



CONNECTION

A CLNG employee newsletter

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Bird Research on Brown Lake



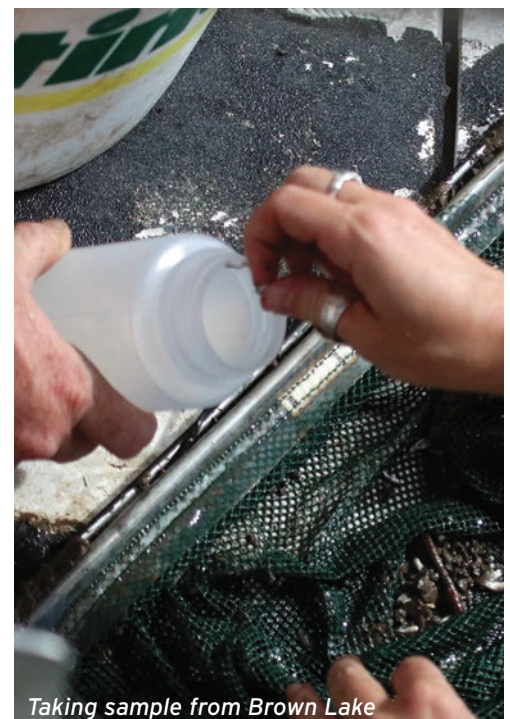
Reddish Egret

In September, a research ornithologist (a scientist who studies birds) with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department, contacted Cameron LNG seeking access to Cameron's property west of Highway 27 near the Terminal. The requested work focused on Reddish Egrets and their habitats. The Reddish Egrets are a species of conservation concern within Louisiana.

The researcher's data showed that several adult Reddish Egrets were using areas around "Brown Lake" for a short period of time when water levels were elevated from rain. Reddish Egrets are a species of heron that live around shallow salt waters and coastal tidal flats. They eat primarily small fish and the species is considered "near threatened" (which means that while not considered threatened, their numbers or range are dwindling).

Samantha Collins and William Strong (employees of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Department) collected water samples, recorded water depth and salinity, noted the distance to dry land/marsh, vegetation characteristics and recorded the presence of other avian species. To sample for prey, they left minnow traps at selected points (which were collected the following day) and conducted net sweeps to collect fish species that may have been food for the egrets.

Samantha told us that "It is important that we get out to these areas to sample before they become unsuitable to wading birds". Cameron LNG was happy to assist Samantha with her research. And thank you to Steve Trahan, Clayton Miller and Stevie Trahan who helped the researchers launch their air boat and get to the right area.



Taking sample from Brown Lake