

KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER NO. 104

JUNE 1996



ANNOUNCEMENTS

KHS ANNUAL MEETING CALL FOR PAPERS

This is the official call for papers for the annual meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society which will be held 2-3 November at Lawrence High School in Lawrence, Kansas. Those interesting in making a presentation at the annual meeting should submit a short abstract no later than 15 September to KHS President Stanley D. Roth, Lawrence High School, 1901 Louisiana, Lawrence, Kansas 66046 or call 913-843-5050.

KHS GLOYD-TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP

Nominations are now due for the annual KHS Howard K. Gloyd-Edward H. Taylor Scholarship in Herpetology. Nominations for this award are open to any student enrolled in an accredited educational institution in Kansas or any KHS member enrolled in any accredited educational institution outside of Kansas. Students from primary school through university are eligible. Nominations should include typewritten details, not to exceed two pages, of the nominee's qualifications, plus name and address of the nominee and nominator. Self-nomination is excluded.

All nominations should be sent to KHS President Stanley D. Roth, jr., Lawrence High School, 19th and Louisiana, Lawrence, Kansas 66044. The KHS Executive Council will make the final decision and announce the scholarship winner at the KHS annual meeting.

Those wishing to contribute to the scholarship fund should send contributions to KHS Secretary/Treasurer Karen Toepfer and note that the contribution is specifically for the Gloyd-Taylor scholarship fund. All contributions are tax-deductible.

NEW BOOKS

The University of Oklahoma Press announces the upcoming publication of *The Garter Snakes: Evolution and Ecology* by Douglas A. Rossman, Neil B. Ford, and Richard A. Seigel. This 352 page volume will contain 88 color plates, 31 black-and-white figures, 28 maps, and four tables. The book is the first comprehensive review of the genus *Thamnophis* in thirty years and features extensive discussion of the ecology, and captive care of all species. A key to all species will also be included. The volume will retail for \$65 and be available this September. For more information contact OU Press, Sara Hitch, 1005 Asp Ave., Norman, Oklahoma 73019-0445; phone: 405-325-5111;

fax: 405-325-4000. *Editors Note: The book contains a number of photographs by KHS member Suzanne L. Collins.*

A reprint of Leonhard Stejneger's classic *Herpetology of Japan* is also being issued this September by the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. The clothbound tome contains a new introduction by Masafumi Matsui along with 409 text figures, 35 plates, one portrait, and one map. Price before publication is \$45 for SSAR members, \$58 for non-members. Shipping is \$3 US or \$5 non-USA. Send orders to Robert Aldridge, SSAR Publications Secretary, Dept. Biology, St. Louis University, 3507 Laclede Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63103; phone: 314-977-3910, Fax: 314-977-3658, e-mail: ssar@sluvcu.slu.edu.

The University of Texas Press announces publication of an interesting volume called *Snake Lover's Lifelist and Journal* by Chris Scott. Modeled on birders' lifelists, this book purports to list and describe every known snake species in the United States and Canada with many subspecies, color phases, intergrades, and hybrids illustrated for a total of 438 different native and introduced snakes. Blank pages are included for herpers to record details for each form. This 288 page book with 92 color photos lists for \$19.95 and may be ordered from the University of Texas Press, Box 7819, Austin, Texas 78713.

The Western Australian Society of Amateur Herpetologists (WASAH) announces publication of *A Guide to Reptiles and Frogs of the Perth Region, Western Australia* by Brian Bush, Brad Mayan, Robert Browne-Cooper, and David Robinson. This 226 page tome contains detailed descriptions of each species, color photographs, identification keys, and an extensive glossary. The book (only AUS \$20, about \$18 US, plus \$4 shipping) may be ordered by bank draft or check from WASAH, 169 Egina Street, Mount Hawthorn 6016, Western Australia.

HERP ECOTOURS

If you have the time, money, and interest, a new ecotour company specializing in herp-oriented tours announces its existence. **GreenTracks** tours to Central and South America and South Africa are led by some of the US's leading herpetologists and herpetoculturists, including Bill Lamar, Jim Murphy, Howard Lawler, Dick Ross, and Philippe de Vosjoli. If you want more information, call 1-800-9-MONKEY or write to GreenTracks, P. O. Box 5299, Tyler, Texas 75712.

KHS BUSINESS

1996 KANSAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING FIELD TRIP

The dates of 25-27 May 1996 will go down in KHS history as the weekend that fourteen of the Society's most dedicated members traveled to Kansas's northwesternmost county in search of herps. It may have been one of the wettest and coolest Memorial Day weekends that Cheyenne County has experienced in quite some time.

Continuing cool (and sometimes downright cold) rains along with wind made finding reptiles almost impossible. Dozens of rocks, logs, and other kinds of ground cover were turned by the group with no reptiles being found. The only live reptile discovered during the weekend was a very cold and inactive Ornate Box Turtle that was found near a stream by Suzanne Miller. All other reptiles were found DOR while road cruising.

Amphibians, on the other hand, were another story. The rains brought out many anurans and salamanders. These animals were found in large numbers during night road cruising.

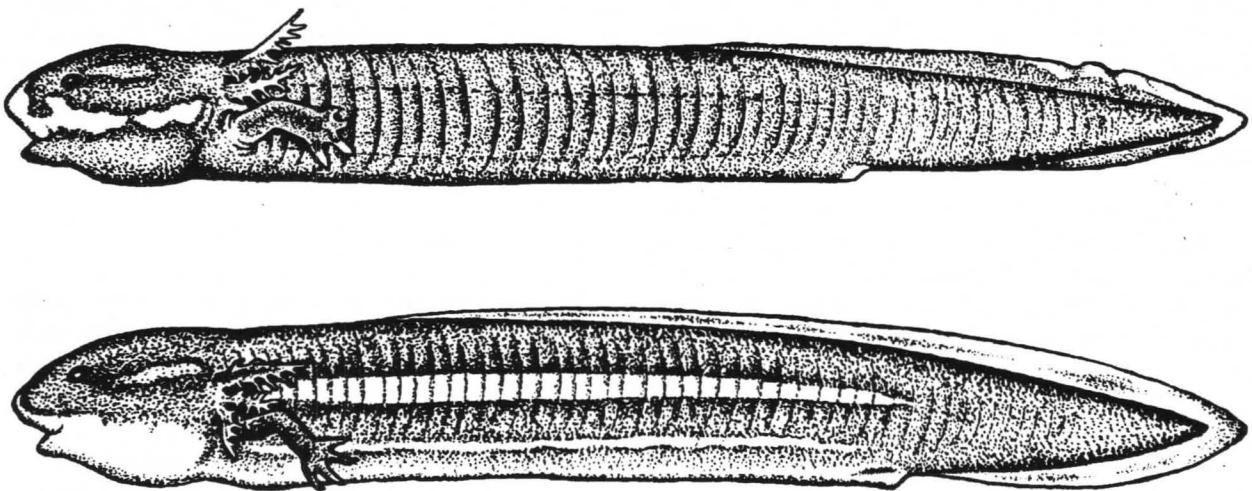
The persistent group of KHS adventurers discovered a total of six amphibian and four reptile species over the weekend in Cheyenne County. Results and a listing of participants can be found in this year's report on KHS herp counts in this Newsletter.

