE magazine, Coastal Conservation Association
- 2013 **“Can You Hear Me Now?,”** TIDE magazine, Coastal Conservation Association
- 2007 **“Speckled Pancakes,”** CritterTalk magazine, Bermuda Aquarium Museum & Zoo

TALKS

- 2020 **FAU Harbor Branch Ocean Science Lectures**
 “Fishing for Science”
 “Will razing rays save our bays?”
 “The Florida Center for Coastal and Human Health?”
- 2018 **Osher Life Learning Institute – HBOI Lecture Series:** “Sharks with Spectators?”
- 2017 **Florida Oceanographic Coastal Lecture Series:** “Will razing rays save our bays?”
- 2017 **FAU Harbor Branch Ocean Science Lecture:** “Sharks with Spectators?”
- 2016 **OCEARCH Scientific Briefs:** Expedition NY, Expedition Jacksonville
- 2016 **Ocean Discovery Brown Bag Lunch Series:** Harbor Branch, Fort Pierce, FL
- 2016 **COSEE Florida:** Research science café; Sailfish Brewery, Fort Pierce, FL
- 2015 **Moody High School:** “Sharks with Spectators...so, you want to be a marine biologist?”
- 2015 **Mary Grett School:** “Shark Research Program at the Harte Research Institute”
- 2014 **Rising Tide Society (TX State Aquarium):** “Sharks with Spectators!”
- 2014 **Corpus Christi Rotary Club:** “Sportfish Research Highlights”
- 2013 **Sensational Sustainable Seafood Program, TSA:** “Gulf reef fish sustainability”
- 2013 **Rockport Aquarium:** “Artificial Reefs of the Texas Shelf”
- 2012 **Schmidt Ocean Institute:** “Introduction to the Texas artificial reef program”
- 2012 **UTMSI Summer Science Program:** “Fish and oil: what did we spoil?”
- 2012 **Rockport Aquarium:** “Sharks and Rays: Myths, realities and research in Texas”

- 2011 **Estuarium at DISL:** “Flap, flutter, crunch and sting – the ways of rays in Mobile Bay”
2009 **Bermuda Aquarium, Museum, and Zoo:** “Excellent Eagle Ray Ecology”
2006 **Deer Park High School:** “Sharks! Dispelling the Myths.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

U = Undergraduate, G = Graduate

Florida Atlantic University

- 2020 **Lead Instructor:** Biotelemetry and Biologging Techniques (BSC 6936; G)
2019 **Lead Instructor:** Biological Oceanography (OCB 6057; G)
2019 **Co-Instructor:** Applied Methods in Fisheries Science (BSC 6936; G)
2018 **Lead Instructor:** Marine Fisheries Ecology & Management (OCB 6715C; G)
2017 – **Guest Lecturer:** Marine Science Seminar (U/G)
“Sharks with spectators: tracking large sharks via satellite biotelemetry”
2016 – **Guest Lecturer:** Florida Atlantic University, Semester-By-The-Sea Program
“Fisheries and Gulf of Mexico Artificial Reefs,” Marine Ecology (OCB-4633)

