



10TH ANNUAL WINTER L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

FOREST COMMUNITY PARK



BACK ROW (STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT): JASON PUMA, MATT SIEJA, HALEY DUET, KEN BRIONES, ASHLEY BARFIELD, JACK REILLEY, JACOB BOPP, ZEB MAYHEW III, ROYAL TYLER, WILLIAM CARROLL, ZEB MAYHEW IV, JIM PARKER, RICHARD BARBALACE, TOM FORD, CORTNEY ALFORD, AIDAN FORD, KATRINA HASHAGAN, SAM FELDER, STEPHANIE PLAISANCE, MICAH CEFALU, JOHN NETTLES, DOMINIC MUGUIRA, KATE WEINELL
FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): AIDAN PHILLIPS, ANNETTE PARKER, KATIE MAYHEW, BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, AIGA HACHMANN, COLLEEN RIALS, HARRIETT POOLER, TAYLOR PARKER

TRIP DETAILS

The group met at 9:30 a.m. at the southernmost parking area of BREC's Forest Community Park in East Baton Rouge Parish. It was pretty cool in the morning but warmed up throughout the trip getting to near 70 degrees and sunny. We first hiked the Poplar-Pine Loop in the southeast portion of the park where we found a few common herps and our first snake of the day, the Western Ribbonsnake. We ended up seeing 6 of those during the day as well as 1 Common Gartersnake. We took a break around lunchtime back at the parking area. Afterwards, we proceeded to check areas in the western part of the park, mostly within the interior of the Soft-Surface Walking Loop. There, we were able to pick up several frogs as well as a couple Broad-banded Watersnakes and a Plain-bellied Watersnake. As salamanders were our target we had come up empty for nearly the entire trip, and several attendees had left before we found our first and second salamander species in quick succession at the very end of the trip at about 2:00 p.m. We flipped an eft of the Eastern Newt as well as an adult Marbled Salamander not far from the tennis courts. The 10th L.A.R.E. winter field trip was very well attended with 31 participants, with a good mix of folks new to the field trips and veterans of them. We detected 15 species of amphibians and reptiles, and folks seemed to have a great time!

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

MARBLED SALAMANDER	<i>AMBYSTOMA OPACUM</i>	1
EASTERN NEWT	<i>NOTOPHTHALMUS VIRIDESCENS</i>	1
BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	26
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	1
GREEN TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CINEREA</i>	2
GULF COAST TOAD	<i>INCILIUS NEBULIFER</i>	3
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	6
SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	<i>LITHOBATES SPHENOCEPHALUS</i>	1 (20+ TADPOLES)
SPRING PEEPER	<i>PSEUDACRIS CRUCIFER</i>	CALLING ONLY
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	4
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	42
PLAIN-BELLIED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA ERYTHROGASTER</i>	1
SOUTHERN WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA FASCIATA</i>	3
WESTERN RIBBONSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS PROXIMUS</i>	6
COMMON GARTERSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS SIRTALIS</i>	1