— Larry L. Miller, KHS Field Trip Chairman
840 SW 97th Street
Wakarusa, Kansas 66546

ANIMALS AND VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR SSAR LIVE EXHIBIT

Specimens are still needed for the live herp exhibit which will be presented by KHS at the annual meeting of the international *Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles* held this July at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. The following species are still needed at this time: *Notophthalmus viridescens*, *Eurycea multiplicata*, *Typhlotriton spelaeus*, *Necturus maculosus*, *Necturus louisianensis*, *Bufo debilis*, *B. punctatus*, *Pseudacris clarkii*, *P. crucifer*, *Rana areolata*, *R. blairi*, *R. catesbiana*, *R. clamitans*, *R. palustris*, *R. sphenoccephala*, *Gastrophryne carolinensis*, *G. olivacea*, *Gratemys geographica*, *G. kohnii*, *G. pseudogeographica*, *Apalone spinifer*, *Sceloporus undulatus*, *Phrynosoma cornutum*, *Scincella lateralis*, *Eumeces anthracinus*, *E. laticeps*, *E. obtusirostris*, *E. septentrionalis*, *Cnemidophorus sexlineatus*, *Podarcis sicaula*, *Carphophis vermis*, *Rhinocheilus lecontei*, *Tantilla nigriceps*, *Virginia valeriae*, *Storeria dekayi*, and *S. occipitamaculata*.

In addition, volunteers are needed to assist with setting up and running the exhibit. All shifts are currently available for Friday-Sunday, 26-28 July. Volunteers will be able to attend paper sessions and participate in other SSAR activities for free. Those interested in providing specimens or volunteering should contact Eric Rundquist at 913-864-5587 or 913-832-9093.



KHS BRINGS YOU GREAT NEWS OF THE WORLD

CALDWELL WON TURTLE CRUSADE WITH SLOW, STEADY APPROACH

Folks in Caldwell are understandably proud of the town's self-proclaimed title as the ornate box turtle capital of the world.

After all, former Kansas Governor John Carlin helped Caldwell achieve world-class status 10 years ago when he signed a bill designating the lowly, hard-shelled turtle as the state's official reptile.

But there's more to Caldwell than Ornate Box Turtles, insists gift shop owner Cleda Baker.

"At one time all the city revenue came from brothels for the cowboys driving cattle on the old Chisholm Trail east of town," said Baker, referring to Caldwell's reputation as a notorious cowtown in the 1870s.

Caldwell citizens also are proud of the fact that the Cherokee Strip Land Run, the last great land rush in North America, began at several locations in Sumner County nearly 103 years ago.

Nevertheless, Baker has set up a special display of live Ornate Box Turtles in her shop to observe the 10th anniversary next week of the turtle's statewide recognition.

"I've dug up some sod and rocks and made a special display for my box turtles," Baker said. "The littlest one is named Daisy, because the flowers on her back look like a bunch of daisies."

Baker also is sponsoring a box turtle art contest this week for elementary school students in Caldwell, with cash prizes provided by the local chamber of commerce.

Carlin signed the legislation on April 14, 1986, in a jam-packed Caldwell High School gymnasium, culminating a six-month turtle crusade by 17 local sixth-graders.

Larry Miller, Caldwell's former sixth-grade science teacher who now teaches science classes at Topeka Collegiate School, said the campaign began a decade ago after his students had studied about state symbols and learned that Kansas didn't have a state reptile.

"We narrowed it down to a Bullsnake and Ornate Box Turtle," Miller said. "Most parents wouldn't have supported the project if we had gone with the Bullsnake. We also knew that more people would support a turtle because it fits in with the idea of hardy, long-lived Kansans."

The students began the successful lobbying effort with Kansas legislators in the fall of 1985. Miller estimates that each of his sixth-graders wrote at least 150 letters to key public officials in support of the Ornate Box Turtle.

"The students I had were very persistent about what they were doing," Miller said. "It became a part of their lives, not just a class project."

Although Miller left Caldwell in 1991, he will return next weekend for the annual amphibian and reptile count he helps coordinate on a 400-acre tract of land south of Caldwell.

Of course, Miller also will visit the live box turtles in Baker's shop. The shell of one of the specimens, 20-year-old Victoria, is approaching the world-record length of 6 1/2 inches, Baker said.

"I call her Victoria because she has a little 'V' notched out of her shell where somebody took a bite out of her," Baker said.

Ironically, the national publicity Caldwell received as a result of the box turtle crusade might not have been fully appreciated by some of the town's 1,300 residents, Baker said.

"Our town is pretty much a sports-minded town," Baker said. "When something involving academics came up, some people got their noses out of joint."

Baker also sells turtle souvenirs in her Cleda's Etc. Shop on Main Street, including T-shirts, postcards and pewter turtle belt buckles.

Mayor Opal White said last week that the box turtle issue in 1986 may have even irritated a few residents, some of whom wore T-shirts with messages suggesting that motorists take aim at the slow-moving reptiles crossing area roads.

"We've loved our little turtles around here for years," White said. "Making such a big issue out of it was hard for some people to understand."

— Wichita Eagle

(Submitted by Suzanne Collins, Lawrence)

RATTLER HUNT HISSED

Sarah Walker has shared a sleeping bag with a live rattlesnake — intentionally — and says rattlesnake hunts like the one she's helped organize this weekend in Sharon Springs are both educational and a way for a small town to boost its economic base.

Karen Graham, curator of reptiles, amphibians, and fishes at the Sedgwick County Zoo, says such snake hunts amount to cruelty to animals, harm the environment and pose a potentially lethal threat to participants. She's circulating a petition opposing Sharon Springs' fifth annual Rattlesnake Roundup, today through Sunday.

"We have had some people attend in the past who were tempted to cause trouble . . . but we have never been picketed," said Judie Withers, a founder of the rattlesnake hunt. People opposed to the hunt have contacted the state's

departments of Wildlife and Parks and Health and Environment in the past, but the snake hunt has all the proper permits required, Withers said.

"We have tried to be above reproach," she said.

Graham said the petition has been made available to the public at the zoo for about a year. She could not say whether any hunt opponents who signed it will be at this weekend's event, but did say there were no plans for a formal protest in Sharon Springs.

Organizers estimate that 3,000 people will attend this year's hunt. Only 60 to 70 will be hunters. The rest will be spectators wanting to taste rattlesnake meat and watch the show put on by "Fangs and Rattlers," a Texas-based group of professional snake handlers who sometimes cuddle up with buzzing rattlers inside a zipped-up sleeping bag.

Started as a Wallace County economic development effort, the rattlesnake roundup will also feature a performance by the Koshare Indian dancers, old-time fiddlers, a ham and bean feed, children's games and milking of rattlesnakes to collect their venom.

"It's just like any other town festival, like a tulip festival of a barbed wire festival," said Withers. "Ours is based on rattlesnakes because that's what we've got."

But Graham said she has collected more than 10,000 signatures from zoo-goers in Wichita against the state's only rattlesnake hunt. She and other concerned wildlife conservationists plan to eventually present the petitions to the governor and the Legislature. "We see this as a negative, certainly not a positive, statement for Kansas," said Graham.

Kansas is one of about a half-dozen states that permit organized rattlesnake hunts, she said. In many places, snakes are forced out of their burrows by hunters pouring gasoline into them, she said, which both hurts the snakes and pollutes the soil. Rough, unnecessary handling of the snakes during the shows also puts them in pain, she said.

Withers said "gassing" of snakes is not allowed at the Sharon Springs hunt, and she added that if Graham or others who share her views would attend the event, they would see that the snakes are not harmed or abused in any way.

Sarah Walker, who grew up in southeast Kansas and now lives in Sharon Springs, said the rattlesnake hunt helps people learn to overcome their fears and to co-exist with rattlesnakes. "Until I moved out here, I couldn't tell a rat snake from a rattlesnake," she said. "They all look alike when they're going through the grass."

After first learning to safely pick up a rattlesnake, she eventually volunteered to get into a sleeping bag with one. "I never in my wildest imagination thought I would do that," she said.

