



Douglas E. Barr
Executive Director

Northwest Florida Water Management District

81 Water Management Drive, Havana, Florida 32333-4712
(U.S. Highway 90, 10 miles west of Tallahassee)

(850) 539-5999 • (Fax) 539-2777

May 26, 2006

Ms. Victoria Tauxe
DEP-OSLER-MS 2500
2600 Blair Stone Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Re: Progress Report 2

Dear Ms. Tauxe,

Please accept this submittal as the second progress report for the SHLMB. Little additional work has occurred at the bank since the last progress report. However, all additional work completed as well as problems and potential solutions are described below.

Please provide a brief description of permit requirements met and extent of work completed the previous report or since the permit was issued:

1. Road work was initiated on the main loop from the entrance to Deep Edge Pond and eastward to Dykes Mill Pond and Greenhead Branch, and from Greenhead Branch back to the entrance road (Figure 10a). The roadwork was initiated on April 24th and is expected to continue until the end of May. The road will be capped with clay and lime rock. This will allow the heavy earth moving equipment and logging trucks to traverse the road during the construction and harvesting activities. The areas used as "turn arounds" for the clay and rock trucks will be re-planted with wire grass plugs once the work has been completed. The road work is also discussed in the May inspection report.
2. In accordance with Attachment H – Monitoring plan, the photographic stations have been installed. Spring pedestrian surveys are ongoing.
3. Continued surveys for feral hogs revealed a small herd of feral hogs on the northeast side of Dry pond and adjacent to the Green Ponds. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission estimated a population of one boar, two sows and their offspring. A special use take permit was issued to John Dunlap on May 12, 2006 to remove the hogs and copy of the letter from the Florida Fish and Wildlife

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Conservation Commission has been included in the submittal. To date one female hog approximately 80 pounds and pregnant has been trapped (See attached memos and Figure 10b).

4. During the May site inspection, torpedo grass (*Panicum repens*) was observed adjacent to the boat ramps of two of the green ponds (Figure 10b). Current coverage is minimal at each of the boat ramps (Inspection Form Included in Submittal). It appears that the torpedo grass has been there for many years. A detailed inspection of the green ponds will be conducted the week of May 22nd to determine if there is any additional torpedo grass cover. Following the inspection, a contract will be issued to a certified aquatic herbicide applicator to treat the population.
5. In accordance with Specific Condition 8, an annual Law Enforcement Report has been included in the submittal (Figure 11).

Restoration activities anticipated within the next 6 months:

1. In accordance with Specific Condition 10, turkey and live oaks will be reduced to 150 trees or less in portions of Management Unit 10.
2. In accordance with Specific Condition 11 and Attachment E, warm season burns will occur at the SHLMB over the summer. Updated burn maps will be included in subsequent progress reports and or the annual report.
3. In accordance with Specific condition 12, hydrologic improvements are expected to be implemented in the next 6 months.
4. In accordance with Attachment H: Monitoring and Maintenance, an aerial photo of the site will be taken to provide an aerial view of the status of the restoration and vegetation.

Please provide copies of the permit drawings indicating areas where work has been completed:

To date no earth moving activities have been initiated at the bank. Work is expected to start within the next month. DHR's was called on 5/23/2006 to determine the status of the review of the historical report. The review is expected to be completed within the next week.

Please provide a brief description of problems encountered and solutions undertaken:

Since the last progress report, there have been no substantial problems encountered at the SHLMB.

Thank you for your consideration of this submittal. If you have any question or comments please feel free to contact me at 850-539-5999.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Clayton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Clayton
Assistant QMS

Enclosures:

