

Snapping Turtle Emerging from Hibernation April 1, 2015.

We see many snapping turtles along our Snake River. This one had apparently just emerged from hibernation in the bank of what we call Gail's Wild Pond. Black, peat-like soil is still attached to the top of its shell. If you look close, you can see a white plant root, twigs, and other material imbedded in the soil. This turtle is about ten years old judging from size. It is moderate sized for a snapper. About ten inches across the shell. It is walking through a Canary Grass pasture near the pond. Canary Grass leaves and stems are much larger than the fine Blue Grass of your lawn. Snapping turtles do walk. They do not crawl or slither. They raise themselves up on their powerful legs. They are not dangerous but they can be testy if bothered. Tom

