



2ND ANNUAL SPRING L.A.R.E. FIELD TRIP

MAY 3, 2014

LOUISIANA STATE ARBORETUM
AT CHICOT STATE PARK



BACK ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT): ROYAL TYLER, PHILIP VANBERGEN, KYLYAN VILLERMIN, SARA PILGRIM, BEANIE VILLERMIN, AMY WINDSOR, BRAD 'BONES' GLORIOSO **FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT):** ANNIE TYLER, ERIC VANBERGEN, THEO WINDSOR

TRIP DETAILS

It was a beautiful day for a field trip in a beautiful location. The ten total attendees set out on the trails at about 9:30 a.m. and we immediately came across a Blanchard's Cricket Frog and a few Little Brown Skinks. Then Sara spotted a beautiful Speckled Kingsnake on the crawl and quickly snatched it up. It was a fine looking individual and everyone with cameras grabbed a few shots. Shortly after, Sara flipped the first of three total Dwarf Salamanders on the day under a log in a dried wetland. Normally a Dwarf Salamander would not be so exciting, as they are fairly drab, but because several of us have been out there many times and had never come across one, much less three, it was a welcomed find. I spotted and captured a beautiful adult Western Ribbonsnake, and we had a few other common finds, but things were slow for a bit. It picked up when I stumbled upon a drying water hole, where a Broad-banded Watersnake and a Cottonmouth were resting. We later came across a juvenile Broad-banded Watersnake and a couple more Cottonmouths in and around shallow wetlands. We had seen several Common Five-lined Skinks throughout the day, but Beanie spotted a large skink on a cypress tree just off the boardwalk which I managed to capture. It turned out to be a nice Broad-headed Skink, which afforded the opportunity to show everyone some of the scale characters that differentiate them from Common Five-lined Skinks. We rested a bit at the Arboretum's Nature Center before hiking back to the car, leaving the site at about 4 p.m. It was not a hugely diverse trip with 14 total species, but it seemed everyone had a great time, and we had a few nice finds.

AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES DETECTED

DWARF SALAMANDER	<i>EURYCEA QUADRIDIGITATA</i>	3
BLANCHARD'S CRICKET FROG	<i>ACRIS BLANCHARDI</i>	19 (CALLING)
FOWLER'S TOAD	<i>ANAXYRUS FOWLERI</i>	2
COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	<i>HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS</i>	CALLING ONLY
GREEN FROG	<i>LITHOBATES CLAMITANS</i>	4 (CALLING)
SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	<i>LITHOBATES SPHENOCEPHALUS</i>	6
GREEN ANOLE	<i>ANOLIS CAROLINENSIS</i>	9
BROAD-HEADED SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON LATICEPS</i>	1
COMMON FIVE-LINED SKINK	<i>PLESTIODON FASCIATUS</i>	4
LITTLE BROWN SKINK	<i>SCINCELLA LATERALIS</i>	27
COTTONMOUTH	<i>AGKISTRODON PISCIVORUS</i>	3
SPECKLED KINGSNAKE	<i>LAMPROPELTIS HOLBROOKI</i>	1
SOUTHERN WATERSNAKE	<i>NERODIA FASCIATA</i>	2
WESTERN RIBBONSNAKE	<i>THAMNOPHIS PROXIMUS</i>	3