She still treats rattlers with respect and caution, but observes, "It's not as scary to step into a pit with 200 to 300

rattlesnakes, where you know where they are, as to walk through a field where you don't know where they are. I'm more afraid of mice than I am of snakes now."

Withers, who also overcame her fear of snakes through the Rattlesnake Roundup, said no one has ever been injured at the Sharon Springs event.

— Wichita Eagle

(Submitted by Edna Bradley, Wichita)

SHAKE, RATTLE, AND BITE

A Rush County man likely has learned something about the law, thanks to a rattlesnake.

The man captured an 18-inch rattlesnake, which had been sunning itself on a road northwest of Catharine. The man and his buddy, who were traveling the road in a pickup truck when they saw the snake, had considered running over the snake before deciding to capture it instead.

While handling the snake, the man was bitten on the finger, which quickly turned black and became extremely swollen. After stopping for a beer at a tavern in Catharine, the man was convinced by others he should see a doctor.

A Wildlife and Parks agent who was called to investigate told the Hays Daily News state law makes it illegal to run over the venomous snakes and requires a person taking such a snake from the wild to have a hunting license.

The agent said he planned to visit the snake bite victim to see if he had a license, but probably won't cite the man if he doesn't have a ticket.

"Considering everything that's happened to him," the agent told the Daily News, "he's learned a better lesson than the court could give him."

— Hays Daily News

(Submitted by Suzanne Collins, Lawrence)

SUIT FILED IN DEATH OF SNAKE BITE VICTIM

A lawsuit has been filed over the death of an Arkansas City woman who was bitten by a snake.

The suit was filed Thursday in Cowley County District Court in Winfield by Bruce Endorf, who was married to the snake bite victim, Rhonda Endorf, when she died in August 1993.

Arkansas City Memorial Hospital, physicians Lynda DeArmond and David Bohlender, registered nurse Mark Knott, Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories and American Home Products Corp. are named as defendants in the 18-page petition.

Rhonda Endorf arrived in the emergency room at about

10 p.m. on Aug. 23 to get emergency medical treatment for a snake bite.

Bohlender, DeArmond and Knott provided the care, according to court records.

Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories manufactured the Polyvalent antivenin given to Endorf before she suffered cardiopulmonary arrest at 11:49 p.m.

Endorf was subsequently transferred to what is now Columbia Wasley Medical Center in Wichita where she was pronounced dead about 3 a.m.

The petition claims the Arkansas City hospital and medical team were negligent in the care and treatment provided and as a result Endorf sustained severe and permanent injuries, including brain damage.

Wyeth-Ayerst was negligent in the design, production, manufacture, distribution and warnings related to the sale of Polyvalent by failing to adequately test the product and provide proper labeling, including information necessary for the patient or treating physician to make an informed judgment whether to use the product.

The negligence by the company was a direct cause of Endorf's serious injuries which culminated in her death, the petition alleges.

Wyeth-Ayerst "made material misrepresentations of fact concerning the character, quality, safety and effectiveness" of Polyvalent, it is alleged.

"Despite the dangers and deficiencies of its product, defendant sold and otherwise place in the stream of commerce its product, Polyvalent, to be sold to and used by the general public within Sedgwick County, Kansas, without giving adequate warning of the associated risk, hazard and danger of physical injury and adverse consequences," the petition states.

The prescribing physician reasonably relied upon the company's representation and allowed the antivenin to be administered to Endorf.

But the Arkansas City hospital failed to provide an adequate screening examination or provide necessary stabilizing treatment before Endorf suffered cardiopulmonary arrest, her husband also claims.

The suit lists 10 individual claims and asks for more than \$50,000 in each claim.

A Wichita firm, Michaud, Hutton, Fisher & Anderson, is representing Bruce Endorf and his wife's estate.

The defendants will have at least 20 days in which to respond to the allegations.

— Submitted by Brad Lichtenhan, Paola

COLLINS HONORED BY TEXAS HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Joseph T. Collins, herpetologist and editor at the KU Natural History Museum in Lawrence, and long-time KHS member, has been proclaimed an Honorary Life Member of the Texas Herpetological Society in a citation issued on 19 May 1996 by THS President Jerry D. Johnson in El Paso.

Collins, co-author of the third edition of the *Peterson Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America*, was honored by the Texas Herpetological Society for his academic achievements in herpetology and his dedication to the conservation of amphibians and reptiles. Collins has written nineteen other books, both technical and popular, and ca. 190 articles on lower vertebrates. In addition, he has frequently conducted auctions at THS meetings over the years, raising in excess of \$6500.00 for the Society. Collins was installed as *Wildlife Author Laureate of Kansas* by Governor Bill Graves in April of this year.

Herpetologists previously designated as Honorary Life Members of the Texas Herpetological Society include Bryce C. Brown (Baylor University), James R. Dixon (Texas A & M University), and Hobart M. Smith (University of Colorado).

— Editor



FEATURE ARTICLES

RESULTS OF THE EIGHT ANNUAL KHS HERP COUNTS HELD 1 APRIL-31 MAY 1996

ERIC M RUNDQUIST
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Malott Hall
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas 66045*

The eighth series of KHS-sponsored Kansas Herp Counts, a controlled census of amphibians and reptiles held annually by many Kansas herpetologists, normally during the months of April and May, took place in 1996. A total of 69 counts were conducted this year and are reported herein, demonstrating various approaches to censusing amphibians and reptiles. One count was sponsored by the Society and was held in late May. Common names are those standardized by Collins (1990).

Following my position statement of 1994 (Rundquist), where state endangered or threatened species, species in need of conservation, or commercially valuable species are reported, exact localities are not listed. Persons with a legitimate interest in accurate locality data may contact me with requests for such information. In addition, some species reported herein may appear to be new county records. Without preserved voucher specimens or officially catalogued photographs, such listings are not valid county records or valid literature records. Although I understand that, in many cases, it is not possible to have additional verifiers available, I cannot accept self-verification for such records without the existence of these voucher specimens or photographs.

JOHNSON COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Kessler made a herp count at the Overland Park Arboretum on 2 April from 1730-1830 hrs. Eric was the only participant and verifier.

Northern Cricket Frog	10
Western Chorus Frog	14
Ringneck Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	2

Total

4 species 28 specimens

MIAMI COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 5 April, a herp count was held in Miami County from 1630-1730 hrs. Participants were Eric and Kristin Kessler, and Jessica and Hannah Aldrich. Temperatures

were in the 40s and skies were clear with calm winds.

Western Worm Snake	1
Racer	1
Milk Snake	2

Total

3 species 4 specimens

Verified by Eric Kessler.

CRAWFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson conducted a brief herp count in southwest Pittsburg on 9 April at 1300 hrs. He was the only participant and verifier.

Common Garter Snake	1
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Total

1 species 1 specimen

NEOSHO COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was done by Lewis Anderson on 10 April from 1200-1500 hrs at the Neosho Waterfowl Refuge near St. Paul. Lewis was the only participant and verifier.

Northern Cricket Frog	17
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Total

1 species 17 specimens

JOHNSON COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was made at the Overland Park Arboretum on 11 April from 1721-1810 hrs. Temperatures were in the mid-80s. Eric Kessler was the only participant and verifier.

Western Chorus Frog	5
Ringneck Snake	6
Common Garter Snake	1

Total

3 species 12 specimens

BARBER COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Rundquist conducted his annual herp count on the Alexander Ranch on 13 April from 1040-1635 hrs. Skies were clear to partly cloudy with an east to southeast wind gusting to 35 mph. Beginning temperature was 54°F with a high of 66°F. The area was extremely dry, having received no spring rain. Eric was the only participant and verifier.

