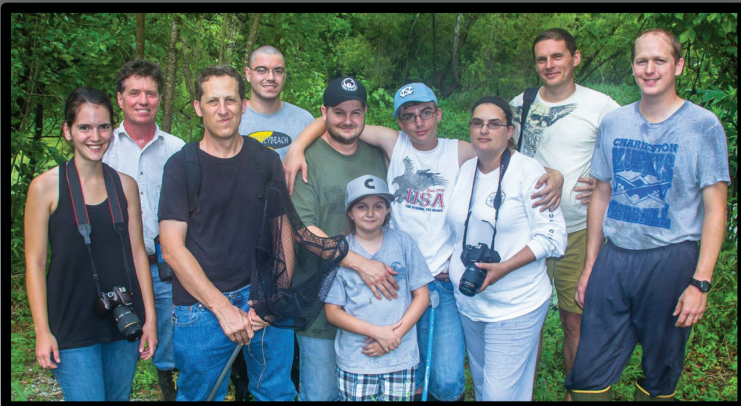




1ST ANNUAL SUMMER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

JULY 27, 2013

ATCHAFALAYA BASIN
(ATCHAFALAYA NWR & SHERBURNE WMA)



LEFT TO RIGHT: SARA PILGRIM, BRENT FAUL, WILL KUHS, JEROMI HEFNER, BEANIE VILLERMIN, MADISON VILLERMIN, KYLYAN VILLERMIN, CHANTELL VILLERMIN, VLADIMIR DINETS, BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO.

TRIP DETAILS

The group met at 5:00 p.m. and herped until after 11 p.m. Air temps were warm in the upper 80s, but subdued due to heavy clouds. It had rained hard in the area both the prior day when Jeromi and Bones were setting minnow traps and turtle hoop nets, as well as earlier on the day of the trip. One 15-20 minute downpour also occurred in the late evening during the field trip. Captures from minnow traps were few: three bullfrog tadpoles and a newt larva. The turtle hoop nets captured 2 Eastern Musk Turtles, 1 Razor-backed Musk Turtle, 1 Spiny Softshell, 1 Pond Slider, and 1 Three-toed Amphiuma. The other turtles were observed basking or in shallow water. The heavy rains produced amazing roadside choruses of Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toads, Gulf Coast Toads, Squirrel Treefrogs and to a lesser degree Cope's Gray Treefrogs. Snake numbers and diversity was low, but expected with the heavy rains and nighttime nature of the trip. Overall, the first L.A.R.E. summer field trip was a huge success with 25 species of amphibians and reptiles detected, some of which were lifers for some members!

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

THREE-TOED AMPHIUMA	<i>AMPHIUMA TRIDACTYLUM</i>	1
EASTERN NEWT	<i>NOTOPHTHALMUS VIRIDESCENS</i>	1
BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	50+ (CALLING)
FOWLER'S TOAD	<i>ANAXYRUS FOWLERI</i>	1 (CALLING)
EASTERN NARROW-MOUTHED TOAD	<i>GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS</i>	50+ (CALLING)
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	15+ (CALLING)
GREEN TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CINEREA</i>	2 (CALLING)
SQUIRREL TREEFROG	<i>HYLA SQUIRELLA</i>	30+ (CALLING)
GULF COAST TOAD	<i>INCILIUS NEBULIFER</i>	50+ (CALLING)
AMERICAN BULLFROG	<i>LITHOBATES CATESBEIANUS</i>	3 (CALLING)
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	10+ (CALLING)
SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	<i>LITHOBATES SPHENOCEPHALUS</i>	1
AMERICAN ALLIGATOR	<i>ALLIGATOR MISSISSIPPIENSIS</i>	2
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	10+
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	4
COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	1 (DOR)
RACER	<i>COLUBER CONSTRICTOR</i>	1
PLAIN-BELLIED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA ERYTHROGASTER</i>	1
BROAD-BANDED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA FASCIATA</i>	2
SPINY SOFTSHELL	<i>APALONE SPINIFERA</i>	1
SOUTHERN PAINTED TURTLE	<i>CHRYSEMYS DORSALIS</i>	1
EASTERN MUD TURTLE	<i>KINOSTERNON SUBRUBRUM</i>	1
RAZOR-BACKED MUSK TURTLE	<i>STERNOTHERUS CARINATUS</i>	1
EASTERN MUSK TURTLE	<i>STERNOTHERUS ODORATUS</i>	2
POND SLIDER	<i>TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA</i>	2