Figure 10a – Road Improvement

Figure 10b – Nuisance and Exotic Species Tracking

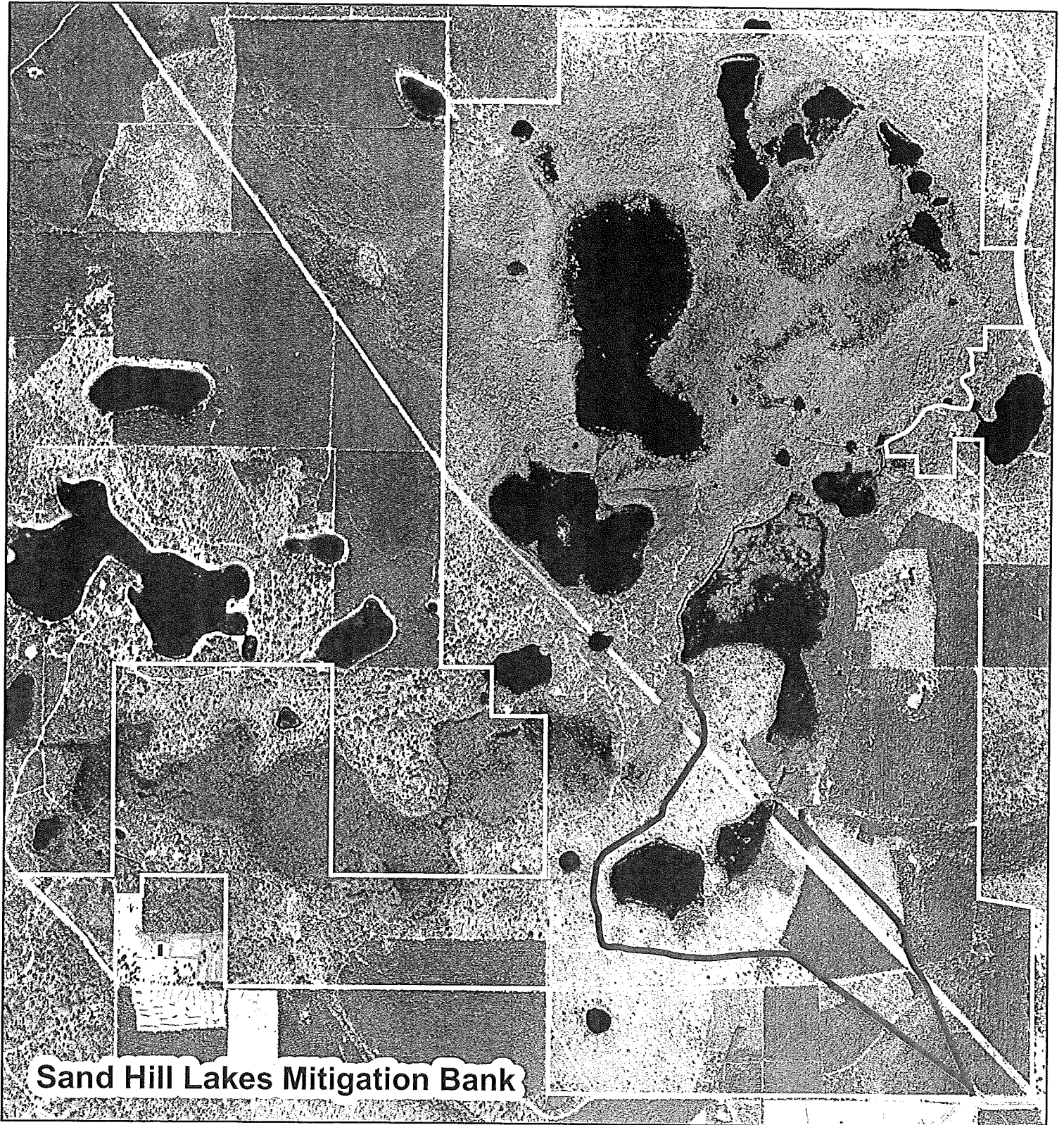
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Special Use Permit Letter

