

SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

SCAN PO Box 24911 Columbia, SC 29224 www.scnaturalists.org

October 2024

Howdy, SCANners!

I hope September treated you well and you weathered Hurricane Helene safely. However, Pisgah National Forest where SCAN visited just two months ago, was hit very hard by the storm, and I fear some of the wonderous areas we saw will not look the same anytime soon. Several of our members were impacted severely at their homes and towns. Keep western North Carolina and the Aiken area in our thoughts, help out if you can, and hopefully we'll all be able to return to the wonderful small towns and biodiversity hotspots of the mountains in a few years.

Autumn seems to be finally settling in, perhaps a bit too chilly too quickly. We have had some interesting celestial views recently – hopefully y'all have been out in the evenings to see the northern lights and the comet C/2023 A3 Tsuchinshan-ATLAS. (What a name!) Such rare events in a short amount of time are a naturalist's dream! It's a shame SCAN has so few overnight trips. Everything is different at night.

From Secretary Tom's photos, looks like last month's trip to Samworth WPA was a herper's delight! At least for this time of year. This month's trip to Issaqueena Lake Natural Area in the Clemson Experiment Forest will likely miss the tail end of the fall bird migration, but you never know! Fall is also a great time for end-of-the-season spiders and insects. Either way, I hope you can make the coming trip. As always, this time of year, we are looking for interesting places to be nominated for next year's wombles, soodles, meanders, and wanders. Please let us know about that new secret spot you want to share for warblers, salamanders, or rare plants!

Lee Morris, President

Last Month: Samworth WMA

Last month on the heels of Hurricane Helene eight souls braved the way East to Samworth WMA to tromp about the coastal plain. The early fall weather was pleasant and many animals were stirring about the woods as flowers and fungi popped into bloom. The group capped off the day with a detour to downtown Georgetown for food and comradery.

Tom Austin, Secretary & Southern Regional Director

This Month: Clemson Experimental Forest Lake Issaqueena

This month we're headed towards the northwest corner of the Palmetto State to explore the Lake Issaqueena Recreation Area in the Clemson Experimental Forest. I personally spent a great deal of time here as an undergrad birdwatching, herping, hiking, being tested on botany exams, and assisting with research on non-game fish in the Forest's many creeks. So, I can tell you from firsthand experience, that it's a wonderfully diverse natural area with something to suit everyone's interests. This time of year is one of the best times to experience it. So, I hope you'll be able to join us in the upstate this month!

Tom Austin, Secretary & Southern Regional Director

2025 Field Trip Planning Meeting: 11/17/2024 @7pm

Mark your calendars for <u>November 17th, 2024 at 7:00pm</u>. That's going to be the date of our planning meeting to set the field trip schedule for 2025. [**NOTE: THIS DATE IS DIFFERENT THAN ADVERTISED LAST NEWSLETTER.**] The meeting will be held virtually and we'll send out the meeting details via email and in the November newsletter. So, as you ramble through the Palmetto State this month, please be thinking of where you want SCAN to go next year. If you can't attend on 11/17, please send your field trip recommendations in for discussion during the meeting!

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718776802?pwd=UKXKK4jokI7KallEz02bgmjucy9amd.1

Meeting ID:827 1877 6802Passcode:189343

Tom Austin, Secretary & Southern Regional Director



<u>Attendees</u>: Kim McManus, Jeff Luther, Knox Luther, Tom Austin, Scott Wietecha, Todd Johnston, Paul Baker, and Chris Hill

Photos from Samworth WMA





Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorous*) [Photo: Tom A.]

Jackson's Slender Caesar (Amanita jacksonii) [Photo: Tom A.]



Squirrel Treefrog (*Hyla squirella*) [Photo: Tom A.]



Cope's Gray Treefrog (*Hyla chrysoscelis*) [Photo: Tom A.]



Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) [Photo: Tom A.]



Smooth Earthsnake (Virginia valeriae) [Photo: Tom A.]