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

- 2012 **Lead Instructor:** Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
Course: Fisheries (FAMA 5428 / MARB 6428; G)
- 2012 – 2015 **Guest Lecturer:** Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
“Fisheries and Climate Change,” Course: Fisheries (U/G)
“The Wonderful World of Elasmobranchs,” Course: Ichthyology (U/G)
“Trophic interactions in marine ecosystems,” Course: Marine Ecology (U)
“Quantifying demersal fish use of benthic resources,” Course: Benthic Ecology (G)
“Conservation ecology of elasmobranchs,” Undergrad Course: Marine Ecology (U)
“Mobile predator impacts on shellfish restoration,” Course: Restoration Ecology (G)
“GIS and Fisheries Research,” Course: Introduction to GIS (U)
- 2007 – 2011 **Guest Lecturer:** Dauphin Island Sea Lab (DISL), Dauphin Island, AL
“Biotelemetry tools in Marine Science,” DISL OTTER Teacher’s Workshop
“Excellent Eagle Ray Ecology,” DISL course: Sharks & Rays (U/G)
“Tagging/Tracking Large Marine Vertebrates,” course: Marine Ver. Zoology (U)
“The Amazing Batoid Fishes,” DISL Sharks & Rays Teacher Workshop
“Biology of Marine Fishes,” DISL course: Marine Biology (U)
“The Functional Morphology of Fishes,” course: Marine Vertebrate Zoology (U)
- 2006 - 2007 **Curriculum Developer:** Broadreach and Academic Treks.
“Shark Anatomy, Physiology, Behavior, Ecology and Conservation:” Shark Studies
Marine Biology Co-Lead Instructor: Broadreach and Academic Treks.
Marine Biology Accredited Program – San Salvador, Bahamas (Coral Reef Ecology)
- 2003 – 2006 **Adjunct Instructor of Biology:** Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
General Biology Laboratory II (U), Biology and Society Laboratory (U)
Human Biology Laboratory (U) Animal Form and Function Laboratory (U)
Human Anatomy and Physiology I & II Laboratory (U)
Animal Behavior Laboratory (U/G)
- 2002 **Teaching Assistant:** Boston College, Department of Biology, Chestnut Hill, MA
General Biology Laboratory I, II (U)

STUDENT AND POST-DOC ADVISEMENT

**Committee chair/co-chair*

- 2016 – **Florida Atlantic University, Biological/Environmental/Marine Sciences**
B.S. – *W. Sample (Honors Thesis)**
M.S. – *B. Degroot*, C. Luck*, A. Roskar*, R. Shaw*, W. Halstead, L. Issac, B. McKenna, R. Stolee, M. Edwards*, B. Cahill**
Ph.D. – *L. Kircher, M. Bowers, S. Lombardo*, C. Mott*
External Committees: *M. Jargowsky (MSU), F. Serrano-Flores (ECOSUR, MX)*
Post-doc: *L. Brewster*
- 2016 – **Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, Summer Internship Program**
B.S. – *S. Dowiarz, S. Barrett, M. Sales, R. Grady, A.G. Roskar, B. Brooks, C. Lamboy, B. Cahill, E. Mullen, M. Thurman*
- 2012 – 2015 **Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Marine Biology/Fisheries & Mariculture**
B.S. – *R. Palacios, C. Downey, D. Zimmermann, K. Stroman, J. Brown, L. Walker, A. Ferguson, A. Tompkins, D. Norris*
M.S. – *K. Drumhiller, P. Jose*, P. Young, Q. Hall, K. Mendenhall*, C. Downey*, A. Tompkins*
Ph.D. – *J. Curtis, M. Streich, K. Gibson*
 Intern: *K. Jeffery, M. Swain, C. Fligor, C. Raab, T. Kling, J. Smith, J. Pesick*
- 2006 – 2011 **Dauphin Island Sea Lab Fisheries Ecology Internships**
 2011: *B. Dickey, P. Clark, J. Jackson, A. Joshi, J. Hill, J. Chiu, B. McKenna, B. Klimek*
 2010: *E. Williams, N. Wepking, V. Cruz, A. Brown, S. Chutkan, T. Spearman*
 2009: *K. Jagnandan, S. Leahy, N. Bawden, L. Dodd, M. Valentine*
 2008: *B. Toscano, J. Swartout, C. A. Johnston, E. Petrou, A. Kroetz*
- 2007 – 2010 **Bermuda Zoological Society and Aquarium Internships**
 2009-2010: *C. Grenfell, K. Smith, D. Young, J. Hallett, C. Grenfell, J. Rosser, K. Smith*
 2007-2008: *C. Bridgewater, J. Hallett*

