

## **Field Trip to Seminole State Forest Warea Tract with Todd Angel**

### **Participation requirements**

In order to participate in this program, you:

- must have the ability to follow verbal and/or visual instructions independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- must have the ability to withstand exposure to the outdoors and insects for the length of the event.
- must have the ability to traverse uneven and unstable terrain independently or with the assistance of a companion.
- must wear closed-toe shoes and clothing appropriate for the outdoors and outdoor conditions.

A **hat, sunscreen and insect repellent** are recommended.

Bring plenty of **water and snacks or a picnic lunch** to enjoy onsite. A lunch stop is planned as part of the trip.

### **Difficulty:** Moderate

This hike will take participants through uneven terrain and sugar sand. It is a scrub habitat, so expect little to no shade.

### **Trip details**

**FWF member cost:** Included in symposium registration

**Non-member cost:** \$10

**Start time:** 7:30 a.m.

**Meet-up location:** 17419 W Phil C Peters Road, Clermont, Florida 34787 ([MAP](#))

**Trip length:** approximately 4 hours, including a lunch stop

**Nearest restroom:** There is a Walmart at the FL-429 exit for New Independence Parkway (Exit 15), approximately 3.5 miles from the meet-up location.

### **Trip description**

This field trip visits one of the last remaining examples of northern Lake Wales Ridge sandhill. This species-rich site is home to nine state- or federally listed species of plants, including the tract's namesake – the globally imperiled Claspwax warea (*Warea amplexifolia*). Other endemic, endangered species include Scrub morning glory (*Bonamia grandiflora*), Lewton's milkwort (*Polygala lewtonii*) and Britton's beargrass (*Nolina brittoniana*). We will see the results of the Forest Service's management of the site, including the differences in fire management activities evident in the three distinct management units.

### **Trip leader**

Todd Angel is an ecologist and firefighter, and a fourth-generation Central Floridian with a love for native flora and fauna. He holds a Bachelor of Science in natural resources conservation and management from Oregon State University. Todd is a volunteer for the Florida Forest Service at the Seminole State Forest's Warea Tract and the Avon Park Air Force Range. He is a professional firefighter with the Orlando Fire Department. Additionally, he is a member of the Florida Native Plant Society's Conservation Committee. Todd has worked for The Nature Conservancy and the United States Forest Service as a fire manager, wildlife technician and helitac firefighter.