Issaqueena Lake Natural Area, Clemson Experimental Forest

PICKENS COUNTY, SC Issaqueena Lake Rd, parking area 34.741549, -82.863615 Saturday, October 26th, 2024 10:30am to ~4:30pm

The Lake Issagueena Natural Area was created in the 1930's with the clearing of land and subsequent construction of Issaqueena dam, trails and picnic areas by the civil conservation corps. Well into the 1940's the area was largely farmed but, during WWII, the farms were abandoned allowing the area to revegetate naturally. What returned was a mature forest considered to be a "botanist's treasure trove" with plant diversity unrivaled in most of the United States! (For more information on history and plant diversity go to: <u>Clemson World Archive</u>] When Paths Converge). For example, there have been 93 species of trees and shrub documented in the forest. Identifying these on your walk could be a challenge for even our best botanist, especially in leaf-off condition due to Hurricane Helene. With plant diversity comes animal diversity. For the herpetologists, there have been 16 species of salamanders along with 19 species of snakes documented. Some notable species of salamander documented include the red-spotted newt, southern Appalachian salamander and northern red salamander. Many of the trails have seeps and small ephemeral streams to be searched. Folks interested in birds will also find this location interesting. There have been 174 bird species documented in the Clemson Experimental Forest. Of those, an amazing 38 species of warblers have been reported. This includes the elusive cerulean warbler along with the vast majority of spring migrants that pass-through South Carolina. Even though most of the birds will have already migrated through, the ones that are still there will be easy to see due to leaf-off conditions. There should still be an abundance of fall nectar available for butterflies and other pollinators. The forest is known to be an important stop-over for monarch butterflies.

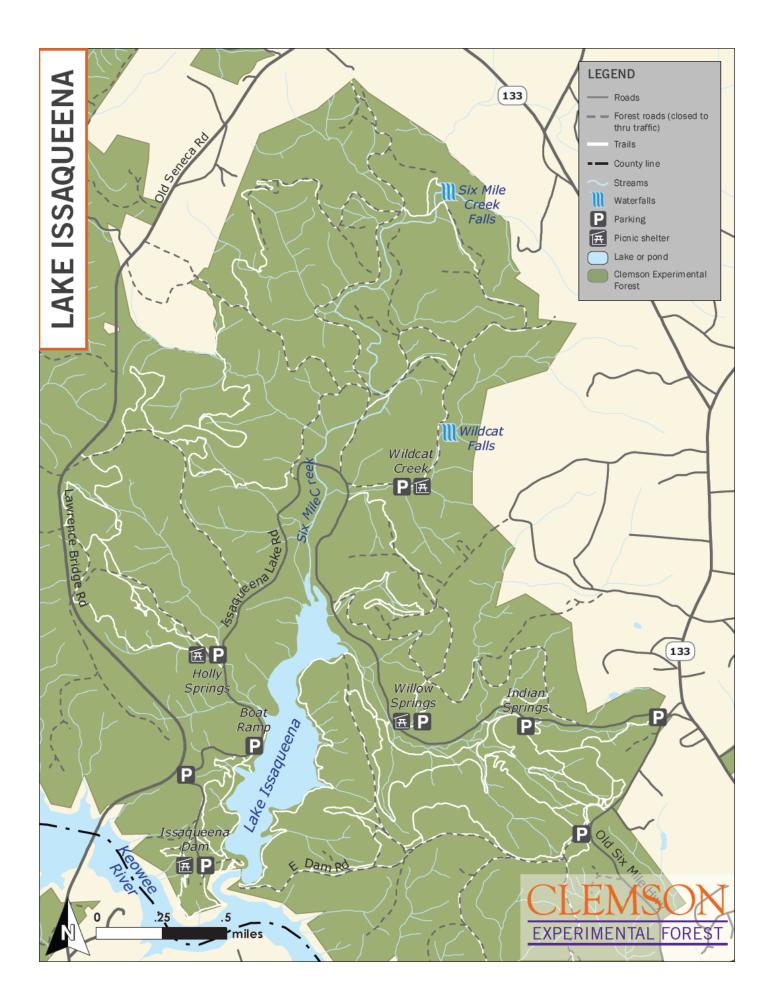
There are many trails to explore that range from short-easy to long-difficult. Go to: <u>draft map trails2012 is lc.pdf (clemson.edu)</u> for trail locations, parking and routes. The terrain is hilly as is typical in the foothills/piedmont ecoregions of South Carolina. The trails will lead you to destinations such as waterfalls, mature forest, stream valleys and lake shore habitats. Some notable trails include the Rapids Trail, the Wildcat Trail (note As of October 2024, a road leading to this trailhead is closed indefinitely, but the *trail* is open), and the Issaquena Lake Trail. For more detailed information on trails go to: <u>CEF Featured Routes | Public |</u> <u>Clemson University, South Carolina</u>.