Great Plains Skink	1
Collared Lizard	5
Ground Snake	2
Night Snake	1

Total

4 species 8 specimens

MIAMI COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Kessler led a herp count at Miami County State Fishing Lake on 13 April from 0940-1530 hrs. Other participants were Kristin Kessler, Dan Mangum, Adam Bracco, Rick Lockton, Scott Younger, Angie Kobets, and Marie Keplinger.

Northern Cricket Frog	6
Western Chorus Frog	1
Bullfrog	31
Ground Skink	4
Five-lined Skink	10
Western Worm Snake	10
Ringneck Snake	30
Racer	3
Common Garter Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	6

Total

10 species 103 specimens

STEVENS COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held in Stevens County on 13 April at T31S, R34W, N 1/2 Sec. 6 from 1300-1315 hrs. Participants were Neil Bass and Dale Sparks

Prairie Lizard	1
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Total

1 species 1 specimen

Neil Bass was the verifier.

OSAGE COUNTY HERP COUNT

Kembra Howdeshell led a herp count on 13 April at 3 mi E of Argonia, Osage County from 0900-1000 hrs. The other participant was Matt Combes.

Five-lined Skink	2
Ringneck Snake	1

Total

2 species 3 specimens

Kembra Howdeshell was the verifier.

COFFEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted at 3 mi S, 1 mi W of Lebo, Coffey County on 13 April from 1030-1130 hrs. Participants included Matt Combes and Kembra Howdeshell.

Northern Cricket Frog	5
Six-lined Racerunner	1
Racer	1

Total

3 species 7 specimens

Kembra Howdeshell was the verifier.

LYON COUNTY HERP COUNT

In early April, Neil Bass, Kembra Howdeshell, and Jessica Filosa held a herp count at Reading Woods in Lyon County from 1330-1430 hrs.

Northern Cricket Frog	2
Five-lined Skink	2
Ringneck Snake	25

Total

3 species 29 specimens

Kembra Howdeshell was the verifier.

SUMNER COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted south of Caldwell and in the Drury area near the Chikaskia River and Bluff Creek under very dry, warm conditions on 13 April 96 from 1230-1430 hrs and 1630-1700 hrs by Shawn Ames, Mary Kate Baldwin, Dan Carpenter, Shelbi Carpenter, Joseph T. Collins, Suzanne L. Collins, Mark Ellis, Jamie Golightley, Jim Gubanyi, Nathan Mathews, Roger Mathews, Larry L. Miller, Suzanne L. Miller, Carolyn Moriarty, Emily Moriarty, Michael Moriarty, John Thoennes, Nick Vaughn, and Nina Ward.

Northern Cricket Frog	6
Plains Leopard Frog	1
Snapping Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	6
Slider	2
Lesser Earless Lizard	2

Prairie Lizard	31
Southern Prairie Skink	4
Six-lined Racerunner	2
Ringneck Snake	48
Racer	1
Coachwhip	1
Ground Snake	8
Brown Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

15 species 116 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Suzanne L. Collins and Joseph T. Collins in southern Chautauqua County on 14 April 1996 from 1400-1445 hrs.

Timber Rattlesnake	7
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Total

1 species 7 specimens

Verified by Joseph T. Collins.

BARTON COUNTY HERP COUNT

A road count was done by John Rakestraw at Cheyenne Bottoms from 1000-1130 hrs on 16 April. Air temperature was approximately 60°F. John was the only participant and verifier.

Plains Leopard Frog	1
Bullfrog	5
Massasauga	1

Total

3 species 7 specimens

SHAWNEE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted in the Shunga Trail area south of 21st and Gage in Topeka on 17 April 1996 between 1230-1500 hrs under dry, warm, sunny conditions by Claire Adams, Alex Bleiberg, Adam Brown, Jacqueline Castel, Akhila Challa, David Dunivan, Elizabeth Elliott, Katie Farmer, James Frager, John Freeman, Jonathan Schmidt, Wesley West, Chris Yorke, Johas Wilson-Leedy, Alexandra Bixler, Natalie Bonebrake, Schuyler Ellis, Rachael Greene, Howard Johns, Klye Keller, Esther Kennedy, Matthew Leifer, Stephanie Meador, Derek Moeller, Mack Schroer, Allison Viola, Blake Whitaker, and Kathleen Daughety, six-grade students of Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, Kevin Freed, Gail Brown, Lori Meador, and Lucia West.

Northern Cricket Frog	2
Western Chorus Frog	5
Plains Leopard Frog	1
Painted Turtle	1
Common Garter Snake	5
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

6 species 15 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Suzanne L. Collins and Joseph T. Collins in southern Chautauqua County on 19 April 1996 from 1500-1900 hrs.

Ouachita Map Turtle	8
River Cooter	6
Slider	10
Collared Lizard	1
Racer	2
Copperhead	1
Timber Rattlesnake	11

Total

7 species 39 specimens

Verified by Joseph T. Collins.

COWLEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

Al Volkmann conducted his annual count east of Winfield on 20 April from 1000-1400 hrs. Skies were clear with winds up to 15 mph. Water and air temperature was 68°F. The area had received no significant spring rains and had not been burned. Other participants were Joyce Lent, Jenny Previtera, Kathy Speer, Al Volkmann, Todd Volkmann, and Kirk Wagner.

Northern Cricket Frog	12
Snapping Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	4
Slider	2
Collared Lizard	5
Great Plains Skink	3
Western Slender Glass Lizard	1
Ringneck Snake	10
Flathead Snake	9
Racer	5
Great Plains Ratsnake	2
Common King Snake	2
Milk Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	4

Total

14 species 61 specimens

Verifier was Al Volkmann.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HERP COUNT

Daren Riedle conducted a herp count on 20 April in Chautauqua County from 1200-1400 hrs. Daren was the only participant and verifier.

Bullfrog	3
Common Snapping Turtle	1
Slider	6
Collared Lizard	5
Five-lined Skink	1
Flathead Snake	1
Common Water Snake	1
Diamondback Water Snake	1
Common Kingsnake	1

Total
9 species 20 specimens

CHEROKEE COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 20-21 April, Eric Rundquist conducted a herp count at several sites throughout Cherokee County. Skies were clear to partly to partly cloudy with a south breeze. Temperatures ranged from 58-70°F. The area was extremely dry, having received no significant rainfall since August 1995. Springs were dry and the Schermerhorn Cave stream was the lowest Eric had observed at this time of year. There was also evidence of fire throughout the area. It should be noted that night surveys for anurans revealed no anurans calling. Eric Rundquist was the only participant and verifier.

Longtail Salamander	3
Five-lined Skink	1
Coal Skink	1
Map Turtle (species indet.)	3
River Cooter	2
Slider	19
Rat Snake	1

Total
7 species 30 specimens

GRAHAM COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted in Graham County at T8S, R21W, S 1/2 Sec. 9 on 20-21 April from 1000-2200 hrs by Neil Bass and Jackie Coleman.

Woodhouse's Toad	3
Western Chorus Frog	4
Plains Leopard Frog	13
Painted Turtle	1
Spiny Softshell	4

Total
5 species 25 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

BOURBON COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Rundquist did a quick herp count near Fort Scott at 1145 hrs on 21 April. Skies were clear and the temperature was 65°F.

Common Map Turtle	1
Map Turtle (species indet.)	1
Slider	6

Total
3 species 8 specimens

Verifier was Eric Rundquist.