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Faculty

- 2018 **Chair:** Marine Mammal Program Review, FAU-HBOI
 2018 **Strategic Program Review Committee:** FAU-HBOI
 2018 **Faculty Search Committee:** FAU-HBOI Reproductive Biologist
 2017 **Organizer:** HBOI at FAU football tailgate
 2017 **Judge:** Indian River Lagoon Symposium – Best Student Presentation
 2016 **Judge:** FAU Graduate College, Three Minute Thesis Competition
 2016 – **Member:** FAU Diving & Boating Safety Committee
 2016 – **Member:** HBOI Faculty Assembly – Research Sub-committee
 2016 – **Member:** HBOI Faculty Assembly – Education Sub-committee
 2016 **Reviewer:** FAU Harbor Branch Specialty License Plate Grant
 2016 **Reviewer:** FAU Harbor Branch ForEverglades Scholarship
 2016 **Reviewer:** Indian River Lagoon Graduate Research Fellowship

Graduate

- 2010 – 2011 **Treasurer:** Marine Sciences Graduate Student Organization (MSGSO), DISL.
 2009 – 2011 **Graduate Student Rep.:** Dauphin Island Sea Lab Dive Control Board (DCB).
 2006 – 2008 **PR Chair:** Marine Sciences Graduate Student Organization (MSGSO), USA.

- 2005 – 2008 **Donations Chair:** Student Affairs Committee (SAC), American Elasmobranch Soc.
2005 – 2006 **President:** Graduate Student Organization, Hofstra University Graduate School.
2004 – 2005 **President:** Graduate Biology Club, Hofstra University, Department of Biology.
2004 – 2005 **Student Representative:** Graduate Academic Affairs Committee – Hofstra Univ.

EXTERNAL SERVICE & SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES

- 2019 **IDEAS lab contributor:** Shifting species distributions, Lenfest Oceans Program, Pew Charitable Trusts.
- 2017 **IUCN Red List Reviewer:** Species Profile, *Aetobatus narinari* (northwest Atlantic)
- 2015 - **Grant Reviewer:** Virginia Sea Grant College Program, NSF (Biological Sciences – Integrative Organismal Systems), NSF CAREER (2), Florida Center for Excellence, EarthWatch Institute, NSF Biological Oceanography, Gulf Ecosystem Restoration Council
- 2015 **NOAA/NMFS Peer Reviewer:** Status Review: Lesser Electric Ray (*Narcine bancroftii*)
- 2015 **Member:** Wildlife and Fisheries Priority Issues Team, Gulf of Mexico Alliance.
- 2013 – 2014 **Guest Editor:** Environmental Biology of Fishes
- 2013 – 2015 **Member:** Habitat & Living Resources Team, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuary Program.
- 2013 **Symposium Organizer:** “Biology, ecology and management of durophagous stingrays,” American Elasmobranch Society meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 2011 **Symposium Organizer:** Gulf of Mexico Acoustic Array Network (GAAN), Benthic Ecology Meeting, Mobile, Alabama.
- 2008 – **Manuscript Reviewer:** Gulf of Mexico Science, Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology, Southeastern Naturalist, Aqua, Marine & Freshwater Research (2), Marine & Coastal Fisheries (2), Texas Journal of Science, Continental Shelf Research, Methods in Ecology and Evolution, Fisheries Research, ICES Journal of Marine Science, PLoS ONE, Gulf and Caribbean Research, Marine Biology, Endangered Species Research, Marine Ecology Progress Series, Functional Ecology, Bulletin of Marine Science, PeerJ, Neotropical Ichthyology, Frontiers in Marine Science, Fishery Bulletin, North American Journal of Aquaculture, Science of the Total Environment, Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences.

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

- 2013 Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI)
2007 American Fisheries Society (AFS)
2004 Society of Integrative and Comparative Biologists (SICB)
2003 American Elasmobranch Society (AES)
2003 American Society of Ichthyology and Herpetology (ASIH)
2001 Golden Key International Honour Society
2000 National Society of Collegiate Scholars

