



# Amphibian-Spotter Guidelines

## What you need to get started...

- this information sheet, plus a data sheet and map for each county where you may be spotting amphibians
- a field guide that depicts the amphibians that occur in your area. See page 37 for suggestions.
- a tape recorder and a resource for identifying frog and toad calls. Since many frogs and toads are “heard and not seen” during the breeding season, it would be helpful for you to be able to identify their calls. See page 37 for sources of anuran voice tapes.
- a camera to record any unusual amphibians you find (especially rare species or those with deformities).

## How to get started...

The techniques for being an amphibian spotter are simple: Look for amphibians wherever you go! Of course, you might be most successful if you plan some trips to some wetland habitats, especially during the moist, warm conditions in the spring (both during the day—when you can see amphibians and at night—when you can hear them). In addition to the obvious habitats for frogs and toads along wetland edges, you could try some special search techniques. Turn over logs and rocks in wooded areas to look for salamanders (be sure to watch out for snakes and return all logs and rocks to their original positions). Use a mask to look underwater for spring-dwelling salamanders hiding in the rocky substrate of springs in the Hill Country. Use

a seine in slow-moving water bodies in East and South Texas to capture amphiuma, sirens, or newts, especially at night.

Try your best to identify the species of amphibians you encounter. If you are uncertain of the identification, then you can take a photo or record its call for later research. Estimate the number of individuals present (if you can see the animals, then record your number under abundance; if you only hear the frogs or toads, then you can write down a call index value). Record as much data as you can about the species and its habitat, because that can help us to identify it as well. Return the animal to the location where you found it.

Record your data on the data sheet throughout the year (feel free to make additional copies). Record sighting numbers on a map if possible. Take photos of any rare amphibians (see list provided) or of any amphibians with malformations. If you do spot any malformed amphibians, then you should also report your findings to the “Frog Force” project. Information on this nation-wide monitoring project is located at [www.frogweb.gov](http://www.frogweb.gov). If data is collected on private land, you must also submit the Private Lands Access Request Form (page 33). Return your Amphibian Spotter Data Sheets to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by **DECEMBER 31** of each year, and we’ll provide you with an annual report.



# Amphibian-Spotter Guidelines

## Some special notes...

Several amphibians in Texas are listed as threatened or endangered (see list below). It is unlawful to capture these amphibians without a permit, although you may observe and photograph them. Regardless of the status of the amphibians, try to leave the animal and its habitat just as you found it.

*Barton Springs Salamander*



*San Marcos Salamander*

## Endangered and Threatened Amphibians in Texas *(does not include subterranean salamanders)*

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	State Status
San Marcos salamander	<i>Eurycea nana</i>	T	T
Barton Springs salamander	<i>Eurycea sosorum</i>	E	E
black-spotted newt	<i>Notophthalmus meridionalis</i>		T
South Texas siren	<i>Siren</i> sp. 1		T
Houston toad		E	E
Mexican treefrog	<i>Smilisca baudinii</i>		T
white-lipped frog	<i>Leptodactylus labialis</i>		T
sheep frog	<i>Hypopachus variolosus</i>		T
Mexican burrowing toad	<i>Rhinophrynus dorsalis</i>		T

T = threatened  
E = endangered





# Amphibian-Spotter Data Sheet

To aid us in conserving paper and reducing printing costs, you may wish to photocopy this page.

Please feel free to photocopy forms.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Please use this sheet to submit sight or call records of any Texas amphibian species. Use a separate line for each species and for each visit to a particular site. Mark location and number of each sighting on a county map if possible.

County: San Jacinto Daytime phone: 123-456-7890  
 Name: Ina Prince Evening phone: 123-098-7654  
 Address: 201 Hopalong Way Fax: 123-456-7899  
 City/St/Zip: Coldspring TX 78542 E-mail: toadlove@aol.com  
 Total volunteer time (# people X # hours): 2.5 hr.

