



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

MAY 7, 2023

BRIARWOOD NATURE PRESERVE



BACK ROW (STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT): BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO, DAVIS PELTIER, ROYAL TYLER, DOMINIC MUGUIRA, CHRISTINA TRAPANI, MACI TRAPANI, JASON PUMA, HALEY MCNEILL, WAYLON MCNEILL, CLAIRE ROANE, MICAH CEFALU, CHELSEY PHILLIPS, BAYLI BROSSETTE, CJ HILLARD, JOHN HIERATH **FRONT ROW (KNEELING, LEFT TO RIGHT):** CHASE RIALS, COLLEEN RIALS, AIDAN PHILLIPS, KEVIN HOOD, RACHEL HOOD, JOEL ROANE, TRAVIS BROSSETTE, ANNIE PARKER

TRIP DETAILS

The group met at 9:00 a.m. at the education building of Briarwood in extreme northeast Natchitoches Parish. Bayli, the manager of Briarwood, gave us a brief tour to learn more about the history of Briarwood and Caroline Dormon's legacy. Afterwards we set off on the trails to begin herping. We found a lot of herps during the morning hike, including several watersnakes, ribbonsnakes, cottonmouths, and a copperhead in addition to a few salamanders, lizards, frogs, and a bunch of box turtles, several of which were mating pairs. We made it back to the education building for about noon where most of us enjoyed Bayli's white chicken chili she had made for everyone. Some people had left but the rest of us had a shorter afternoon hike where we found a few more herps, including more box turtles! Several of us had spent the previous day/night there where we captured Hurter's Spadefoots, Pickerel Frogs, a Rough Greensnake, and a gorgeous Buttermilk Racer that we temporarily kept. We ended the trip a little after 2 p.m. but some hung out a little longer photographing those animals. The 11th L.A.R.E. spring field trip was well attended for north Louisiana with 23 attendees, with a good mix of folks new to the field trips and veterans. We detected 18 species of amphibians and reptiles during the actual field trip and several more the previous day/night. The land and hospitality at Briarwood was amazing and everyone had a great time!

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

WESTERN DWARF SALAMANDER	<i>EURYCEA PALUDICOLA</i>	2
SPOTTED DUSKY SALAMANDER	<i>DESMOGNATHUS CONANTI</i>	5
BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	6
FOWLER'S TOAD	<i>ANAXYRUS FOWLERI</i>	1
EASTERN NARROW-MOUTHED TOAD	<i>GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS</i>	1
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	CALLING ONLY
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	5 (CALLING)
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	7
TOOTHY SKINKS	<i>PLESTIODON SP.</i>	7
COMMON FIVE-LINED SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON FASCIATUS</i>	1
BROAD-HEADED SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON LATICEPS</i>	2
PRAIRIE LIZARD	<i>SCELOPORUS CONSOBRINUS</i>	7
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	13
EASTERN COPPERHEAD	<i>AGKISTRODON CONTORTRIX</i>	1
NORTHERN COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	2
PLAIN-BELLIED WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA ERYTHROGASTER</i>	2
SOUTHERN WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA FASCIATA</i>	1
WESTERN RIBBONSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS PROXIMUS</i>	5
EASTERN BOX TURTLE	<i>TERRAPENE CAROLINA</i>	13