INVITED SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

* - denotes presenter; ^ - denotes student

- Edwards, M.L.*^, McCallister, M.P., Schaefer, A.M., Yrastorza, L., and **M.J. Ajemian**. February 2020. Exposure to multiple algal toxins among resident bull sharks, *Carcharhinus leucas*, in Florida's Indian River Lagoon. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA. **Awarded best oral presentation and people's choice award.**
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Roskar, A.G., McCallister, M.P., and A.M. Schaefer. February 2020. The diversity of elasmobranchs (sharks and rays) in Florida's Indian River Lagoon. Oral Presentation. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Cahill, B.V., Bassos-Hull, K., Santamaria, C.A., Bouchard, C., Hoopes, L.A., and **M.J. Ajemian**. February 2020. A Comprehensive Diet Description for the Whitespotted Eagle Ray (*Aetobatus narinari*) in Florida Coastal Waters. Poster Presentation. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Yrastorza, L.* Roskar, A.G.^, Cray, C., Grady, R^. McCallister, M.P, **Ajemian, M.J.**, and A.M. Schaefer. February 2020. Hematology and plasma biochemistry reference values of estuarine Bull Sharks (*Carcharhinus leucas*) and Spotted eagle rays (*Aetobatus narinari*). Poster Presentation. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Brewster, L., DeGroot, B.C., Ibrahim, A., McCallister, M.P., Locascio, J. Chérubin, L., and **M.J. Ajemian**. February 2020. Advancing Understanding of Goliath Grouper Ecology. Ocean Sciences Meeting, San Diego, CA, USA.
- Edwards, M.L.*^, McCallister, M.P., Schaefer, A.M., and **M.J. Ajemian**. November 2019. Exposure to multiple algal toxins among resident bull sharks, *Carcharhinus leucas*, in Florida's Indian River Lagoon. U.S. Harmful Algal Blooms Conference, Orange, Beach, AL, USA.
- Brewster, L., Chérubin, L., DeGroot, B.C., McCallister, M.P., Locascio, J. and **M.J. Ajemian**. July 2019. Advancing Understanding of Goliath Grouper Ecology. Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Snowbird, UT, USA.
- Roskar, A.G.^, McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian.*** July 2019. Elasmobranch community dynamics in Florida's southern Indian River Lagoon. Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, American Elasmobranch Society, Snowbird, UT, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Lamboy, C.^, Ibrahim, A.^, DeGroot, B.C.^, Bassos-Hull, K., and Chérubin, L. July 2019. Breaking ground with underwater sound: a novel approach to remotely measure hard prey consumption in durophagous elasmobranchs and other aquatic species. Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, American Elasmobranch Society, Snowbird, UT, USA.
- Shaw, R.*^, Curtis, T.H., Metzger, G., McCallister, M.P., Fischer, C., and **M.J. Ajemian**. July 2019. 3D Movement and habitat use of young white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, American Elasmobranch Society, Snowbird, UT, USA.
- Edwards, C.R.*^, Yrastorza, L., Roskar, A.G.^, **Ajemian, M.J.** and A.M. Schaefer. February 2019. Mercury Exposure and Tissue Concentrations among Elasmobranchs in the Southern Indian River Lagoon, Florida. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Roskar, A.G.*^, McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. February 2019. Elasmobranch community dynamics in Florida's southern Indian River Lagoon. Indian River Lagoon Symposium, FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA. **Awarded best student oral presentation**
- Ajemian, M.J.*** and K. Bassos-Hull*. November 2018. Whitespotted eagle rays as predators and prey – integrative ecology to develop conservation capacity in the western Atlantic Ocean. Invited seminar, Florida International University, North Miami, FL.
- Ajemian, M.J.*** August 2018. Why razing rays won't save our bays: understanding the validity and consequences of mesopredator release in coastal ecosystems. Invited seminar, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA.
- Curtis, T.H., Fischer, C., McCallister, M.P.*, Metzger, G. and **M.J. Ajemian**. June 2018. Habitat use of young-of-the-year white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) in three dimensions. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.
- DeGroot, B.C.^, Bassos-Hull, K., McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. June 2018. Movement and habitat use of Spotted Eagle Rays (*Aetobatus narinari*) along Florida's East Coast. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.