If you would like to extend your trip, there are other opportunities for wildlife and plant viewing in other parts of the Clemson Experimental Forest plus a visit to the Clemson Botanical Gardens is always interesting. If you are looking for more hiking, Fant's Grove WMA is a good choice. So, if you plan to extend your trip to two or more days, you can camp at the recreation sites on Lake Hartwell or find accommodation in Clemson. (FYI there is no Tigers home football game on Oct 26th)

~Ron Ahle

DIRECTIONS:

From Clemson, travel east on Hwy. 123 for about a mile past Lake crossing and turn right onto Old Clemson Highway (State Road S-37-1). In about 2 miles turn right on Lawrence Bridge Road (State Rd S-39-225). Continue north about 3 miles over the Lake Hartwell Bridge and then look for the 1st right turn onto Issaqueena Lake Road/W Dam Rd. In 300 feet, continue straight on W Dam Rd. all the way to the end of the road. To find this location with your gps/navigation system enter W Dam Rd. <u>There are no restrooms or drinking water at picnic</u> <u>areas within Clemson Experimental Forest so plan accordingly</u>. For more information and a printable map on the recreation site, go to <u>Official Trail Maps</u> | <u>Public</u> | <u>Clemson University</u>, <u>South Carolina</u>



This list was produced by SCAN from sightings produced by SCAN members and is subject to revision as needed. An asterisk (*) indicates a new sighting for SCAN. Send any changes or corrections to Kim McManus at

scnaturalists76@gmail.com. Please indicate exactly to which flora/fauna list you are referring in the subject line of your message. Thank you.

LICHENS

Usnea strigosa

FLORA

Haircap Moss Polytrichum commune **American Royal Fern** Osmunda spectabilis **Cinnamon Fern** Osmundastrum cinnamomeum Bracken Pteridium aquilinum **Ebony Spleenwort** Asplenium platyneuron **Sensitive Fern** Onoclea sensibilis Virginia Chain Fern Anchistea virginica **Netted Chain Fern** Lorinseria areolata Southern Lady Fern Athyrium asplenioides **Kunth's Maiden Fern** Pelazoneuron kunthii **Resurrection Fern** Pleopeltis michauxiana **Longleaf Pine** Pinus palustris **Loblolly Pine** Pinus taeda **Eastern Red Cedar** Juniperus virginiana **Bald-cypress** Taxodium distichum Lizard's-tail Saururus cernuus **Tulip-tree** Liriodendron tulipifera **Southern Magnolia** Magnolia grandiflora Sweetbay Magnolia virginiana Swamp Bay Persea palustris

