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Santa Fe Audubon Society - Florida

Santa Fe Audubon Society

Melrose, FL

OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER



URGENT **MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT PLEASE**

Phosphogypsum stacks have dumped hundreds of gallons of toxic wastewater into Tampa Bay at Piney Point. Now Manatee county wants to get a permit from the Florida DEP to take the remaining millions of acidic, radioactive waste water and inject it underground.

This permit should be denied to protect our underground vulnerable karst formations.

To tell the Florida DEP to reject Manatee county's request for this underground injection permit, send an email to:

DWRMIW.PM@dep.state.fl.us

or call

813-470-5913

"OFF THE MAIN TRAIL"

Suggested places for creating your own field trip.

On page 2 of this issue.

THE NATIVE PLANT CONNECTION

Will be back in the November Issue

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ETONIAH ROSEMARY SURVEY **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021**

Every year in October, a census is taken of every known specimen of this endangered species that occurs naturally nowhere else on earth. Volunteers needed; no prior experience or expertise is required. Wear clothes suitable for the weather and hiking in the woods. Meet at **8:30 AM** the Etoniah Creek State Forest Office.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Bill Chitty via email at bill.chitty@gmail.com.



ARE YOU A SHARP-EYED CONSERVATION HAWK?

Santa Fe Audubon Society needs you!



Interested in environmental and conservation issues in Florida?

We are seeking volunteers to identify and respond to local and regional conservation issues.

Please email us at santafeaudubonfl@aol.com to find out how you can help.

“OFF THE MAIN TRAIL”

Suggested places for creating your own field trip.



Amid the vast uplands between Orange Lake, Lake Lochloosa, and Paynes Prairie southeast of Gainesville, **LONGLEAF FLATWOODS RESERVE** offers a scenic day hiking destination on a series of loops created for equestrian use.

The footpath is firm and the habitats varied enough that this loop of forest roads makes for an interesting hike, especially when the wildflowers are ablaze in spring and fall.

You might see gopher tortoise, white-tailed deer, bobcat and a diverse bird population. Bird species may include Red-bellied, Red-headed, Pileated and Downy Woodpeckers, as well as Brown-headed Nuthatch, Northern Cardinal, Pine Warbler and Wild Turkey and many others.



Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve is located on County Road 325, south of State Route 20 and west of Hawthorne, FL.

For more information on Longleaf Flatwoods Reserve
<https://floridahikes.com/longleaf-flatwoods-reserve>

<https://www.sjrwmd.com/lands/recreation/longleaf-flatwoods/>

BIRD OF THE MONTH

BARRED OWL (*Strix varia*)

Band code “BADO”

The Barred Owl's hooting call, “Who cooks for you? Who cooks for you-all?” is a classic sound of old forests and treed swamps. But this attractive owl, with soulful brown eyes and brown-and-white-striped plumage, can also pass completely unnoticed as it flies noiselessly through the dense canopy or snoozes on a tree limb. Originally a bird of the east, during the twentieth century it spread through the Pacific Northwest and southward into California.



COOL FACTS:

Barred Owls don't migrate, and they don't even move around very much. During a study of owl movement, 158 individuals were banded in (wherever) who were found 1 year later and not one of them was further than 6 miles away from where originally banded.

Pleistocene fossils of Barred Owls, at least 11,000 years old, have been dug up in Florida, Tennessee, and Ontario.

For more information about Barred Owls visit:

www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Barred_Owl/overview

Fun Fact:

Barred Owls have many collectively nouns including “bazaar”, “glaring”, “parliament”, “stooping” and “wisdom” of owls.