



# The Buzzard Bulletin

Notes & Information for CREW Trust Volunteers

June-July, 2023

Volume 7, Issue 5

## Notepad

### Ideas requested

Suggestions for Strolling Science Seminar topics and leaders are needed for the 2023-2024 season.

Leaders should have science-based backgrounds in topics that relate to CREW in some manner.

Please send ideas and suggestions to Julie.

### Wet walks

Late summer wet walks on the CREW trails are being planned.

Look for emails with dates and places and then visit Track-it-Forward to sign up.

### College sweeps

Sweeps are needed for summer FGCU Colloquium field trips at CMT and FPS. Dates and sign-ups are posted in Track-it-Forward.

### New summer lecture series premieres

New this year is a summer lecture series. The talks will be open to the public and volunteers are invited to attend (they're free).

The series will be held at locations in Estero. Exact times and places will be announced soon. The topics are below.

#### JUNE

Lepidopteran Ecology and ID  
(butterflies & moths)

#### JULY

Turtle Ecology and ID  
(with living examples)

#### AUGUST

Woodpecker Ecology and ID

## Summer interns join CREW Trust staff

Veronica Salvatierra is a senior at FGCU studying Environmental Studies. She received an associate degree in business management and is pursuing a degree in Ecology.



A native of Miami, Veronica worked there as a zookeeper for two years. Her favorite animals to work with are birds and snakes, and she hopes to share that passion with the people she meets during her internship with CREW.

Sarah Schurr will graduate from FGCU in the fall with a B.S. in Environmental Studies and a concentration in environmental education. Sarah has a passion for the environment and for sustainability, and she has loved working with children all her life.



She can't wait to learn more about all that CREW has to offer in SWFL and then inspire students to appreciate the environment as much as she does.

## FPS pavilion finished

The new pavilion in the northeast corner of the trailhead parking lot at FPS is finished and ready for use.

The structure was built under the leadership of Rylan Zurbrigg for his Eagle Scout project which included design, fundraising, permitting, and supervising construction.



## Revisiting summer threats: think safety first

Volunteers who are outdoors or on the trails this summer need to take extra precautions to stay safe and to avoid serious health problems.

Please refer to the following articles in past *Buzzard Bulletins*. All of the articles are available at [www.dickbrewer.org/CREWguides.html](http://www.dickbrewer.org/CREWguides.html)

- Beware of biting summer flies ..... August 2021
- Dehydration: symptoms, effects, and prevention ..... June 2020
- Avoiding heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat stroke ..... June 2022
- Heat Index explanation, danger zones ..... June 2021
- Effective sunscreens and usage ..... August 2020
- Lightning: facts, myths, and safety ..... June 2019
- How to check out CREW lightning detectors ..... June 2019

# Summer plans for purchases, repairs, redesigns, survey

## Trail maps

All four trail maps will be updated this summer in preparation for next season. The plan is to add self-guided tours to the reverse side of the trail maps for BRS and FPS like those already there for CMT and CDT.

Volunteer knowledge and experience are needed for the development of the supplementary trail systems talking points that will form these self-guided tours. Volunteers are encouraged to submit ideas for the updates.

## UTV purchase

We recently received approval to purchase a side-by-side UTV to help staff and volunteers carry out trail stewardship, especially at FPS and BRS.

## BRS observation deck

The observation deck at the BRS parking lot was closed pending repairs. The District contracted Nelson Marine Construction for the job.

## BRS boardwalk repairs

The District recently visited BRS to assess the condition of the boardwalk and determined that it was time to undertake a rebuild of the railings and substructure. It will be done in the near future and will be completed in phases similar to the schedule of the replacement of the boardwalk deck.

## Kiosk redesigns

There will be possible kiosk redesigns this summer to free up space to feature posters for special programs or to advertise the guided hikes. Volunteer suggestions are needed and welcomed. Please contact Bob with ideas.

## Corkscrew entrance sign

The CREW Trust sign at the entrance to the office on Corkscrew Road has seen better days and is ready to be replaced. Installation is on hold until a sturdy new frame is in place to support the sign.

## Trail surveys, projects

Formal trail surveys will begin using the trail inspection checklist that was developed last August and September.

The goal is identify and prioritize repairs and projects on the trails over the next several months prior to the start of 2023-2024 programs.

# New species discovered on CREW trails

Six more species new in the CREW wildlife management area have been added since the last *Buzzard Bulletin*.

All were found and identified by volunteers on the trails from the start of March through the first half of May.

In addition to the four species below, two dragonfly species were new additions to the CREW wildlife lists: a Blue-faced Darner (*Coryphaeschna adnexa*) and a Two-striped Forceptail (*Aphylla williamson*).

## Staying connected

### People

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### Web sites

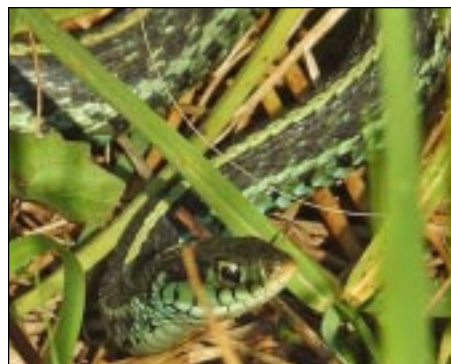
[www.crewtrust.org](http://www.crewtrust.org)

[www.trackitforward.com](http://www.trackitforward.com) (hours & events, password crew17)

The Buzzard Bulletin contains notes and information for CREW volunteers and is emailed six times a year (September, November, January, March, May, July). Dick Brewer, editor.



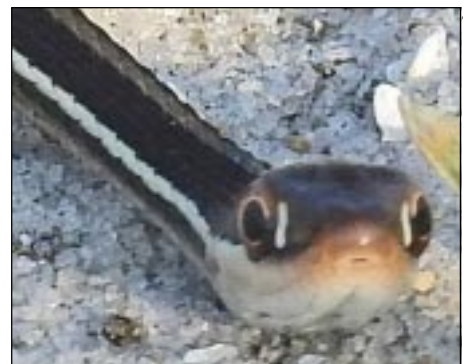
Little Yellow  
*Pyrisitia lisa*



Blue-striped Garter Snake  
*Thamnophis sirtalis similis*



Caspian Tern  
*Hydroprogne caspia*



Peninsula Ribbon Snake  
*Thamnophis sauritus sackeni*