- Ajemian, M.J.***, Drymon, J.M., Wells, R.J.D., Falterman, B., McKinney, J., and G.W. Stunz. June 2018. Migratory behavior and habitat use of tiger sharks (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) in the Gulf of Mexico. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.
- Roskar, A.G.^*, McCallister, M.P., Brooks, B.M.^, Schaefer, A.M., and **M.J. Ajemian**. June 2018. Elasmobranch population and health assessment in Florida's southern Indian River Lagoon. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.
- Weber, H.K.^, Jones, C.M., Hendon, J.M., Poulakis, G.R., Wells, R.J.D., Swenson, J.D., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Keiser, B.J., and N.M. Phillips. Investigating the occurrences and ranges of the Atlantic Cownose Ray, *Rhinoptera bonasus*, and the Brazilian Cownose ray, *Rhinoptera brasiliensis* in the Western Atlantic using genetic tools. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.
- Edwards, M.L.^*, Bangle, C.W., **Ajemian, M.J.**, McCallister, M.P., Mueller, C.E., Aguilar, R., Fisher, R.A., and M.B. Ogburn. June 2018. Associations between cownose ray movement patterns and sea surface temperature along the U.S. Atlantic Coast. Sharks International Conference. Joao Pessoa, Brazil.
- Roskar, A.G.^*, McCallister, M.P., Brooks, B.M.^, Schaefer, **Ajemian, M.J.** and A.M. Schaefer. February 2018. Relationships Between Water Quality and the Microbiome of Elasmobranchs in the Southern Indian River Lagoon. Indian River Lagoon Symposium. FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA
- DeGroot, B.C.^*, Bassos-Hull, K., McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. February 2018. Movement and habitat use of Spotted Eagle Rays (*Aetobatus narinari*) along Florida's East Coast. Indian River Lagoon Symposium. FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Curtis, T.H., Fischer, C., McCallister, M.P.*, Metzger, G. and **Ajemian, M.J.** February 2018. Habitat use of young-of-the-year white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) in three dimensions. First Annual OCEARCH Science Symposium, Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, FL, USA.
- Curtis, T.H.*, Fischer, C., McCallister, M.P., Metzger, G. and **M.J. Ajemian**. January 2018. Habitat use of young-of-the-year white sharks (*Carcharodon carcharias*) in three dimensions. American Fisheries Society, Southern New England Chapter (SNEC) winter science meeting. Bew Bedford, MA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Streich, M.K., Wetz, J.J., Brewton, R.A. and G.W. Stunz. August 2017. "Rigs-to-Reefs" in the Gulf of Mexico: Sampling Design, Fisheries Impacts, and Design Considerations. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- Streich, M.K.*, **M.J. Ajemian**, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. August 2017. A Comparison of Fish Community Structure at Mesophotic Artificial Reefs and Natural Banks in the Western Gulf of Mexico. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- Streich, M.K.*, **M.J. Ajemian**, J.J. Wetz, and G.W. Stunz. 2017. August 2017. Impacts of a New Artificial Reef on Red Snapper and the Associated Fish Community: Evidence of Enhanced Production. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- Luck, C.A.*^, Mejri, J., Adams, A., Shenker, J., Robinson, C., Halstead III, W., Riche, M., Wills, M. and **M.J. Ajemian**. August 2017. Preliminary Analysis of Reproductive Hormone Progression in Wild Bonefish, *Albula vulpes*. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- Halstead III, W.*^, A. Page-Karjian, J. Shenker, C. Robinson, **M.J. Ajemian**, R. Baptiste and P. Wills. August 2017. Early Observations on Bonefish Collection, Acclimation to a Captive Environment, and Ultrasonography. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- Mejri, S.*, C. Luck, M. Riche, P. Wills, R. Tremblay, **M.J. Ajemian**, A. Adams, J. Shenker, J. Lewis, C. Robinson, and W. Halstead III. August 2017. E-1 Lipid and Fatty Acid Profiles during the Reproductive Cycle in Bonefish (*Albula vulpes*) Oocytes. 147th American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL, USA.
- McCallister, M.P.*, Sales, M., Smith, A., Mandelman, J.W., Danylchuck, A.J., and **M.J. Ajemian**. July 2017. Field observations of mating behavior in two species of myliobatid stingrays. American Elasmobranch Society Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, USA.
- Roskar, A.G.^, McCallister, M.P., Brooks, B.M.^, Schaefer, A.M., and **M.J. Ajemian**. July 2017. Elasmobranchs in peril? Shark and ray composition and health assessment in the southern Indian River Lagoon. American Elasmobranch Society Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, USA.
- DeGroot, B.C.^, Bassos-Hull, K., Wilkinson, K., McCallister, M.P., and **M.J. Ajemian**. July 2017. Movement and habitat use of Spotted Eagle Rays (*Aetobatus narinari*) throughout Florida. American Elasmobranch Society Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, USA.
- Curtis, T.H., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Fischer, C., McCallister, M.P., Metzger, G., Quinlan, J., and L.J. Winn. July 2017. First observations of the movements of young-of-the-year White Sharks in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. American Elasmobranch Society Annual Meeting, Austin, Texas, USA.