Samworth WMA Georgetown Co., SC September 28, 2024

Sassafras Sassafras albidum Jack-in-the-pulpit Arisaema triphyllum **Creeping Burhead** Echinodorus cordifolius **Dune Greenbrier** Smilax auriculata Catbrier Smilax bona-nox bona-nox **Dwarf Palmetto** Sabal minor Dayflower Commelina sp. **Marsh Dewflower** Murdannia keisak Nakedstem Dewflower Murdannia nudiflora **Spanish-moss** Tillandsia usneoides Yellow-eved Grass Xyris sp. Soft Rush Juncus effusus Sedge Carex sp. **Umbrella Sedge** Cyperus sp. Kyllinga Kyllinga sp. **Dryland White Bluestem** Andropogon capillipes **Big Bluestem** Andropogon gerardi **Common Bushy Bluestem** Andropogon glomeratus **Splitbeard Bluestem** Andropogon ternarius Switch Cane Arundinaria tecta **Slender Spikegrass** Chasmanthium laxum Longleaf Spikegrass Chasmanthium sessiliflorum **Beaked Panic Grass** Coleataenia anceps **Bermuda Grass** Cynodon dactylon Variable Witchgrass Dichanthelium commutatum **Open-flower Witchgrass** Dichanthelium laxiflorum Yard Grass Eleusine indica **Common Eastern Wild-rye** Elymus virginicus **Centipede Grass** Eremochloa ophiuroides

Plumegrass Erianthus sp. White Cutgrass Leersia virginica Japanese Stilt-grass Microstegium vimineum **Basketgrass Oplismenus** hirtellus **Bahia Grass** Paspalum notatum Paspalum Paspalum setaceum Vasey Grass Paspalum urvillei **Common Little Bluestem** Schizachyrium scoparium scoparium **Smut Grass** Sporobolus indicus Redtop Tridens flavus **Gama Grass** Tripsacum dactyloides dactyloides **Tropical Finger-Grass** Digitaria ciliaris **Muhly Grass** Muhlenbergia sp. Southern Wild-rice Zizania aquatica aquatica Sweet Gum Liquidambar styraciflua Muscadine Muscadinia rotundifolia rotundifolia Grape Vitis sp. Virginia-creeper Parthenocissus quinquefolia **Tall Indigo-bush** Amorpha fruticosa **Common Sensitive-plant** Chamaecrista nictitans nictitans **Tick-trefoil** Desmodium paniculatum paniculatum **Bicolor Lespedeza** Lespedeza bicolor **Bush-clover** Lespedeza capitata **Korean Clover** Kummerowia stipulacea Sericea Lespedeza Lespedeza cuneata Sesban Sesbania herbacea Bladderpod Sesbania vesicaria

Chinese Wisteria Wisteria sinensis **Orange Milkwort** Polygala lutea **Mock Strawberry** Potentilla indica **Eastern Wild Black Cherry** Prunus serotina serotina **Pennsylvania Blackberry** Rubus pensilvanicus Southern Dewberry Rubus trivialis Autumn Silverberry Elaeagnus pungens Winged Elm Ulmus alata **American Elm** Ulmus americana **Red Mulberry** Morus rubra **False-nettle** Boehmeria cylindrica **Running Oak** Quercus elliottii Sand Laurel Oak Quercus hemisphaerica Laurel Oak Quercus laurifolia **Blackjack Oak** Quercus marilandica marilandica Water Oak Ouercus nigra Post Oak Quercus stellata Live Oak Quercus virginiana Laurel Wilt Raffaelea lauricola **Common Wax-myrtle** Morella cerifera **Creeping Cucumber** Melothria pendula Wood-sorrel Oxalis sp. St. Andrew's Cross Hypericum crux-andreae St. Andrew's Cross Hypericum hypericoides **Primrose-leaf Violet** Viola primulifolia **Common Blue Violet** Viola sororia **Rhombic Copperleaf** Acalypha rhomboidea Milk-purslane Euphorbia maculata **Popcorn Tree** Triadica sebifera **Chamber Bitter** Phyllanthus urinaria urinaria **Colombian Waxweed** Cuphea carthagenensis

