

Lillian Self

- · Born and raised in South Carolina
- B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of South Carolina
- Participated in undergraduate research
- Founding member of the Carolina Herpetological Society
- Was executive committee member of UofSC chapter of Alpha Omega Epsilon
- Worked as an Intern for Ohio River Islan NWR Summer 2022
- Graduated May of 2023
- Started working as a bio tech for Red River in May of 2023









Justin Talley

- Born in Knoxville, Tennessee
- B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries with a concentration in Wildlife from Tennessee Tech
- U.S. Marine
- TWRA Wildlife Intern
- Felsenthal NWR Feral Swine Technician
- Red River NWR Biological Technician
- Duck Banding in Northern Saskatchewan





Why Alligator Snapping Turtles?

•Range

- Southern United States Ranging from as far east as Georgia and Florida, as west as Texas, and as North as Southeastern Iowa.
- Found in rivers and streams that feed into the Gulf of Mexico
- Feeding Behavior
- Ambush predators
- Primarily carnivorous
- Most active at night
- Specialized tongue lore





Life History

- 3 genetically distinct sub-populations
 - Mississippi Watershed
 - Gulf coastal rivers east of Mississippi River
 - Suwannee River discharge in Florida
- Spend most of their time in the water
 - Can stay submerged for 40-50 minutes
- Only live in Freshwater
 - Tend to prefer deeper beds of large rivers
- Reach sexual maturity between 11-13 years old
 - Mate in early Spring
 - Females lay eggs on the banks of rivers
 - Lay 1 clutch a year or every other year
 - Sizes range from 10 60 eggs
 - Incubate for 100 days

Conservation Status

- Threatened
 - Habitat loss
 - Over harvesting
 - Predation

Fun Facts!

- Largest freshwater turtle in North America
- They smell with their throats!



Why Little Browns and Tricolors?

Little Brown Bats

- Found across North America
- Federally endangered
- Threats
 - White-nose syndrome
 - Habitat loss and degradation
 - Pesticide use
 - Climate Change

https://www.fws.gov/species/little-brown-bat-myotis-lucifugus



Tricolor Bats

- Found in the Eastern United States
- Endangered status has been proposed (September 2022)
- Threats
 - White-nose syndrome
 - Habitat loss and degradation

https://www.fws.gov/species/tricolored-bat-perimyotis-subflavus



Procedures for surveys

Turtles

- Scouting for monitoring sites
- Catching bait
- Hoop nets
- Searching for nesting sites
- What do we do when we catch an AST?



Bats

- Scouting for monitoring sites
- Readying monitors
- Setting monitors
- Analyzing data



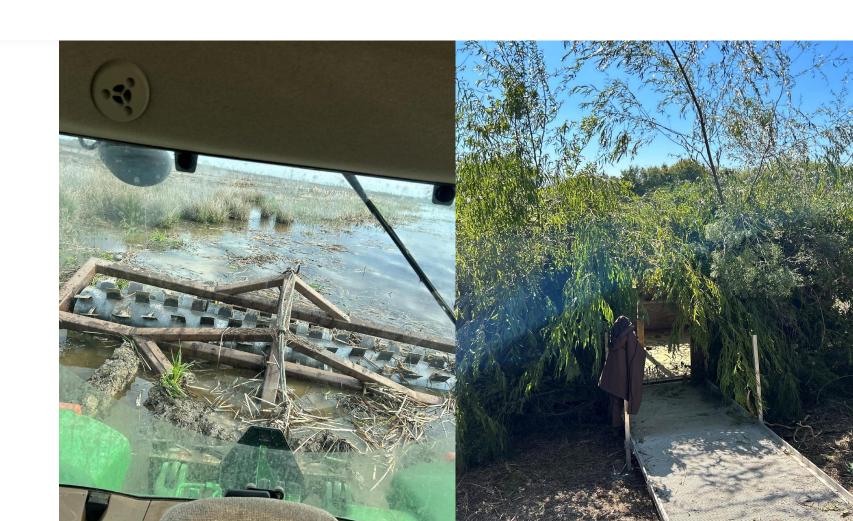
Invasive Species Monitoring and Management

- Weeds
- Wild Pigs
- Water plants (giant salvinia, water hyacinth)



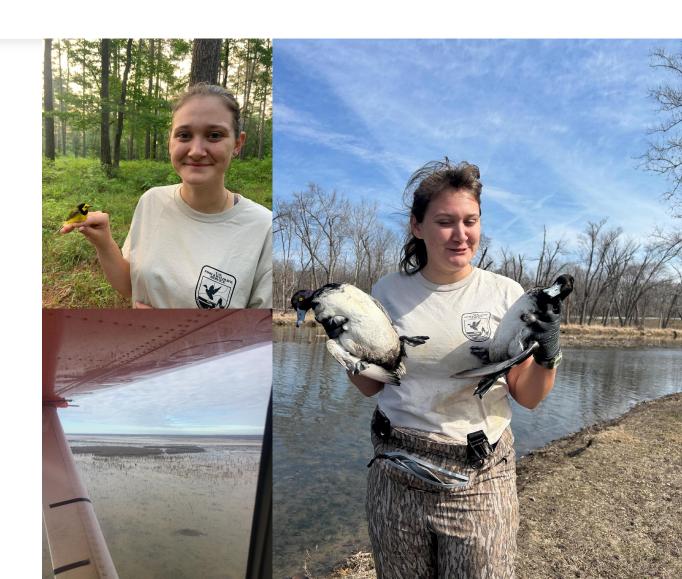
Refuge Maintenance

- Mowing, weed eating, tree trimming, trail maintenance
- Equipment maintenance
- Monitoring water levels
- Running equipment
- Construction



Wildlife Surveys

- Aerial waterfowl counts
- Daily ground waterfowl counts
- Waterfowl banding
- Bird banding (MAPS Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship)



Trainings

Motorboat Operation
ATV/UTV
First Aid/CPR
Herbicide Application
Flight Safety
Heavy Equipment Operation
Rocket Net
Explosives

