

Snapping Turtle Emerging from Hibernation April 1, 2015.

We see many snapping turtles along our Snake River.

This one has just emerged from hibernation.

It spent the winter 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 closely, 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 not walk.

They do not crawl or slither.

They raise themselves up on their powerful legs.

Snappers are not particularly dangerous, but they can be testy if bothered.

Tom