E-mail from Rachael Hallman (FWC) concerning hog trapping

Figure 11 – Sand Hill Lakes Security Report

May Site Inspection Field Form

Figure 10a - Road Improvements

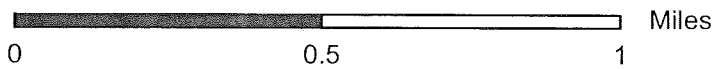
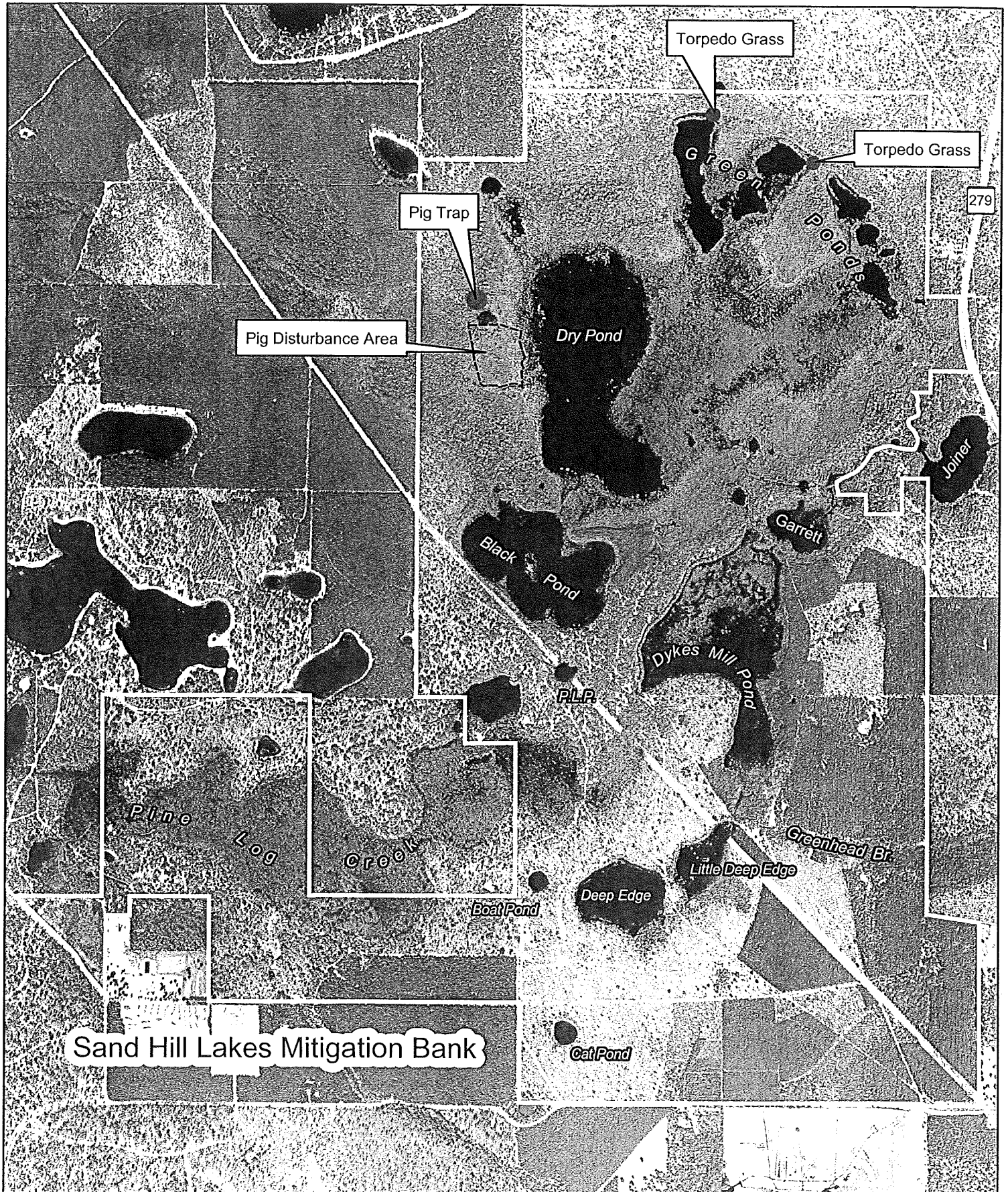


— Road Improvements

0 0.5 1 Miles



Figure 10b - Nuisance and Exotic Species Tracking



FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION



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Miami

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LT. COLONEL JIM McCALLISTER, Deputy Director
LT. COLONEL MIKE WIWI, Deputy Director
(850)488-6251, TDD (850)486-9542

May 12, 2006

SPECIAL USE PERMIT

John Dunlap
USDA, Wildlife Service
P. O. Box 579
Bristol, FL 32321

has permission to use traps and firearms to take destructive feral hogs during daylight and nighttime hours in the Fitzhugh Carter Tract of Econfina Wildlife Management Area and Lafayette Creek Wildlife Management Area.

This permit includes Marty Daniel, Mike Townson, and John Allen as assistants.