Sighting Number	Date	Location (distance & direction from nearest town or Lat-Long)	Habitat Type <sup>1</sup>	Species Name	# Seen	Calls <sup>2</sup> (C.I. Value)	Notes (especially note malformations)
1	2/15/2000	roadside park, 4 mi. NE of Shepherd	man-made ponds	spring peeper		3	heard from the roadside
2	3/10/2000	San Houston NAT Forest, 6 mi. W of Coldspring	bottomland forest	tiger salamander	1		6 in long - found under log
3	4/5/2000	Coldspring Elementary School	residential	Gulf Coast toad	3		under streetlight in evening
4	6/11/2000	Trinity River exbau, 4 mi. W of SH 59	swamp	amphiuma	1		seined up with fish; 12 in long

- Please describe as upland forest, bottomland forest, grassland, savannah, brushland, agricultural, residential, or as one of the wetland types on page 36.
- Call Index values of frog and toad calls:
  - 1 = individuals can be counted and there is some space between calls;
  - 2 = calls of individuals distinguishable but there is some overlapping of calls;
  - 3 = full chorus-calls are constant, continuous, and overlapping.

Please return data sheets by DEC. 31 to:



The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled to be informed about the information we collect. Under Sections 552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you are also entitled to receive and review the information. Under Section 559.004, you are also entitled to have this information corrected. www.pwd.state.tx.us PWD 1157A-W7000 (3/07)

Texas Amphibian Watch  
 Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.  
 4200 Smith School Road  
 Austin, TX 78744



# Ethical Frogging

As you participate in Texas Amphibian Watch, we ask you to keep in mind some of these guidelines designed to protect you, the frogs, and private landowners:

## COURTESY RULES

Ask permission!

Legislation in Texas protects the rights of private property owners during the course of your volunteer efforts. You should approach the property owner and explain what you're doing and why, and when you'd like to visit their property. You'll then need to get the landowner to sign a Private Lands Access Request Form to

grant you permission to gather data, send it to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and to allow us to use the data in preparing reports. The Private Lands Access Request Form is enclosed. Please return the form to us, even if you are working on your own private property, so that our records show that we have permission to use the data.

Landowner permission forms are not required when you do roadside

call counts surveys, as long as you are on public roads. If you will be working on public property, then you won't have to get a signed permission form, but you should seek verbal permission from the site manager. Once again, explain what you're doing and why, and when you'll be visiting the property. They're likely to be very supportive of your efforts, but they may have to issue you a special permit to enter the area after dark, capture animals, etc.

**Use the Private Lands  
Access Request Form  
on page 33 if you wish  
to gather information  
on private property!**

A signed Landowner Access Form will grant you permission to gather data, to provide it to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and to allow us to use the data in preparing reports. The form must also be submitted when monitoring your own property.



# Ethical Frogging

## LICENSING RULES

or sunscreen on your arms or clothing, do not allow frogs or other animals to come in contact with those places.

- ALWAYS put a creature back EXACTLY where you found it!
- If you work in more than one wetland location, be sure to disinfect boots and equipment before changing sites in order to prevent disease spread.

**Use the following guidelines when handling frogs for malformation monitoring.**

### Eggs:

It is best not to touch the eggs at all, but to just observe them where they are.

### Tadpoles:

Keep the tadpoles in water. Just like fish, tadpoles have gills, and can only breathe underwater. If you want to observe them closely make sure that you have a small

container of water to keep them in. You can keep them in you hands for a few seconds if you want; just be sure that your hands are damp (or even better, cup your hands so that you have a little pool of water), and make sure you don't squish them!

### Metamorphs:

A metamorph is the in-between stage, when a tadpole is changing into a frog. When all four legs of a tadpole start to show, that's when we first call it a metamorph. When it no longer has its tail, then we call it a frog. Keep the metamorphs wet. Make sure there's something in your bucket for metamorphs to crawl up on,





# Ethical Frogging

as they are beginning to breathe air and may not be effective swimmers.

## Frogs:

Keep frogs moist. Don't overcrowd them in buckets, keeping just one or two in each container. Keep your containers in the shade so that the frogs don't get too hot. When handling frogs, keep your hands moist and hold the frog by its legs—right where the legs meet the frog's body.

## RULES TO KEEP YOU SAFE

Make sure you ALWAYS conduct your volunteer work with another partner, especially any night-time activities.

## Muck:

Wetlands can sometimes have very deep, soft soils ("muck"), and it's not hard to get "stuck in the muck"! In addition, wading into deep water with soft soils can be dangerous if you are wearing

waders where water might fill your boots. Do not enter water where the bottom is unknown, and be careful of underwater hazards, such as abandoned fishing lines, broken glass, etc.

