



**French Broad River Partnership 2019 Annual Meeting Agenda**

11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

November 6, 2019

Sierra Nevada Brewery

Mills River, NC

- Brief welcome and logistics, acknowledge elected officials and sponsors (Garrett Artz, Gary Peeples) 11:00 a.m.
- Presentation by Sierra Nevada about sustainability efforts (Leah Cooper) 11:10
- "Get to Know Your Watershed" game (Jessica Whitmire) 11:20
- Updates on work completed by: 11:40
  - Steering Committee (Maria and Garrett)
  - Water Quality (Mary Roderick)
  - Outreach and Education (Andrea Leslie)
  - Business and Recreation (Eric Romaniszyn and Jay Hawthorne)
  
- Lunch and Networking 12:30 p.m.
  
- FBR Presentations
  - River health and biodiversity
    - Freshwater Mussels—Rachael Hoch, NCWRC 1:20
    - Bats in the FBR Watershed--Katherine Etchison, NCWRC 1:45
  - Nature, healthy watershed, and human health 2:10
    - Dr. Michael Weizman, M.D.
  
- Group discussion of observations, new knowledge, challenges and inspirations, where does FBRP go from here? 2:35
  
- Closing comments— Jim Stokely, Wilma Dykeman Legacy; Tim Fox to introduce 2:50
- Adjourn—Garrett Artz 3:00
- Optional Sierra Nevada brewery tour 3:30 p.m.

## **Sponsors**

**A very big thank you to our sponsors for making this wonderful meeting facility and amenities possible! Please stand when you're called so we can recognize you.**

### **French Broad Level**

Sierra Nevada Brewing

Transylvania County Tourism

DEQ

Blue Earth

### **Courthouse Level**

Ecosystem Services

Penrose Environmental

French Broad Electric

Keystone Camp

Trout Unlimited

### **Stackhouse Level**

Jennings Environmental

Headwaters Outfitters

Rachael Hoch is the Conservation Aquaculture Coordinator for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. She oversees the culture of rare aquatic species, including freshwater mussels, for reintroduction into NC waters at the Conservation Aquaculture Center in Marion , NC. She received her B.S. in 2008 and M.S. in 2012 from Appalachian State University. She was hired by the NCWRC in 2012 and has been involved in several species' reintroduction projects in the French Broad River Watershed.

Katherine is a Wildlife Diversity Biologist for the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, a position she's held since 2015. She conducts surveys for rare and threatened bats and monitors populations of these and other mammal species throughout the state. She received a B.S. in Ecology and Environmental Biology from the University of North Carolina at Asheville in 2010 and a M.S. in Biology from Ball State University in 2015.

Michael Weizman is a Family Physician in Asheville who spent time in Africa and Alaska during his early years in Medicine. He's been practicing medicine in Asheville for nearly 20 years and is passionate about the outdoors. He has served on several nonprofit boards, including the Western NC Alliance before it became MountainTrue.