



Six-lined Racerunner

SIX-LINED
RACERUNNER



THIS NATIVE LIZARD IS NAMED FOR THE SIX LIGHT COLORED LINES THAT EXTEND FROM THE EYES DOWN THE SIDES OF ITS BODY. THE RACERUNNER PORTION OF THEIR NAME COMES FROM THEIR ABILITY TO OUT RUN HUMANS TRYING TO CATCH THEM.

- DO NOT EXPECT TO SEE THESE LIZARDS AROUND RESIDENTIAL AND OTHER DEVELOPED AREAS; THOSE ARE MORE LIKELY THE UBIQUITOUS AND NON-NATIVE CUBAN ANOLE.
- HERE AT AMBERJACK SIX-LINED RACERUNNERS CAN BE FOUND IN OPEN, SANDY HABITATS THAT ARE IN NATURAL CONDITIONS.
- THE SIX-LINED RACERUNNER IS DIURNAL, MEANING THEY ARE MOST ACTIVE DURING THE DAY, HUNTING FOR THEIR DIET OF PRIMARILY INSECTS.





POINT OF INTEREST



BREEDING ADULT
PINE WARBLER

THE PINE WARBLER IS A YEAR-ROUND RESIDENT HERE IN FLORIDA. IT IS DESERVING OF ITS NAME SINCE THROUGHOUT ITS RANGE, OTHER THAN DURING MIGRATION, IT IS RARELY FOUND IN DECIDUOUS FORESTS, PREFERRING PINE HABITATS.

- THE PINE WARBLER IS A SMALL SONGBIRD ABOUT 5 INCHES IN LENGTH WITH A YELLOW THROAT AND BREAST.
- IT IS VERY COMMON TO SEE PINE WARBLERS IN PINE FLATWOODS HABITATS FLYING FROM PINE TO PINE IN SEARCH OF INSECTS AND SEEDS. IN FACT, THEY ARE THE ONLY WARBLER TO EAT LARGE QUANTITIES OF SEEDS, AND SO ARE MORE FREQUENTLY DRAWN TO BIRD FEEDERS THAN ARE OTHER WARBLER SPECIES.
- IN THE WINTER THE RESIDENT PINE WARBLERS ARE JOINED BY THEIR MIGRATORY COUNTERPARTS FROM THE NORTH, AND TOGETHER THEY CAN BE SEEN FLYING IN FLOCKS OF 50-100 BIRDS.



NON-BREEDING
ADULT PINE
WARBLER





SCRUB HABITAT IS OFTEN FOUND IN AREAS THAT WERE HISTORICALLY SAND DUNES, CREATING VERY DRY CONDITIONS IN THIS PLANT COMMUNITY. DUE TO THE RARITY OF SCRUB HABITAT IT IS CONSIDERED IMPERILED BOTH GLOBALLY AND WITHIN THE STATE. ROSEMARY SCRUB IS AN EVEN RARER TYPE OF SCRUB HABITAT, TYPICALLY OCCURRING IN EXTREMELY WELL DRAINED AREAS WHERE THE FLORIDA ROSEMARY SHRUB DOMINATES.

- THE FLORIDA ROSEMARY IS UNRELATED TO THE ROSEMARY HERB POPULAR FOR COOKING. IN FACT THE FLORIDA ROSEMARY USES ITS SCENT TO DETER ANIMALS FROM EATING ITS LEAVES.
- FLORIDA ROSEMARY IS ALLELOPATHIC, WHICH MEANS THE PLANT GIVES OFF A CHEMICAL IN THE GROUND THAT PREVENTS OTHER HERBS FROM GROWING AROUND IT; THEIR WAY OF COMPETING FOR SPACE. YOU WILL NOTICE, BECAUSE OF THIS TRAIT, THE GROUND IS VERY SPARSELY VEGETATED IN THE SCRUB HABITAT.
- GROUND LICHENS, A MIX OF TWO VERY DIFFERENT ORGANISMS: A FUNGUS AND AN ALGAE, USUALLY MAKE UP THE MAJORITY OF THE GROUND COVER IN SCRUB HABITATS.
- THE REINDEER LICHEN PRESENT IN THIS PLANT COMMUNITY CAN GROW INTO DENSE MATS ON THE GROUND, BUT THEY ARE VERY DELICATE AND CAN BE EASILY DAMAGED, EVEN BY FOOT TRAFFIC.
- THOUGH LICHENS ARE LONG LIVED (OVER 100 YEARS), THEY ARE SLOW GROWING, TAKING THEM 50 YEARS OR MORE TO RECOVER FROM DAMAGE.



CERATIOLA ERICOIDES - FLORIDA ROSEMARY



LICHENS



Sand Live Oak

THE SAND LIVE OAK IS COMMON IN SCRUB HABITAT, PREFERRING THE DEEP SANDY SOILS FOUND HERE.

FLORIDA SCRUB-JAY



QUERCUS GEMINATA - SAND LIVE OAK

- THE SAND LIVE OAK IS A CLOSE RELATIVE OF THE MUCH LARGER AND BETTER KNOWN VIRGINIA LIVE OAK.
- THE THREATENED FLORIDA SCRUB-JAY WILL NEST IN THE THICKETS FORMED BY THE SAND LIVE OAKS THAT ARE BETWEEN 3 AND 10 FEET TALL. DURING THE WINTER AND EARLY SPRING THEIR DIET MAINLY CONSISTS OF THE ACORNS FROM THIS AND OTHER SCRUB OAK SPECIES, WHICH THEY CACHE DURING THE FALL.
- SAND LIVE OAKS DO NOT READILY BURN DURING FIRES, WHEN THEY ARE BURNED THEY GROW BACK FROM THE ROOTS, MAKING THEM HIGHLY RESISTANT TO NATURAL AND PRESCRIBED FIRE EVENTS.

POINT OF INTEREST



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Parks & Natural Resources