The Copperhead Institute

Smith CF[1,2,3,4], Schuett GW[3,4,5], Booth W[3,6], Earley RL[3,7], Reiserer RS[3,8]

[1] Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, The University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA
[2] Department of Biology, Wofford College, Spartanburg, SC, USA
[3] The Copperhead Institute, Spartanburg, SC, USA
[4] Chiricahua Desert Museum, Rodeo, NM, USA
[5]Department of Biology and Center for Behavioral Neuroscience, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, USA
[6]Department of Biological Sciences, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK, USA
[7]Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA
[8]Centerstone Research Institute, Nashville, TN, USA

The Copperhead Institute is a 501(c)(3) scientific research institution that was founded in 2011 to conduct and support original research on the ecology and evolutionary biology of snakes, primarily North American pitvipers. We are governed by Directors and a Scientific Advisory Panel, and we collaborate with a diverse group of academic partners who have expertise in endocrinology, genetics, behavioral ecology, and field ecology. These partnerships have spawned creative projects that broaden our understanding of the biology of snakes. The mission of The Copperhead Institute is: to develop and conduct original field- and laboratory based scientific research on the ecology and evolutionary biology of snakes; to disseminate our findings to the scientific community through peer-reviewed publications (e.g., journals, book chapters) and presentations at scientific meetings; to promote the public conservation of snakes through publication of popular articles and educational materials, and through informal and formal educational presentations; and to support the intellectual growth and research goals of graduate and undergraduate students in pursuing a research career. We will present an overview of the history of The Institute and its facilities as well as past, current, and future research projects.