Eastern Poison Ivv Toxicodendron radicans radicans **Eastern Red Maple** Acer rubrum rubrum **Chocolate-weed** Melochia corchorifolia **Arrowleaf Sida** Sida rhombifolia rhombifolia Halberd-leaf Tearthumb Persicaria arifolia Longbristle Smartweed Persicaria longiseta **Swamp Smartweed** Persicaria setacea **Curly Dock** Rumex crispus crispus Alligator-weed Alternanthera philoxeroides Water Tupelo Nyssa aquatica **American Persimmon** Diospyros virginiana Sweetleaf Symplocos tinctoria **Shining Fetterbush** Lyonia lucida Staggerbush Lyonia mariana Blueberry Vaccinium sp. **Bedstraw** Galium sp. Poorjoe Hexasepalum teres **Tropical Richardia** Richardia brasiliensis **Rough Mexican-clover** Richardia scabra **Carolina Jessamine** Gelsemium sempervirens **Eastern Anglepod** Gonolobus suberosus suberosus **Carolina Ponyfoot** Dichondra carolinensis **Coastal Morning-glory** Ipomoea cordatotriloba cordatotriloba **Cypress-vine** Ipomoea quamoclit **Common Jacquemontia** Jacquemontia tamnifolia Ash Fraxinus sp. **Chinese Privet** Ligustrum sinense **Cross-vine** Bignonia capreolata **Trumpet-creeper** Campsis radicans Beautyberry Callicarpa americana

Eastern Horse-mint Monarda punctata punctata **Florida Betony** Stachys floridana Little Gallberry Ilex glabra **American Holly** Ilex opaca **Broadleaf Plantain** Plantago major Yaupon Ilex vomitoria Nuttall's Lobelia Lobelia nuttallii Wahlenbergia Wahlenbergia marginata Yarrow Achillea millefolium **Coastal Tall Thistle** Cirsium nuttallii Mistflower Conoclinium coelestinum **Seepage Coreopsis** Coreopsis gladiata Longstalk Coreopsis Coreopsis lanceolata Calliopsis Coreopsis tinctoria tinctoria Leafy Elephant's-foot Elephantopus carolinianus **Coastal Plain Elephant's-foot** Elephantopus nudatus **Common Elephant's-foot** Elephantopus tomentosus Fireweed Erechtites hieraciifolius **Common Horseweed** Erigeron canadensis **Common Dog-fennel** Eupatorium capillifolium **Eupatorium** Eupatorium sp. **Spoonleaf Purple Everlasting** Gamochaeta purpurea **Common Sneezeweed** Helenium autumnale Narrowleaf Sunflower Helianthus angustifolius **Beaked Hawkweed** Hieracium gronovii **Stiff-leaved Aster** Ionactis linariifolia **Blazing-star** Liatris sp. **Grass-leaved Golden-aster** Pityopsis graminifolia **Fragrant Rabbit-tobacco** Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium **Common Eastern Coneflower** Rudbeckia fulgida **Black-eyed Susan** Rudbeckia hirta

Licorice Goldenrod Solidago odora Goldenrod Solidago sp. Long-stalked Aster Symphyotrichum dumosum Trilisa Trilisa paniculata Asiatic Hawk's-beard Youngia japonica **Common Elderberry** Sambucus canadensis Japanese Honeysuckle Lonicera japonica Water-pennywort Hydrocotyle sp. **Smooth Chanterelle** Cantharellus lateritius **Small Chanterelle** Cantharellus minor **Bearded Tooth** Hericium erinaceus **Hated Amanita** Amanita spreta **American Caesar** Amanita jacksonii **Corrugated-cap Milky** Lactarius corrugis Silver-blue Milky Lactarius paradoxus **Emetic Russula** Russula emetica

FAUNA

Cherry Millipede Xystodesmidae sp. **Red-jointed Fiddler Crab** Uca minax **Crab-shaped Spiny-back** Gasteracantha cancriformis **Tuft-legged Orbweaver** Mangora placida **Triangulate Orbweaver** Verrucosa arenata **Mabel Orchard Orbweaver** Leucauge argyrobapta **Golden Silk Orbweaver** Trichonephila clavipes **Dotted Wolf Spider** Rabidosa punctulata Whitebanded Crab Spider Misumenoides formosipes **Twin-flagged Jumper** Anasaitis canosa Harvestman **Opiliones** sp. **American Bird Grasshopper** Schistocerca americana Stink Bug Mormidea lugens