LINN COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was run by Eric Rundquist on 21 April at several sites in Linn County from 1145-1635 hrs. Skies were clear to partly cloudy and the temperature was 65°F. All areas surveyed were extremely dry.

Ouachita Map Turtle	2
Painted Turtle	5
Slider	26
Plainbelly Water Snake	1
Rat Snake	1

Total
5 species 35 specimens

Verifier was Eric Rundquist.

OSAGE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted at the Osage County State Lake on 22 April 1996 from 1000-1500 hrs under cold, cloudy, and damp conditions (about 50°F) by Rachelle Anderson, Nathan Bammes, Brandon Barnett, Sonja Brooks, Neal Cullen, Emily Einsahr, Owen Ferguson, Lisa Green, Natalie Jenison, Maria Maldonado, William Mansfield, Wyatt Naramore, Brad Nolde, Suraj Parulkar, Betsy Wanless, and Chris Wolfe, fifth-grade students of Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, Bobbe Mansfield, and Becky Wolfe.

Northern Cricket Frog	8
Plains Leopard Frog	1
Western Chorus Frog	11
Five-lined Skink	1
Rat Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	1

Total
7 species 25 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

DOUGLAS COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted at Lone Star Lake on 26 April 1996, from 1030-1430 hrs under warm, sunny conditions by Laura Adams, Amanda Artzer, Ben Bammes, Jessica Cook, Evan Fisher, Katherine Garlinghouse, Stacie Kossoy, Katie Moore, Jared Nance, Jocelyn Nichols, Jeff Nolde, Nikhil Parulkar, Richard Poe, Alexis Rowe, John Schroer, Zach Straus, Sarah Temple, and Sarah Twemlow, seventh-grade students of Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, Beth Kossoy, Joel H. Nance, and Nancy Rowe.

Northern Cricket Frog	27
Plains Leopard Frog	1
Painted Turtle	1
Slider	1
Five-lined Skink	16
Great Plains Skink	5
Northern Prairie Skink	1
Western Slender Glass Lizard	1
Ringneck Snake	18
Western Worm Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	2

Total

12 species 76 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HERP COUNT

Daren Riedle led a herp count at Elk City Reservoir on 27 April from 1030-1200 hrs. Other participants were David Covey, Janie Folk, and Dan Murrow.

Woodhouse's Toad	1
Eastern Box Turtle	4
Five-lined Skink	1
Great Plains Skink	1
Six-lined Racerunner	1
Ringneck Snake	1
Western Ribbon Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	1
Plainbelly Water Snake	2

Total

9 species 17 specimens

Verifier was Daren Riedle.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HERP COUNT

Daren Riedle held another herp count on 27 April in Chautauqua County from 1300-1630 hrs. Other participants were David Covey and Dan Murrow.

Collared Lizard	5
Ground Skink	1
Great Plains Skink	5
Flathead Snake	4
Ringneck Snake	2
Timber Rattlesnake	2

Total

6 species 19 specimens

Verifier was Daren Riedle.

MIAMI COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held on 28 April at Miami County State Fishing Lake from 0830-1050 hrs. Skies were overcast with intermittent showers. Temperature was near 50°F. Eric Kessler was the only participant and verifier.

Ground Skink	3
Five-lined Skink	6
Western Worm Snake	5
Ringneck Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	4
Smooth Earth Snake	1

Total

6 species 21 specimens

LINN COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was led by Eric Rundquist on 28 April at several areas in Linn County from 1130-1550 hrs. Skies were overcast with intermittent rain. The high temperature was 57°F.

Chorus Frog (calling)	± 30
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Five-lined Skink	1
Western Worm Snake	1
Ringneck Snake	6

Total

5 species 39 specimens

Eric Rundquist was the verifier.

BUTLER COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson made a herp count at 3 mi E, .5 mi S El Dorado on 1 May at 2330 hrs. Lewis was the only participant and verifier.

Western Chorus Frog	47
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Total

1 species 47 specimens

DOUGLAS COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted at Lone Star Lake on 1 May 1996 from 1030-1430 hrs under warm, sunny weather conditions by Rachelle Anderson, Nathan Bammes, Brandon Barnett, Sonja Brooks, Neal Cullen, Emily Einsahr, Owen Ferguson, Lisa Green, Natalie Jenison, Maria Maldonado, William Mansfield, Wyatt Naramore, Brad Nolde, Suraj Parulkar, Betsy Wanless, and Chris Wolfe, fifth-grade students at Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, Mary Kate Baldwin, Bob Barnett, and Martin Maldonado.

Northern Cricket Frog	42
Gray Treefrog	1
Painted Turtle	1
Five-lined Skink	14
Great Plains Skink	2
Ringneck Snake	8
Racer	1
Milk Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	4

Total

10 species 76 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller

GRANT COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 3 May, a herp count was made at T28S, R37W, SE 1/4 Sec. 35 of Grant County from 0900-1000 hrs. Participants were Dale Sparks, Andy Burr, and Neil Bass.

Bullfrog	20
Yellow Mud Turtle	1
Slider	3

Total

3 species 24 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

GRANT COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted on 4 May at the above locality by the same participants from 1300-1500 hrs.

Common Snapping Turtle	1
Slider	4

Total

2 species 5 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

GRANT COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 4 May, Neil Bass held a herp count at T28S, R37W, S 1/2 Sec. 24 from 1730-1800 hrs. Other participants were Andy Burr and Dale Sparks.

Bullfrog	6
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Total

1 species 6 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

CLARK COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was led by Eric Rundquist on 4 May at several sites in Clark County from 1350-1645 hrs. Skies were overcast to partly cloudy with no wind. Temperatures ranged from 61-69°F. The area was extremely dry having received no spring rain. Eric was the only participant and verifier.

Slider	5
Collared Lizard	1
Texas Blind Snake	1
Ground Snake	1
Ringneck Snake	1

Total

5 species 9 specimens

Eric Rundquist was the verifier.

GRANT COUNTY HERP COUNT

A brief herp count was conducted at T28S, R36W, E 1/2 Sec. 7 on 4 May. Participants were Dale Sparks, Andy Burr, and Neil Bass.

Ornate Box Turtle	1
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Total

1 species 1 specimen

Neil Bass was the verifier.

MORTON COUNTY HERP COUNT

John Rakestraw conducted a herp count in Morton County on 4 May from 0700-1800 hrs. Air temperature ranged from 50-75°F. The count method was visual observation only. John was the only participant and verifier.

Plains Leopard Frog	2
Bullfrog	3

Yellow Mud Turtle	2
Prairie Lizard	3
Six-lined Racerunner	2
Western Rattlesnake	1

Total

6 species 13 specimens

BOURBON COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson held a herp count at T26S, R23E, Sec. 11 on 4 May from 0000-0230 hrs. Participants included Dan Van Leeuwen and Lewis Anderson.

American Toad	9
Northern Cricket Frog	9
Gray Treefrog complex	16
Southern Leopard Frog	7
Eastern Box Turtle	3
Ornate Box Turtle	4
Northern Water Snake	2

Total

7 species 50 specimens

Verifier was Lewis Anderson.

CRAWFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson conducted a herp count at Pittsburg State University College Lake on the evening of 4 May. Lewis was the only participant and verifier.

American Toad	30
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Total

1 species 30 specimens

MIAMI COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Kessler led a herp count at Miami County State Fishing Lake on 5 May from 1015-1500 hrs. Skies were overcast with periods of rain. Temperatures ranged from 55-65°F. Other participants were Paul Spitler, Adam Bracco, Dan Mangum, Lindsay Alleman, Bing Chen, and Matt Miller.