- Gibson, K.J.[^], Ferguson, A.B., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Stunz, G.W., 2017. Recreational Anglers as Citizen Scientists: Tournaments Promote a Better Understanding of Texas Coastal Shark Populations. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting. Port Aransas, Texas, 12-13 April 2017.
- Ajemian, M.J.**, M. McCallister, T. Harrington, and A. Schaefer. February 2017. Elasmobranchs in peril? Indian River Lagoon Shark and Ray Assessment. Indian River Lagoon Symposium. FAU-HBOI, Fort Pierce, FL, USA.
- Wells, R.J.D., J.M. Drymon, B. Falterman, G.W. Stunz, **M.J. Ajemian**, T. Tinhan, J.A. Mohan, E.R. Hoffmayer, W.B. Driggers III, & J.A. McKinney. Movement and oceanographic preferences of Scalloped Hammerheads (*Sphyrna lewini*) in the Gulf of Mexico. 69th Annual Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, K. Gibson, and G.W. Stunz. November 2016. Movement patterns of large sharks in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 69th Annual Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.
- Ajemian, M.J.*** and, M. McCallister June 2016. Fisheries Ecology and Conservation Laboratory: linking FAU-HBOI with FACT. Florida Atlantic Coast Telemetry (FACT) Spring Meeting. Loxahatchee River Center, Jupiter, FL, USA.
- Pollack, J.B.* , G.W. Stunz, **M.J. Ajemian**, M. Wetz, T. Palmer, B. Lebreton, K. Mendenhall[^], T. Breaux[^]. April 2016. Linking benthic food resources, water quality and Black Drum in Baffin Bay, Texas. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Downey, C.^{^*}, R.A. Brewton, J. J. Wetz, **M. J. Ajemian**, and G. W. Stunz. April 2016. Diet analysis of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, K. Mendenhall, J.B. Pollack, M. Wetz, and G.W. Stunz. March 2016. Moving forward in a reverse estuary: trophic ecology and habitat use of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) in hypersaline Baffin Bay, Texas. 45th Benthic Ecology Meeting, Portland, Maine, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, J.J. Wetz, R.A. Brewton, M.K. Streich, C.H. Downey, and G.W. Stunz. March 2016. Relative value of Rigs-to-Reefs habitats to Red Snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) stock building in the western Gulf of Mexico. 45th Benthic Ecology Meeting, Portland, Maine, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, S.P. Powers, J.M. Curtis, and G.W. Stunz. July 2015. Can't we all just tag along? Acoustic telemetry compatibility in the Gulf of Mexico. 3rd International Conference on Fish Telemetry. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, P. Jose, J.T. Froeschke, and G.W. Stunz. July 2015. Characterization and trends in Texas' land-based shark fishery. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, American Elasmobranch Society. Reno, NV, USA.
- Downey, C.^{^*}, Brewton, R.A., Wetz, J.J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. April 2015. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Reno, NV.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, and G.W. Stunz. July 2015. Migration and habitat use of large sharks from the western Gulf of Mexico. Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, American Elasmobranch Society. Reno, NV, USA.
- Brewton, R.A.* , **M.J. Ajemian**, M.R. Robillard, J.M. Curtis, and G.W. Stunz. 2015. Trophic ecology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, among various habitat types in the western Gulf of Mexico. American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Reno, NV.
- Downey, C.^{^*}, Brewton, R.A., Wetz, J.J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. April 2015. Reproductive biology of Red Snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, on natural and artificial reefs in the western Gulf of Mexico. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Mendenhall, K.^{^*}, Pollack, J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Palmer, T., Stunz, G. April 2015. Evaluating trophic relationships between Black Drum and benthic resources in Baffin Bay, Texas. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Mendenhall, K.^{^*}, Pollack, J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Palmer, T., Stunz, G. March 2015. Evaluating trophic relationships between Black Drum and benthic resources in Baffin Bay, Texas. Benthic Ecology Meeting, Quebec City, CA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. February 2015. Fish community assessment on artificial reefs of the western Gulf of Mexico: Potential impacts of 'Rigs-to-reefs' programs. 2nd Annual Texas Artificial Reef Symposium, Corpus Christi, TX, USA.
- Mendenhall, K.^{^*}, Pollack, J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Palmer, T., Stunz, G. January 2015. Characterizing the benthic food resources and habitat utilization of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) in Baffin Bay, Texas. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Conference, Tyler, Texas, USA.