Valid From: May 12, 2006

To: October 14, 2006

Mr. Kenneth Haddad
Executive Director

By: *Dave Pridgen*
Major Dave Pridgen
Regional Commander
Northwest Region

David Clayton

From: Hallman, Rachael [Rachael.Hallman@MyFWC.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2006 10:53 AM
To: David Clayton
Subject: RE: Pigs at the SHLMB

Dave,
I just received a call from the trapper. This morning (Thursday, May 25) he had one pregnant sow, about 80 lbs. So far that is all that he has been able to catch. I'll let you know as soon as I find out any more.
Rachael

From: David Clayton [mailto:David.Clayton@nwfwm.d.state.fl.us]
Sent: Wed 5/17/2006 2:49 PM
To: Hallman, Rachael
Subject: RE: Pigs at the SHLMB

Hey Rachael,

If you hear that any hogs are trapped, could you let me know the number and what dates that occurred on...

Thanks
Dave

NOTICE: E-mail communications to or from Northwest Florida Water Management District employees regarding state business are considered to be public records. Florida's public records law requires these communications be made available to the public and media upon request.

Figure 11. Sand Hill Lakes Security Report

From July 1, 2005 through December 30, 2005—FWC Officers provided 251 hours of patrol in the Carter Tract during 2005. They found almost no violations in the area, and wrote no warnings or citations. Officers Kathy Jackson and Lane Kinney found three individuals riding horses inside the area. The officers informed these individuals about the problems associated with riding in sensitive areas and verbally warned them about the restrictions on horseback riding.

FWC Law Enforcement Report		
January 2006 - March 1, 2006		
<u>Ofcr</u>	<u>1. Violation activity</u>	<u>2. Patrol hours</u>
3470	none	8
3471	none	2
3472	none	2
3474	none	15
3475	none	26
3476	none	20
total hrs:		73

<u>3. And awareness of potential law enforcement problems.</u>
litter outside of their fence in two places, spot checked it
none
none
none
worked mostly turkey season, found sign indicative hunter trespass
22 contacts

Site Inspection Field Form**Page 1 of 1**

Name(s) of Data Collectors: David Clayton

Date: 5/9/06

Time: 8:00

On a monthly basis, the site will be inspected as follows:

 Perimeter checked for signs of trespassing, fencing and signage integrity and infestation by exotic or nuisance vegetation;

Comments: Signs adjacent to Green Ponds need to be replaced. No nuisance or exotic species observed. Missing signs reported to Tyler...

 Internal Roads (Both public and maintenance) checked for signs of dumping or trespassing, erosion, bridges and road integrity, and exotic or nuisance species infestations;

Comments: No dumping, erosion, trespass. Centipede grass observed on some internal roads. Areas mapped. Areas will be treated in the next month.

 All construction areas checked for stabilization and re-vegetation, structure, operation, and integrity;

Comments: None

 Powerline checked for trespassing or disturbance that may affect the integrity of the bank;

Comments: None

 At least 3 polygons of each UMAM community evaluated or for those UMAM communities with less than three polygons, each UMAM polygon evaluated.

Comments: Roads adjacent to Dykes Mill Pond and Deep Edge have fairly dense coverage of centipede grass, treat with herbicide. Two small (~20') areas adjacent to the boat ramps in the Green Ponds were found to have torpedo grass cover. All boat ramps will be inspected for torpedo grass as well as the shores of the green ponds. These populations were well established and probably were brought in before the SHLMB was owned by the District. The areas will be treated in the near future.

Wildlife Observations:**Greenhead Branch:** glass lizard, brown thrasher, cardinal, tit mouse**Black Pond:** southern cricket frog, Florida ducks, wood ducks**Power Line Pond:** six-lined race runner**Dykes Mill Pond:** wood duck, pickerel frog, southern cricket frog, little blue heron, abandoned gopher tortoise burrow**Little Deep Edge:** Rookery with approx 30 pairs...anhinga, little blue heron, cattle egret, tri colored heron, snowy egrets, great egrets, bull frog, crows, red winged black bird, flicker, grackle (nesting), kingfisher, six-lined racer**Green ponds:** squirrel, bull frog, great blue heron, little blue heron, wood ducks, oak toad, marsh rabbit, raccoon scat, deer tracks, pig tracks, blue grey gnatcatcher, cardinal, rufous-sided towhee, pickerel frog, southern cricket frog**Sand hill upslope of green ponds:** Eastern kingbird, morning dove, mocking bird, six-lined lizard, abandoned gopher tortoise burrow**Hardwood forest adjacent to Green Ponds:** Easter box turtle (male), brown water snake, ground skink