American Toad	1
Northern Cricket Frog	1
Western Chorus Frog	50
Painted Turtle	3
Slider	1
Ground Skink	1
Five-lined Skink	8
Western Worm Snake	21
Ringneck Snake	12

Racer	1
Western Ribbon Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	3
Northern Water Snake	3
Copperhead	1

Total

14 species 108 specimens

SHAWNEE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted in the Camp Creek Wetlands area, Shawnee County on 6 May 1996 from 1230-1500 hrs under cool and lightly rainy weather conditions (about 55°F) by Laura Adams, Amanda Artzer, Ben Bammes, Jessica Cook, Evan Fisher, Katherine Garlinghouse, Stacie Kossoy, Katie Moore, Jared Nance, Jocelyn Nichols, Jeff Nolde, Nikhil Parulkar, Alexis Rowe, John Schroer, Zach Straus, Sarah Temple, and Sarah Twemlow, seventh grade students of Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, and Danitra Cushinberry.

Northern Cricket Frog	2
Western Chorus Frog	12
Five-lined Skink	2
Western Worm Snake	1
Ringneck Snake	109
Racer	1
Rat Snake	5
Milk Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	2
Brown Snake	2

Total

10 species 137 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

CRAWFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson made a herp count in the southwest part of Pittsburg on 6 May from 2300-2400 hrs. Lewis was the only participant and verifier.

American Toad	7
Western Chorus Frog	13
Gray Treefrog complex	5

Total

3 species 25 specimens

CRAWFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was made in or near Pittsburg on 7 May by Lewis Anderson around 1200 hrs. Lewis was the only participant and verifier.

Western Chorus Frog	39
Ornate Box Turtle	1

Total

2 species 40 specimens

WABAUNSEE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted in Wabaunsee County on 8 May 1996 from 1000-1430 hrs under warm, sunny weather conditions by Lesley Ash, Zachary Baksh, David Bireta, Carmen Brooks, Kerstin Nordstrom, P.R. Schroer, Sarah Wanless, Julia Franklin, and Hanuman Brown-Eagle, eighth-grade students at Topeka Collegiate School, and Larry L. Miller, Danitra Cushinberry, and Mary Kate Baldwin.

Northern Cricket Frog	12
Plains Leopard Frog	26
Western Chorus Frog	7
Bullfrog	1
Plains Narrowmouth Toad	16
Painted Turtle	1
Collared Lizard	1
Great Plains Skink	2
Ringneck Snake	31
Western Worm Snake	1
Great Plains Rat Snake	3
Milk Snake	5

Total

12 species 106 specimens

Verified by Larry L. Miller.

STAFFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

John Rakestraw led a road count at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge on 9 May from 0830-1230 hrs. Skies were clear with temperatures ranging from 60-80°F. John was the only participant and verifier.

Western Chorus Frog	10
Yellow Mud Turtle	2
Ornate Box Turtle	4
Eastern Hognose Snake	1
Racer	2
Gopher Snake	2
Plains Garter Snake	1
Common Garter Snake	2

Total

8 species 24 specimens

LINN COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Suzanne L. Collins and Joseph T. Collins at Marais des Cygnes Wildlife Management Area and Marais des Cygnes National Wildlife Refuge, Linn County on 11 May from 1300-1830 hrs.

Smallmouth Salamander	1
Western Chorus Frog	2
Bullfrog	1
Southern Leopard Frog	1
Eastern Box Turtle	1
Ornate Box Turtle	2
Painted Turtle	1
Slider	24
Ringneck Snake	24
Prairie Kingsnake	1
Plainbelly Water Snake	1
Diamondback Water Snake	2
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

13 species 62 specimens

Verified by Joseph T. Collins.

QUIVIRA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HERP COUNT

John Rakestraw held a herp count on this refuge in Stafford and Rice Counties on 15 May from 0830-1130 hrs. Temperatures ranged from 65-80°F. John was the only participant and verifier.

Western Chorus Frog	7
Bullfrog	2
Yellow Mud Turtle	2
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Slider	2
Plains Garter Snake	4
Common Garter Snake	2

Total

7 species 18 specimens

STAFFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

John Rakestraw made a road count on 16 May from 2100-2215 hrs. Temperature was approximately 80°F with very strong winds. John was the only participant and verifier.

Plains Spadefoot	3
Great Plains Toad	16
Woodhouse's Toad	7
Gopher Snake	2
Common Garter Snake	1

Total

5 species 29 specimens

HASKELL COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held at a site in Haskell County on 17 May from 1030-1100 hrs. Participants were Dale Sparks, Andy Burr, and Neil Bass.

Glossy Snake 1

Total

1 species 1 specimen

Neil Bass was the verifier.

HASKELL COUNTY HERP COUNT

Neil Bass, Dale Sparks, and Andy Burr made a herp count at T30S, R34W, SW 1/4 Sec. 14 on 17 May from 2100-2200 hrs.

Woodhouse's Toad 11

Plains Garter Snake 1

Total

2 species 12 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

HASKELL COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 18 May, a herp count was held at T29S, R34W, N 1/2 Sec. 34 from 0630-0700 hrs by Dale Sparks, Andy Burr, and Neil Bass.

Great Plains Toad 10

Woodhouse's Toad 10

Total

2 species 20 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

FORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was made on 19 May at 2 mi S, 3 mi W Spearville from 1900-1915 hrs. Neil Bass, Andy Burr, and Dale Sparks were the participants.

Great Plains Rat Snake 1

Total

1 species 1 specimen

Neil Bass was the verifier.

HASKELL COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 19 May, Dale Sparks, Neil Bass, and Andy Burr conducted a herp count at T27S, R26W, SE 1/4 Sec. 16 from 1500-1700 hrs.

Prairie Lizard 1

Racer 1

Total

2 species 2 specimens

Neil Bass was the verifier.

CHEROKEE COUNTY HERP COUNT

Eric Rundquist held a herp count in several areas of Cherokee County on 18-19 May. Skies were clear with a strong south wind gusting to 35 mph. The high temperature was 84°F. The area had received significant rainfall since the previous count and springs and rivers were at normal levels, as were small impoundments.

Longtail/Cave Salamander (larvae) 13

Grotto Salamander 2

American Toad 1

Gray Treefrog 10

Cope's Gray Treefrog 7

Eastern Box Turtle 4

Northern Cricket Frog 45

Ringneck Snake 1

Rat Snake 2

Total

9 species 85 specimens

Verifier was Eric Rundquist.

ANDERSON COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 19 May from 1300-1330 hrs, Eric Rundquist conducted a herp count at a site near Garnett. Skies were clear with a strong south wind. Temperature was 86°F.

Ornate Box Turtle 1

Five-lined Skink 1

Ringneck Snake 1

Western Worm Snake 1

Milk Snake 1

Total

5 species 5 specimens

Verifier was Eric Rundquist.

EASTERN KANSAS ROAD COUNT

Eric Rundquist made a road count on 19 May from 1020-1510 hrs in eastern Kansas. The route traveled began in Galena on U.S. rt. 160 west to U.S. rt. 69 north to U.S. rt. 58 west, then U.S. rt. 59 north to Lawrence. Total miles traveled were 173. Skies were clear with a strong south wind and a high temperature of 86°F. Eric was the only participant and verifier.

