



7TH ANNUAL SUMMER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

AUGUST 3, 2019

PALMETTO ISLAND STATE PARK



STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, APRIL SPERFSLAGE, AUDREY BROUSSARD, EMILIE BROUSSARD, BRYAN PORTER, EVAN GRIMES, JIM PARKER, BRITTANY MALDONADO, JESSICA THORNTON, KAREN TERRELL, DA'VONNE GRIFFIN, PHILIP VANBERGEN, BREYTON BOUDREAU, ROY MARTIN **KNEELING LEFT TO RIGHT:** JAMIE NEWTON, CHRISTINA TRAPANI, MELISSA DUREL-PORTER, CJ HILLARD, CHARLES BATTAGLIA, HALEY DUET

TRIP DETAILS

The group met at 6:00 p.m. at the large parking lot near the Vermilion River. We started herping in that vicinity and immediately found our first few snakes of the night, a Southern Watersnake and a couple Diamond-backed Watersnakes. After finding some of the more common frogs and lizards in that area we got in our vehicles and headed over to a beautiful cypress swamp before it got dark. There, we picked up our lone North American Racer, a couple of Northern Cottonmouths, and our only turtle of the trip, an Eastern Mud Turtle. As it was getting dark we headed back to where the trip began to take a short break before heading down the road to try and find our target for the trip, Rough Greensnakes. It took a while but we finally spotted a small Rough Greensnake in a roadside vine. A while later a second young one was found along the roadside vegetation. Near the end of the night we finally discovered a nice adult. Most all the frog species you could expect at this time of year were seen, and most were also heard. The biggest anuran surprise came just when we were calling it quits at about 11 p.m. when we found a Cope's Gray Treefrog. This species is known from the park but it is much less commonly observed than the other treefrogs. Overall, the seventh L.A.R.E. summer field trip was a great success with 20 attendees and 20 species of amphibians and reptiles detected!

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	25 (CALLING)
EASTERN NARROW-MOUTHED TOAD	<i>GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS</i>	13 (CALLING)
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	1 (CALLING)
GREEN TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CINEREA</i>	16 (CALLING)
SQUIRREL TREEFROG	<i>HYLA SQUIRELLA</i>	4 (CALLING)
GULF COAST TOAD	<i>INCILIUS NEBULIFER</i>	30
AMERICAN BULLFROG	<i>LITHOBATES CATESBEIANUS</i>	7, TADPOLES
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	100+, TADPOLES (CALLING)
SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	<i>LITHOBATES SPHENOCEPHALUS</i>	26
AMERICAN ALLIGATOR	<i>ALLIGATOR MISSISSIPPIENSIS</i>	4
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	14
TOOTHY SKINKS	<i>PLESTIODON SP.</i>	2
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	7
NORTHERN COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	2
NORTH AMERICAN RACER	<i>COLUBER CONSTRICTOR</i>	1
SOUTHERN WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA FASCIATA</i>	3
DIAMOND-BACKED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA RHOMBIFER</i>	2
ROUGH GREENSNAKE	<i>OPHEODRYS AESTIVUS</i>	3
WESTERN RIBBONSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS PROXIMUS</i>	2
EASTERN MUD TURTLE	<i>KINOSTERNON SUBRUBRUM</i>	1