**Hinton and Myers- Tardigrades Study Description**

Dr. Harry Meyer and Dr. Julianna Hunter of McNeese State University researched tardigrades. Through the Thicket of Diversity they have identified 9-10 species to date in the Big Thicket National Preserve with two new to Texas.

*Echiniscus virginicus* was found in the Big Sandy Unit. Pseudechinisus brevimontannus and *Macrobiotus tonolii* were found in the Beech Creek Unit and are new to Texas. *Minibiotus intermedius* is sausage shaped and very common. It has a mouth and claws and is also found in the Beech Creek Unit.

Hinton participated in a Bioblitz at the Field Research Station in Saratoga and at Discover Life in America Conference at Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

A No Cost addendum was approved for travel expenses to an international symposium.

Data quality was weak. Mona Halvorsen made numerous requests for more specific data. Much of the findings for Big Thicket tardigrade research was found through publication googlescholar searches.

**Submitted by: Mary C. Johnston, November 3, 2020**