



11TH ANNUAL SUMMER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

JULY 22, 2023

ST. BERNARD STATE PARK



BACK ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, GRACE HANCOCK, STEPHANIE PLAISANCE, ZEB MAYHEW IV, ZEB MAYHEW III, DILLON HOWELL, MATT SIEJA, ANTHONY KOLESKA, JASON PUMA, WAYLON MCNEILL, LIAM DALTON **MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** CHANDLER NELSON, SARAH SMITH, NGUYEN HA, CATHERINE BROUSSARD, MARIE COMEAUX, JULIA BROUSSARD, CORTNEY MITCHELL, DAVIS PELTIER, LEE MORGAN **FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** KATHE MANAGAN, KEILAN MANAGAN, JACK MORGAN, LILY MITCHELL, MICAH CEFALU **NOT PICTURED:** AURORA KUCZEK, KENNETH BOHNSACK, VICTORIA SEAWARD

TRIP DETAILS

The group met at 5:30 p.m. at the splash pad parking lot area of St. Bernard State Park. The parking lot was near full with a big gathering happening as it took a bit for everyone to gather and for Bones to give his instructions. We set off at about 6 p.m. up the road towards the back of the park and eventually onto the trail. We immediately saw several Gulf Coast Toads and Little Brown Skinks, which would prove plentiful. We added some other common critters, including Easter Narrow-mouthed Toads, which were all very large females it seemed. Towards the middle of the trail storm clouds were building and were headed in our direction, so we started hiking faster to beat the rain. Some of us beat the rain, and others only got a little wet, and still others got soaked. The rain continued from 7:30 to about 8:30 which gave a nice break for folks to get some snacks and relax before the night hike. Unfortunately the rain scared off most attendees, with only 6 of us remaining to herp at night. The frogs were going bananas after that storm and we finally were able to capture a couple of snakes in hand, including a beautiful young Plain-bellied Watersnake and a gorgeous adult Rouge Greensnake. The small group left the park at about midnight. The 11th Annual L.A.R.E. Summer Field Trip was very well attended with 28 attendees, with a good mix of folks new to the field trips and veterans. We detected 20 species of amphibians and reptiles. It was an unusual trip, but those that stayed enjoyed some good herping and comfortable temperatures.

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

EASTERN NEWT	<i>NOTOPHTHALMUS VIRIDESCENS</i>	1
CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS SP.</i>	14 (CALLING)
GREENHOUSE FROG	<i>ELEUTHERODACTYLUS PLANIROSTRIS</i>	2
EASTERN NARROW-MOUTHED TOAD	<i>GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS</i>	13 (CALLING)
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	20 (CALLING)
GREEN TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CINEREA</i>	3 (CALLING)
SQUIRREL TREEFROG	<i>HYLA SQUIRELLA</i>	9 (CALLING)
GULF COAST TOAD	<i>INCILIUS NEBULIFER</i>	48 (CALLING)
AMERICAN BULLFROG	<i>LITHOABTES CATESBEIANUS</i>	2
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	3
AMERICAN ALLIGATOR	<i>ALLIGATOR MISSISSIPPIENSIS</i>	9
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	15
SRI LANKAN SPOTTED HOUSE GECKO	<i>HEMIDACTYLUS PARVIMACULATUS</i>	2
MEDITERRANEAN GECKO	<i>HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS</i>	2
TOOTHY SKINKS	<i>PLESTIODON SP.</i>	8
COMMON FIVE-LINED SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON FASCIATUS</i>	5
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	44
NORTHERN COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	2
PLAIN-BELLIED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA ERYTHROGASTER</i>	1
ROUGH GREENSNAKE	<i>OPHEODRYS AESTIVUS</i>	1
EASTERN BOX TURTLE	<i>TERRAPENE CAROLINA</i>	1 (SHELL)