

Trispot Darter Survey 2019-2020

Geological Survey of Alabama, Georgia Department of Natural Resources,
University of West Alabama, CAWACO RD&D



Background

- ▶ Rediscovered in the Big Canoe Creek system of Alabama, 2008
- ▶ Current known populations
 - ▶ Alabama
 - ▶ Big Canoe Creek
 - ▶ Ballplay Creek
 - ▶ Georgia and Tennessee
 - ▶ Conasauga River system
 - ▶ Coosawattee River system
- ▶ Will be officially listed as threatened by USFWS on January 28, 2019



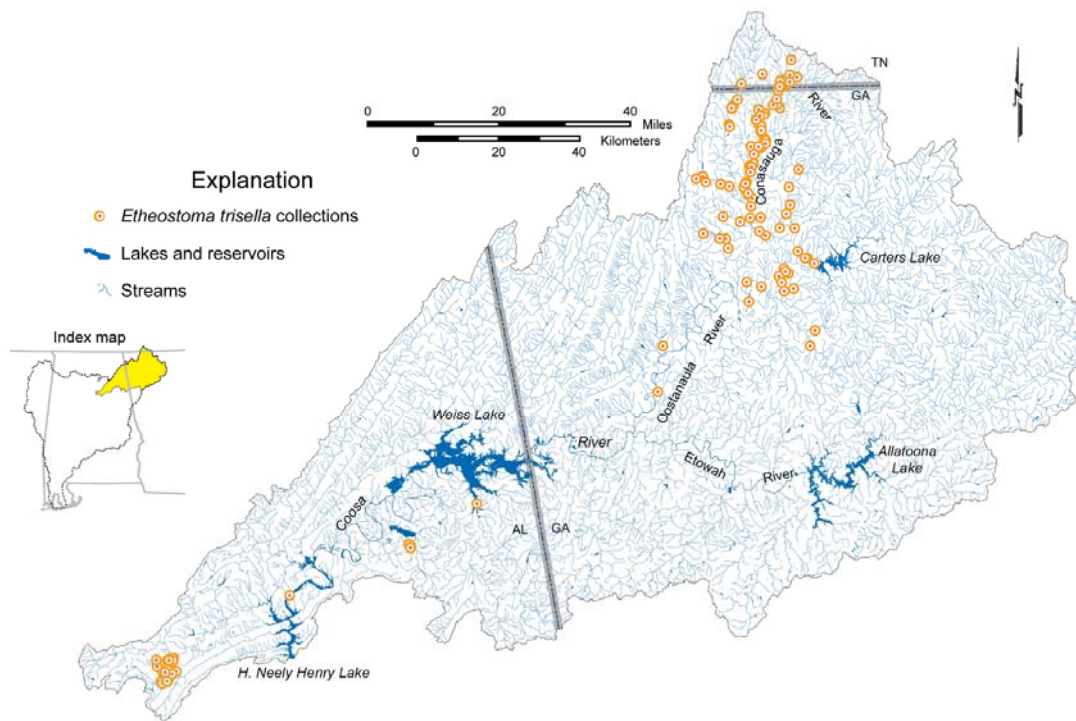


Figure 3. Collection locations for *Etheostoma trisella* in the upper Coosa River system.