Eastern Box Turtle	3
Ornate Box Turtle	6
Common Musk Turtle	1
Common Snapping Turtle	4
Slider	4
Racer	6
Rat Snake	8
Garter Snake (species indet.)	2
Gopher Snake	1

Total

9 species 35 specimens

LYON COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson led a herp count at T19, R12, Sec. 2 on Badger Creek in Lyon County on 21 May from 1200-1800 hrs. Other participants included Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	37
Gray Treefrog complex	1
Bullfrog	4
Southern Leopard Frog	5
Northern Water Snake	4

Total

5 species 51 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

MORRIS COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held by Lewis Anderson on 22 May in Morris County at T17, R6, Sec. 16 & 17 on Six Mile Creek from 1000-1730 hrs. Other participants were Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	63
Bullfrog	1
Painted Turtle	1
Northern Water Snake	3

Total

4 species 68 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

CHASE COUNTY HERP COUNT

Lewis Anderson led a herp count near Hymer in Chase County on 22 May. Participants included Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Ornate Box Turtle	4
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Total

1 species 4 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

LYON COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 22 May, a short herp count was conducted at 2100 hrs in Lyon County on the Cottonwood River at Emporia. Participants were Lewis Anderson, Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	13
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Total

1 species 13 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

COFFEY COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was done on 23 May from 0900-1600 hrs at T22, R16, Sec. 29 in Coffey County by Lewis Anderson, Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	29
Southern Leopard Frog	3
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

3 species 33 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

CHEYENNE COUNTY HERP COUNT

The annual KHS Spring Field Trip was held on 25-27 May in Cheyenne County at various sites in the county and unseasonably cold and wet conditions. Participants included Nick Vaughan, John Thoennes, Francis Thoennes, Emily Moriarty, Carolyn Moriarty, Michael Moriarty, Larry L. Miller, Suzanne L. Miller, Mary Kate Baldwin, Shawn Ames, Al Kamb, Steve Kamb, Olin Karch, and Caleb Karch.

Barred Tiger Salamander	17
Plains Spadefoot	50
Great Plains Toad	50
Woodhouse's Toad	50
Western Chorus Frog	50
Plains Leopard Frog	2
Ornate Box Turtle	1
Great Plains Skink	1
Six-lined Racerunner	1
Gopher Snake	1

Total

10 species 223 specimens

Larry L. Miller was the verifier.

STAFFORD COUNTY HERP COUNT

John Rakestraw conducted a herp count in southwest Stafford County on 26 May from 2130-2230 hrs. Temperatures were 55-60°F. The area had received heavy rains the previous two days. John was the only participant and verifier.

Plains Spadefoot	150
Great Plains Toad	14
Woodhouse's Toad	3
Spotted Chorus Frog	100
Western Chorus Frog	300
Plains Leopard Frog	2

Total

6 species 569 specimens

CHISHOLM CREEK PARK HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Al Volkmann in Sedgwick County at Chisholm Creek Park in Wichita on 26 May. Skies were overcast with intermittent rain and the air temperature was 22°C. Participants were Stan Wiechman, Jim Mason, Bob Previtera, Jennifer Previtera, Eric Rundquist and Al Volkmann.

Great Plains Toad	1
Northern Cricket Frog	30
Western Chorus Frog	1
Bullfrog	5
Frogs (species indet.)	4
Common Snapping Turtle	1
Painted Turtle	2
Slider	2
Turtle (species indet.)	1
Prairie Kingsnake	1
Common Garter Snake	1
Diamondback Water Snake	10
Graham's Crayfish Snake	5

Total

11 species 64 specimens

Verifier was Al Volkmann.

ELK COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was held at near Howard on 26 May from 1315-1400 hrs. Skies were partly cloudy with a slight south breeze. Temperature was 82°F. Participants were Eric Rundquist and Ann Rundquist.

Great Plains Skink	2
Common Garter Snake	1

Total

2 species 3 specimens

Eric Rundquist was the verifier.

SOUTH-CENTRAL KANSAS ROAD COUNT

A road count was conducted on 26 May from 1415-1739 hrs. The route taken began in Howard on U.S. rt. 99 north to Emporia and I-35 east to U.S. rt. 75 north to U.S. rt. 56 east to U.S. rt. north to Lawrence, for 146 total miles. Skies were partly cloudy to cloudy with a high temperature of 89°F and low temperature of 78°F. Participants were Eric and Ann Rundquist.

Bullfrog	1
Chorus Frog	2
Common Snapping Turtle	6
Slider	2
Painted Turtle	2
Ornate Box Turtle	9
Racer	1
Gopher Snake	1
Rat Snake	2

Total

9 species 26 specimens

Eric Rundquist was the verifier.

OSAGE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Keith Coleman and Jim Gubanyi between Carbondale and Overbrook on 26-27 May 1996 from 2311-0114 hrs.

Western Chorus Frog	15
Cope's Gray Treefrog	8
Plains Leopard Frog	4
Bullfrog	4
Common Snapping Turtle	1
Plainbelly Water Snake	1

Total

6 species 33 specimens

Verified by Keith Coleman

OSAGE COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was conducted by Jim Gubanyi and Keith Coleman near Overbrook, T15S, R17E, Sec. 6 on 26-27 May 1996 from 2300-0100 hrs.

Western Chorus Frog	18
Cope's Gray Treefrog	10
Plains Leopard Frog	4
Bullfrog	4
Common Snapping Turtle	1
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

6 species 38 specimens

Verified by Jim Gubanyi

NEOSHO COUNTY HERP COUNT

A herp count was done on 28 May at T28, R21, Sec. 17 Neosho County from 100-1700 hrs. Participants were Lewis Anderson, Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	11
Bullfrog	1
Northern Water Snake	1

Total

3 species 13 specimens

Lewis Anderson was the verifier.

THIRD NEOSHO COUNTY HERP COUNT

On 29 May, Lewis Anderson held a herp count in Neosho County at T27, R17, Sec. 13 from 0900-1630 hrs. This site appeared to have been polluted by a possible pipeline leak of jet fuel or diesel fuel. Other participants were Jessi Brunson, Kip Chambers, Karen Yates, and Linda Fuselier.

Northern Cricket Frog	5
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Total

1 species 5 specimens

Grand Total

There were 69 species in this year's counts and 2,815 total specimens observed, the greatest diversity and highest count thus far made annually by the members and friends of the Kansas Herpetological Society.

Literature Cited

- Collins, J. T. 1990. Standard Common and Current Scientific Names for North American Amphibians and Reptiles. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 19: iv + 41 pp.
- Rundquist, E. M. 1994. Results of the Sixth Annual KHS Herp Counts Held 1 April-31 May 1994. Kansas Herpetol. Soc. Newsl. 97.: 5-14.



NIGHT OF THE WOODHOUSE'S TOAD

LUCY WERTH
Felten Middle School
Hays, Kansas

I was awakened one night by the girls trampling down the porch that I live under. The girls were leaving to go to their regular Friday night movie. I was very uneager to wake, but the clatter of their shoes brought me to my senses.

Little rays of light were all that was left glowing over the horizon. I would sleep a little longer but the urging pain in my stomach brought me crawling out into the twilight.

I made my way over to the sidewalk, where I stood perfectly still. The porch light shed just enough light to attract some beetles. When one came scurrying toward me, I flicked out my tongue and had him down in a few moments.

After awhile, more frogs and toads were appearing. By dark I could see a group of Woodhouse's Toads on the other side of a busy street. There were males and females; you could tell them apart because the females are larger than the males. I started to cross the street with other toads and frogs. It is very sad and very dangerous. Many of us get smashed going across. It was devastating but our two and one half inches to four inch size doesn't compare to cars and trucks. I made it all right and my friends and I went to go find an ant pile.

