



New York Turtle and Tortoise Society's

Florida Turtles Natural History Tour

(14-20 June 2009)

*Explore Florida's natural areas
in search of imperiled species!*

Florida is home to over 8% of the world's known turtle species and is a significant area for both turtle diversity and habitat. Twenty-five of the 54 turtle species found in the United States occur in Florida. Certainly, habitat diversity and species richness make Florida a chelonian hotspot.

Join other NYTTS members for a weeklong field trip with turtle biologist and conservationist George L. Heinrich. George led a similar trip for members of the California Turtle and Tortoise Club. Fourteen species were observed during ten days in the field and participants experienced a trip that will long be remembered.

Trip highlights:

- canoe and snorkel on spring-fed rivers with Suwannee cooters, loggerhead musk turtles and Barbour's map turtles
- watch marine turtles nesting on a central Florida beach

- hike in an endangered longleaf pine ecosystem, home of many rare and threatened species, including the gopher tortoise



Cost: lodging, ground transportation, fuel, charter boat, canoe rentals, and *George's* fee will total around \$1,000/person. Please note that this does not include airfare or meals.

Trip leader: *George L. Heinrich* is a graduate of Memphis State University and has studied Florida turtles for over twenty years with an interest in ecology and conservation. *George* has served twice as co-chair of the Gopher Tortoise Council and is the founding president of the Florida Turtle Conservation Trust. Please visit his website listed below to learn more about his work.

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