- Ajemian, M.J.***, Wetz, J.J., Streich, M.K., and G.W. Stunz. November 2014. Fish community assessment on artificial reefs of the western Gulf of Mexico: Potential impacts of 'Rigs-to-reefs' programs. Invited Seminar, University of Alicante, Alicante, SPA. [Talk given in Spanish](#)
- Mendenhall, K.*[^], Pollack, J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, Palmer, T., Stunz, G. November 2014. Characterizing the benthic food resources and habitat utilization of Black Drum (*Pogonias cromis*) in Baffin Bay, Texas. Gulf and Estuarine Research Society Biennial Meeting, Port Aransas, Texas, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Wetz, J.J. and G.W. Stunz. October 2014. Surveying Texas' Big Reefs: A micro-ROV survey methodology for submerged oil and gas platforms. Annual Meeting of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. Gulfport, MS, USA.
- Bethea, D.M.* **Ajemian, M.J.**, Carlson, J.K., Hoffmayer, E.R., Imhoff, J.L., Grubbs, D.R., Peterson, C.T., and G.H. Burgess. August 2014. Distribution and community structure of coastal sharks in the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. Annual meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA.
- Drymon, J.M., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and S.P. Powers. August 2014. Dynamic habitat use of young bull sharks in a northern Gulf of Mexico estuary. Annual meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, Joint Meeting of Ichthyology and Herpetology, Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA.
- Stroman, K.L.*[^], Wetz, J.J., **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. April 2014. An analysis of fish communities on south Texas artificial reefs: does structure type matter? Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Jose, P*[^], Stunz, G.W., and **M.J. Ajemian**. April 2014. Historical and current trends in Texas' nearshore shark assemblage. Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, TX, USA.
- Streich, M.K.*[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, and G.W. Stunz. February 2014. Abundance and size structure of Red Snapper among natural and artificial habitats in the NW Gulf of Mexico. Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Lake Texoma, TX, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.** December 2013. From one gulf to another: Fisheries in new ecosystems, altered food webs, and fuzzy boundaries. Prince William Sound Science Center, Cordova, AK, USA.
- Stunz, G.W., **Ajemian, M.J.***, and J.J. Wetz. November 2013. Fisheries potential of artificial reefs in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 66th annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Corpus, Christi, TX, USA.
- Ajemian, M.J.***, Wetz, J.J. and G.W. Stunz. November 2013. A micro-ROV survey methodology for submerged oil and gas platforms. 66th annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Corpus, Christi, TX, USA.
- Zimmermann, D.*[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. November 2013. A comparison of trophic structure among artificial reefs of the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 66th annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Corpus, Christi, TX, USA.
- Streich, M.K.*[^], **Ajemian, M.J.**, Wetz, J.J., and G.W. Stunz. November 2013. Relative abundance and size structure of red snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*, across habitat types in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. 66th annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Corpus, Christi, TX, USA.
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