Goal 3.3 Reflection

To be a good scientist you need to be able to effectively communicate orally and in writing to a wide range of audiences. These audiences don’t always include other scientific community members. In order for a good scientist to alleviate any confusion or irritation, articles need to be written with little to no scientific jargon and all points of confusion clarified.

In the first presentation listed, I had to write about the endangerment, conservation, and threats of the Gulf Coast jaguarundi. This presentation wasn’t written as much for the scientific community as it was for audiences outside the sciences. I had to learn how to write with very general descriptions while still having an informative report. This was something that actually took me a while to do. It may seem like something that is easy to achieve, but it wasn’t for me because I was so used to writing for the scientific community.

The second presentation listed is on the Largemouth Bass Micropterus salmoides. This study was done to understand the life history of the bass in Virginia. With this information we were able to form a illustrative presentation to discuss with members outside the community. This was also a new experience for me because the purpose of the paper was to inform the audience of the threats and issues that the Largemouth Bass can cause in the habitats that they live. We needed to give as much information as possible to convey the message, but still be accommodating to the readers.

The third presentation was on the *Anolis carolinensis* responses to avian calls whether they were predatory or non-predatory. This presentation was the easiest one to appeal to audiences outside of the scientific community because all of the data was based off of visual responses. It is way easier to explain to an audience what we saw than it is to explain domains such as cellular level findings or statistics.

I believe that these three presentations alone have given me enough practice to be able to use this skill in my future jobs or careers. Scientific findings are very important and need to be relayed to every audience. This is why it is so important to be able to effectively present your findings orally or in a written format that is understood by everyone.