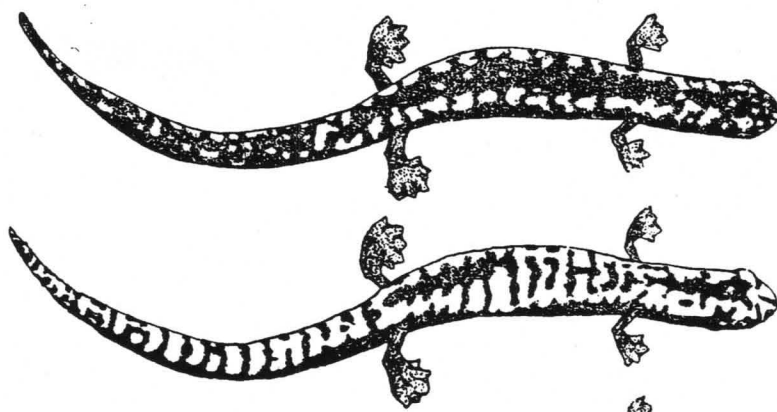
Soon I noticed things were more visible and the sky was lightening to a sick gray as the warm summer sun began to rise. I was nice and cool under my porch, crouched in the dirt to keep my skin moist. I began to drift off to sleep, waiting until I would come out again to live off the night.



It has been my goal this year to integrate a writing project into my science class. We have been studying amphibians in preparation for our annual amphibian population survey and this seemed like a good time to introduce a writing project. Each student was asked to choose her/his favorite Ellis County amphibian, find information on its habits, habitat and food requirements, then write a fictional story based on fact. Emphasis was placed on idea, conventions (punctuation/spelling/capitalization), and word choice.

The previous selection was written by Lucy Werth who is a student in my fifth hour 7th grade science class. This is an excellent example of an integrated, science/language arts project.

Karen Toepfer
Science/Technology Instructor
Felten Middle School
Hays, Kansas



OBSERVATIONS ON AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF THE SOUTHCENTRAL COAST OF NORTH CAROLINA

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From 2–7 June 1996, we had the opportunity to visit and conduct a count of amphibians and reptiles observed on the southcentral coast of North Carolina. Accompanied by Jerry D. Collins and Kay Collins (residents of Cincinnati, Ohio), we traveled almost daily from Topsail Beach (Pender County) in the south through Camp LeJeune Marine Base to Swansboro (Onslow County) in the north, with one excursion (4 June) further north to Merrimon (Carteret County). Weather during the entire trip was partly cloudy to sunny; no rainfall was recorded. We observed the following (C = Carteret County; O = Onslow County; P = Pender County):

Acris gryllus
(Southern Cricket Frog; chorus) ± 50 (P)
Bufo terrestris
(Southern Toad; all meta young) 12 (P)
Gastrophryne carolinensis
(Eastern Narrowmouth Toad) 1 (P)
Hyla cinerea (Green Treefrog; chorus) ± 100 (P)
Rana catesbeiana (Bullfrog) ± 50 (P)
Rana utricularia (Southern Leopard Frog) 14 (C, P)
Deirochelys reticularia (Chicken Turtle) 2 (P)
Pseudemys floridana (Cooter) 9 (P)
Terrapene carolina (Eastern Box Turtle; DOR) 1 (O)
Anolis carolinensis (Green Anole) 1 (P)

Cnemidophorus sexlineatus
(Six-lined Racerunner) 9 (P)
Ophisaurus ventralis
(Eastern Glass Lizard; DOR) 1 (P)
Coluber constrictor (Racer; DOR) 2 (C, O)
Elaphe obsoleta (Rat Snake; DOR) 2 (O, P)
Lampropeltis getula (Common Kingsnake) 1 (P)
Nerodia fasciata (Southern Water Snake) 1 (P)
Opheodrys aestivus (Rough Green Snake) 1 (P)
Alligator mississippiensis (American Alligator) 1 (P)

Total

18 species 258 specimens

The two DOR specimens of *Elaphe obsoleta* were typical of the race *quadrivittata* and showed no evidence of intergradation with the nominate subspecies. All common names are those standardized by Collins (1990).

LITERATURE CITED

Collins, J. T. 1990. Standard Common and Current Scientific Names for North American Amphibians and Reptiles. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 19: 1–41.

AN AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE COUNT IN THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

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While on an Outward Bound Course from 4–29 June 1995, I conducted an amphibian and reptile count in the Nantahala National Forest of western North Carolina (mainly within Macon County). All animals were captured by hand along the trail or in nearby streams, and photographed and released. I was assisted in the capture or discovery of reptiles and amphibians by the eleven other members of my crew. Weather conditions throughout the trip were mostly cloudy and humid, and consistently rainy.

Blackbelly Salamander
(*Desmognathus quadramaculatus*) 1
Imitator Salamander (*Desmognathus imitator*) 2
Jordan's Salamander (*Plethodon jordani*) 2
Mountain Dusky Salamander
(*Desmognathus ochrophaeus*) 20+
Northern Dusky Salamander
(*Desmognathus fuscus*) 20+
Northern Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon glutinosus*) 2

Red Salamander (<i>Pseudotriton ruber</i>)	1	Rat Snake (<i>Elaphe obsoleta</i>)	1
Eastern Newt (<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>)	5	Copperhead (<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>)	2
Seal Salamander (<i>Desmognathus monticola</i>)	4	Common Garter Snake (<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>)	4
Two-Lined Salamander (<i>Eurycea bislineata</i>)	8	Northern Water Snake (<i>Nerodia sipedon</i>)	3
American Toad (<i>Bufo americanus</i>)	8	Ringneck Snake (<i>Diadophis punctatus</i>)	2
Bullfrog (<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>)	1	Timber Rattlesnake (<i>Crotalus horridus</i>)	1
Gray Treefrog (<i>Hyla versicolor</i>)	20+	25 species	127 specimens
Pickerel Frog (<i>Rana palustris</i>)	1	All common names are those standardized by Collins	
Spring Peeper (<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>)	8	(1990).	
Wood Frog (<i>Rana sylvatica</i>)	1		
Eastern Box Turtle (<i>Terrapene carolina</i>)	5		
Five-Lined Skink (<i>Eumeces fasciatus</i>)	4		
Fence Lizard (<i>Sceloporus undulatus</i>)	1		

LITERATURE CITED

Collins, J. T. 1990. Standard Common and Current Scientific Names for North American Amphibians and Reptiles. SSAR Herpetol. Circ. 19: 1-41.

A New Title

The Reptiles and Amphibians of Fort Riley and Vicinity

By William H. Busby, Joseph T. Collins & Jeffrey R. Parmelee

The Fort Riley Military Reservation is a 101,000-acre tract in the northern Flint Hills region of north-central Kansas that sports a diverse herpetofauna composed of 52 species—one salamander, ten frogs and toads, seven turtles, nine lizards, and twenty-five snakes. Profusely illustrated with numerous exquisite images by noted wildlife photographer Suzanne L. Collins of Lawrence, this book reveals the natural history of the amphibians and reptiles that abound in and around the Reservation in the beautiful Flint Hills of north-central Kansas. This handsome field guide presents information on identification, size, activity periods, habitat, and food preferences of amphibians and reptiles that inhabit the varied environments of Fort Riley. A must for all Kansans interested in wild places and the creatures that roam them. 78 pages, 64 color photographs, one map, bibliography, and index. April 1996.

William H. Busby is a *Zoologist* with the Kansas Biological Survey, Joseph T. Collins is the *Wildlife Author Laureate of Kansas*, and Jeffrey R. Parmelee is a *Herpetologist* at the Natural History Museum, University of Kansas.

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Joseph T. Collins is Director of *The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles* and author or co-author of 20 books on North American wildlife. Suzanne L. Collins is a noted Wildlife Photographer and a member of the Board of *The Center for North American Amphibians and Reptiles*.

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