Milkweed Assassin Bug Zelus longipes Assassin Bug Melanolestes picipes **Common Eastern Velvet-ant** Dasymutilla occidentalis occidentalis **Red Imported Fire Ant** Solenopsis invicta **Carpenter Ant** Camponotus sp. Acrobat Ant Crmatogaster sp. Paper Wasp (nest) Polistes sp. **Black & Yellow Mud-dauber** Sceliphron caementarium **Pipe-organ Wasp** Trypoxylon politum **Bumblebee** Bombus impatiens Lovebug Plecia nearctica Mosquitoes Family Culicidae, Species of **Robber Fly** Family Asilidae **Common Green Darner** Anax junius **Eastern Pondhawk** Erythemis simplicicollis **Roseate Skimmer** Orthemis ferruginea **Blue Dasher** Pachydiplax longipennis **Pedunculate Ground Beetle** Pasimachus sp. **Palamedes Swallowtail** Pterourus palamedes **Cloudless Sulphur** Phoebis sennae **Sleepy Orange** Abaeis nicippe Little Yellow Pyrisitia lisa **Red-banded Hairstreak** Calycopis cecrops **Gray Hairstreak** Strymon melinus **Gulf Fritillary** Dione vanillae American Lady Vanessa virginiensis **Common Buckeye** Junonia coenia **Carolina Satyr** Hermeuptychia sosybius **Intricate Satyr** Hermeuptychia intricata Long-tailed Skipper Urbanus proteus

Least Skipper Ancyloxypha numitor **Fiery Skipper** Hylephila phyleus Whirlabout Hedone vibex **Ocola Skipper** Panoquina ocola Southern Skipperling Oarisma minima **Giant Leopard Moth** Hypercompe scribonia **Underwing Moth** Catocala sp. **Eastern Mosquitofish** Gambusia holbrooki Southern Toad Anaxyrus terrestris **Eastern Spadefoot Toad** Scaphiopus holbrookii **Cope's Gray Treefrog** Hyla chrysoscelis **Green Treefrog** Hyla cinerea **Pine Woods Treefrog** Hyla femoralis **Squirrel Treefrog** Hyla squirella **Green Anole** Anolis carolinensis **Common Five-lined Skink** Plestiodon fasciatus Ground Skink Scincella lateralis **Black Racer** Coluber constrictor **Smooth Earth Snake** Virginia valeriae Cottonmouth Agkistrodon piscivorus Killdeer Charadrius vociferus **Turkey Vulture** Cathartes aura Wild Turkey Meleagris gallopavo **Mourning Dove** Zenaida macroura **Red-bellied Woodpecker** Melanerpes carolinus **Red-headed Woodpecker** Melanerpes erythrocephalus **Pileated Woodpecker** Dryocopus pileatus **Eastern Wood-pewee** Contopus virens **Blue Jay** Cyanocitta cristata **American Crow** Corvus brachyrhynchos **Tufted Titmouse Baeolophus** bicolor

Carolina Wren Thryothorus ludovicianus **Gray Catbird** Dumetella carolinensis Northern Mockingbird Mimus polyglottos **Brown Thrasher** Toxostoma rufum White-eyed Vireo Vireo griseus **Pine Warbler** Setophaga pinus **Common Yellowthroat** Geothlypis trichas Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis

American Goldfinch Spinus tristis Eastern Gray Squirrel Sciurus carolinensis Hispid Cotton Rat Sigmodon hispidus White-tailed Deer Odocoileus virginianus

NEW SPECIES

Budda Pea Aeschynomene indica Smallfruit Beggarsticks Bidens mitis **Ghost Chantarelle** Cantharellus phasmatis Wand Hornpod Mitreola sessilifolia Scissor-grinder Cicada Neotibicen pruinosus Abbot's Bagworm Moth Oiketicus abbotii **Three-lined Flower Moth** Schinia trifascia **Pale-edged Selenisa** Selenisa sueroides **Georgia Wolf Spider** Tigrosa georgicola Japanese Burrowing Cricket Odocoileus virginianus