



14TH ANNUAL SUMMER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

AUGUST 1, 2026

NORTH TOLEDO BEND
STATE PARK

TRIP DETAILS



LEFT TO RIGHT (BACK ROW): CHRIS KINGWILL, LISA PINDER, JESSICA THORNTON, JASON PUMA, JESSICA MCDANIEL, BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, MICAH CEFALU **LEFT TO RIGHT (FRONT ROW):** MARISSA PINDER, MASON PUMA, CHEYANNA WORKMASTER, RYLEE BACOT, BAILEY DAIGLE, ANGELICA CORTEZ

The group met at 5:30 p.m. at the parking lot of the picnic/pavilion area near the lake. We waited for a few folks who were running late to get there before we headed off after short introductions and a group photo. We first walked the nearby shoreline and quickly saw the first of many frogs, particularly cricket frogs. We also came across a few lizards and spotted a few turtles. It took a while but we eventually found a Western Ribbonsnake, one of four for the trip, and the only snake species besides one Northern Cottonmouth that was found. Before dark we huddled back at the parking lot for a break from the oppressive heat to have some shade and some dinner. Micah also put up a sheet with blacklight near a pavilion to attract moths and other insects. We then headed out after dark through the woods. We found more of the same but did come across a nice log in a dry drain that still had moist soil that held 8-10 Western Dwarf Salamanders under it. We returned back to the black light and sheet to see what was on it and hung out for a while before calling it a night. The trip ended about 11 p.m. Though we would have liked to find more snake diversity, it was still a productive trip to a beautiful state park few of us had ever been. The fourteenth L.A.R.E. summer field trip had 13 attendees, and we detected at least 19 species of amphibians and reptiles. Everyone seemed to enjoy the trip!

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

WESTERN DWARF SALAMANDER	<i>EURYCEA PALUDICOLA</i>	13
BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	200+
FOWLER'S TOAD	<i>ANAXYRUS FOWLERI</i>	6
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>DRYOPHYTES CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	(CALLING ONLY)
GREEN TREEFROG	<i>DRYOPHYTES CINEREUS</i>	9 (CALLING)
EASTERN NARROW-MOUTHED TOAD	<i>GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS</i>	2
GULF COAST TOAD	<i>INCILIUS NEBULIFER</i>	10 (+ METAMORPHS)
NORTH AMERICAN BULLFROG	<i>LITHOBATES CATESBEIANUS</i>	3
NORTH AMERICAN GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	18 (CALLING + TADPOLES)
SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	<i>LITHOBATES SPHENOCEPHALUS</i>	50+
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	2
TOOTHY SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON SP.</i>	7
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	13
NORTHERN COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	1
WESTERN RIBBONSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS PROXIMUS</i>	4
FALSE MAP TURTLE	<i>GRAPTEMYS PSEUDOGEOGRAPHICA</i>	3
RIVER COOTER	<i>PSEUDEMYIS CONCINNA</i>	1 (+ SHELL)
RAZOR-BACKED MUSK TURTLE	<i>STERNOTHERUS CARINATUS</i>	2
POND SLIDER	<i>TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA</i>	7