



# 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL WINTER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

JANUARY 11, 2014

## KISATCHIE DISTRICT KISATCHIE NATIONAL FOREST

### TRIP DETAILS

Everyone met up at the lower parking lot of Kisatchie Bayou Campground for about 10:00 a.m. The temperatures were in the upper 40s or so when we began our search, but warmed up to the mid-60s by early afternoon. We first tried our luck down in the Kisatchie Bayou area, but only turned up Blanchard's Cricket Frogs and Green Anoles. We then searched one of the Ambystoma ponds, and we were not disappointed. We found plenty Spotted Salamanders under logs and plenty of their egg masses in the water. We also flipped a couple abandoned Marbled Salamander nests and a Mole Salamander, as well as several Dwarf Salamanders and a juvenile American Bullfrog. We then searched another nearby Ambystoma pond and adjacent area and found much of the same, but added several Marbled Salamander adults. Jeromi and Bones tried seining a permanent water area nearby but had no luck. We all then drove over to a pitcher plant hillside seep. We only found a Little Brown Skink here but it was a beautiful spot to see for some of the first-timers to the area. We all then drove over to the Longleaf Vista Overlook area and a Southern Red-backed Salamander was flipped almost immediately, but no others turned up. The only other species we detected there was another Dwarf Salamander and a couple of Prairie Lizards. We departed from there at about 3:00 p.m. Though not highly species-rich, the trip was a success in that it was the most well attended thus far and we found our salamander targets, giving several members some lifers.



**BACK ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** PHILIP VANBERGEN, ROYAL TYLER, BEANIE VILLERMIN, CHUCK BATTAGLIA **MIDDLE ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** JEROMI HEFNER, CHANTELL VILLERMIN, BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, SARA PILGRIM, CLAYTON FAIDLEY **FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** MADYSON VILLERMAN, ERIC VANBERGEN, KYLYAN VILLERMIN

## AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

|                                |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| SPOTTED SALAMANDER             | <i>AMBYSTOMA MACULATUM</i>     | 13, 50+ EGG MASSES   |
| MOLE SALAMANDER                | <i>AMBYSTOMA TALPOIDEUM</i>    | 1, 5 EGG MASSES      |
| MARbled SALAMANDER             | <i>AMBYSTOMA OPACUM</i>        | 6, 2 LARVAE, 2 NESTS |
| DWARF SALAMANDER               | <i>EURYCEA QUADRIDIGITATA</i>  | 8                    |
| SOUTHERN RED-BACKED SALAMANDER | <i>PLETHODON SERRATUS</i>      | 1                    |
| AMERICAN BULLFROG              | <i>LITHOBATES CATESBEIANUS</i> | 1                    |
| BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG       | <i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>        | 3                    |
| SPRING PEEPER                  | <i>PSEUDACRIS CRUCIFER</i>     | CALLING ONLY         |
| GREEN ANOLE                    | <i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>     | 4                    |
| LITTLE BROWN SKINK             | <i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>     | 1                    |
| PRAIRIE LIZARD                 | <i>SCELOPORUS CONSOBRINUS</i>  | 2                    |