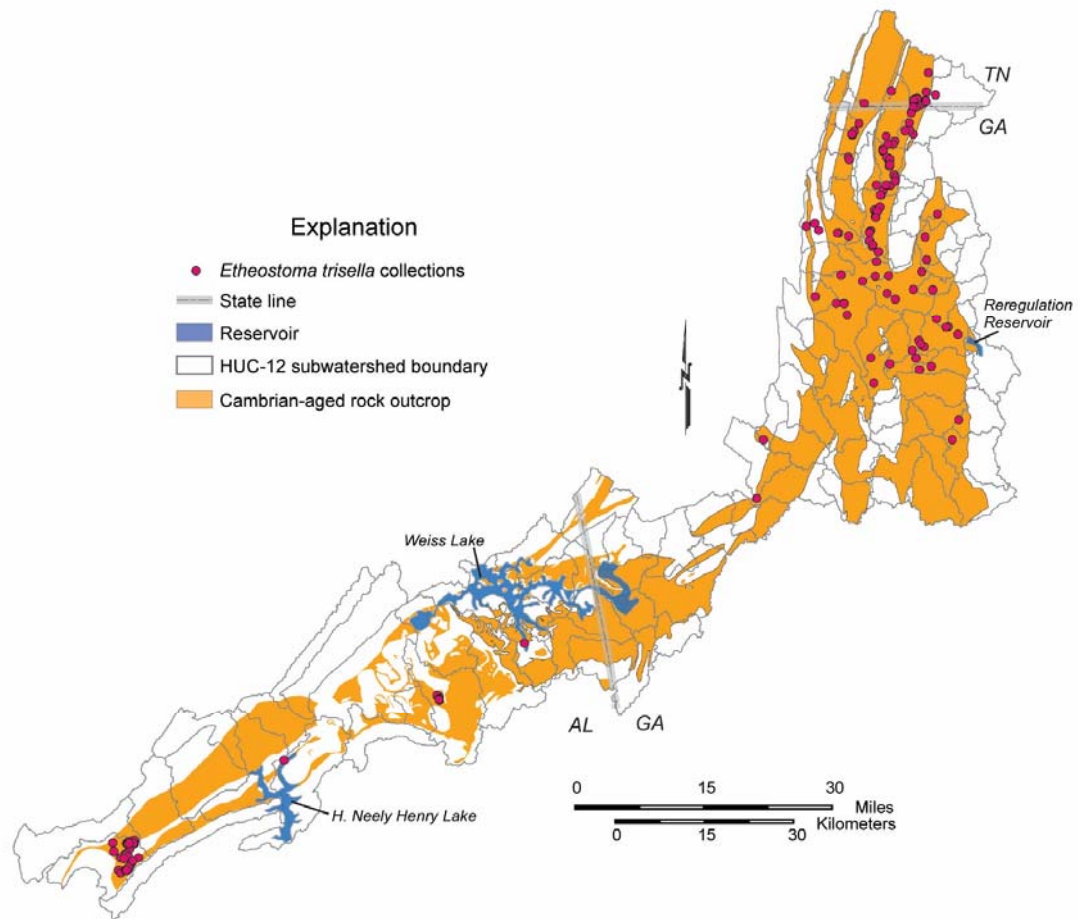


Figure 7. Outcrop of Cambrian-aged rocks in the upper Coosa River system and corresponding HUC-12 subwatersheds with known collections for *Etheostoma trisella*.



Scope of this Project

- ▶ Two year study
- ▶ ~300 eDNA sampling locations split between Alabama and Georgia
- ▶ UWA to complete eDNA analysis for presence/absence
- ▶ Return to locations with positive hits to confirm with live specimens
- ▶ Photo vouchers for now...



Goals

- ▶ Find additional populations and fill in gaps
- ▶ Discover new spawning locations
- ▶ Population genetics analysis?
- ▶ Lead to better management practices
- ▶ Discover areas of greatest conservation need



Questions or Comments?



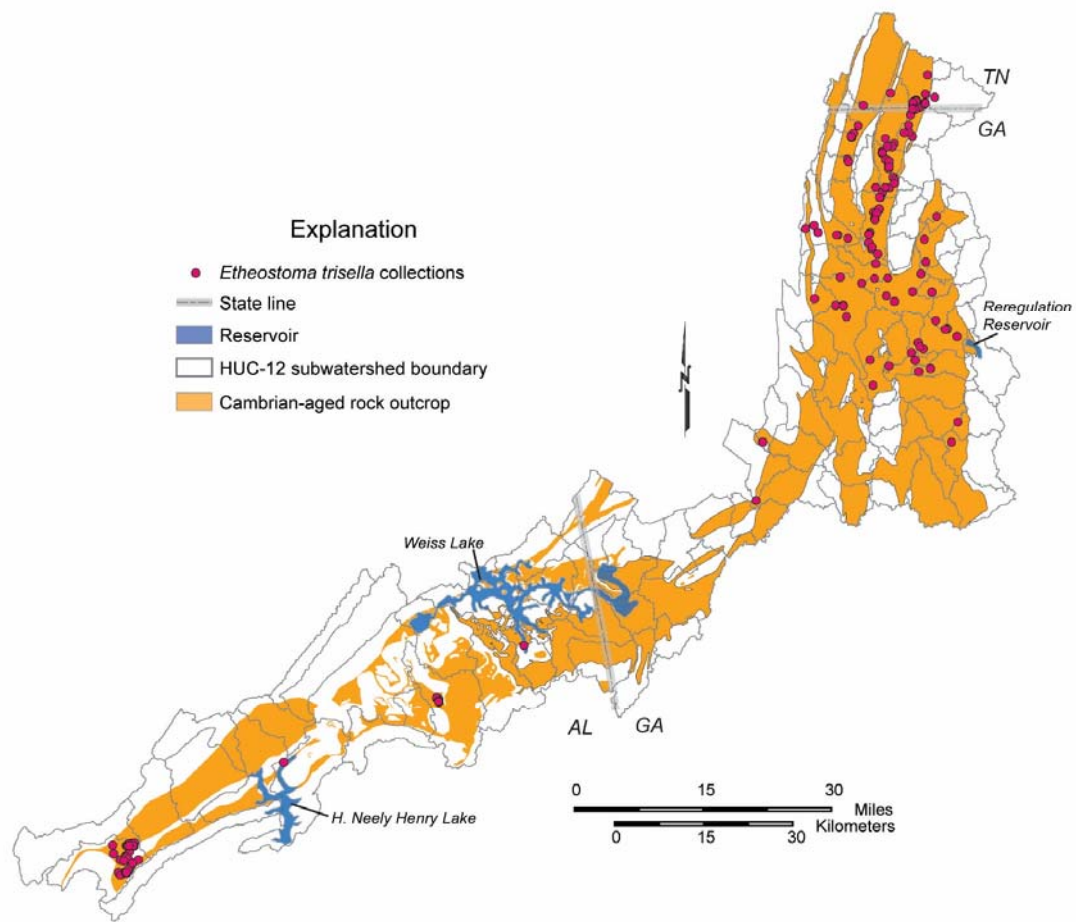


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