## Poisonous Plants:

Is there poison ivy near your wetland? Make sure you know what kinds of plants in your area are dangerous to touch, and know what they look like.



Poison ivy's leaves are dark green, except in the fall when they turn red, and are usually clustered in groups of three. The edges of its leaves are smooth, without teeth, but the leaves may have a few lobes (like an oak leaf). Look at a field guide at your library or bookstore to double-check your <sup>Poison Ivy</sup> identification.

## Venomous Snakes:

There are only four types of venomous snakes in Texas—water moccasins or cottonmouths, copperheads, coral snakes, and several types of rattlesnakes. The first three are



# Ethical Frogging

often found in moist habitats, but there is no need for excessive



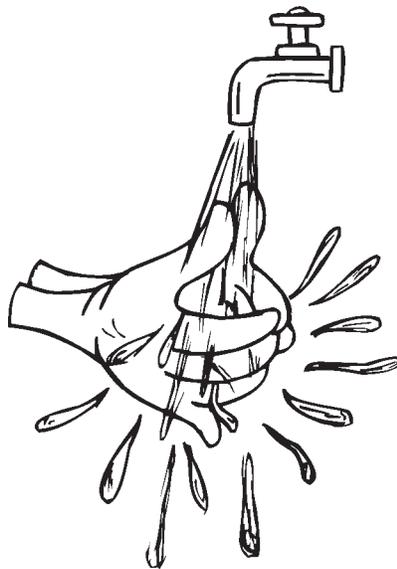
do when you see a snake is to stay very still. If you remain still, the snake may leave. If the snake doesn't move away from you after a few minutes, slowly and quietly back away from it. It's a good idea to check out your field guide to know which kinds of venomous snakes are in your area, and exactly what they look like.

### **“Poisonous” Amphibians:**

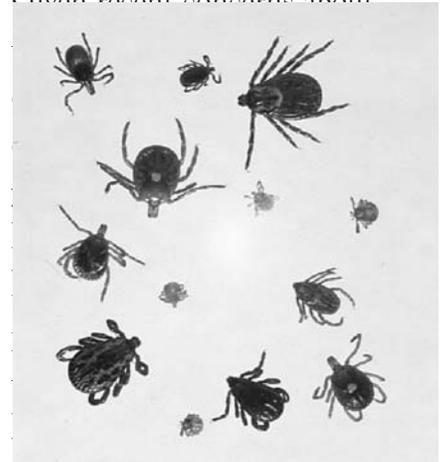
Some frogs, toads, and salamanders have toxins in their skin. Just touching or handling these animals won't hurt you, but be sure to wash your hands thoroughly before you eat or touch your eyes or face.

### **Ticks:**

If there are ticks in your area, you might want to wear long sleeves and pants, and keep your



pants tucked into your socks. Given recent concerns about



### **Clothing and other stuff**

There are some basic items that most field biologists ALWAYS have with them, and you should too!

### **Long pants and shirts:**

Even when it's hot out, it's a good idea to wear long sleeves and pants. This helps protect your skin from sunburn, insect bites, and scratches.

### **Hat:**



# Ethical Frogging

A hat with a wide brim all around keeps stuff out of your hair, keeps the sun out of your eyes, and keeps your face and ears from getting sunburned. Also, it's much easier to find tadpoles and frog eggs when the sun isn't glaring in your face!

### Drinking water:

If you're not close to home, then make sure you bring a water bottle!

### Sunscreen:

Sunburns are not fun, and they can even be dangerous! Make sure you wear sunscreen on any exposed skin, but be sure you wash your hands before handling amphibians.

### Insect repellent:

Wetlands are a good place for

frogs, but they're a good place for mosquitoes and other biting insects, too.

**IMPORTANT:** If you decide to use bug spray, then make sure you do not apply repellents containing DEET to any part of your body that will contact the water or amphibians. No matter what kind of bug spray you use, you should wash your hands thoroughly before you handle frogs or tadpoles.

**Happy and Safe Frogging!**



# Texas Amphibian Watch

## Private Lands Access Request Form

To be completed by the owner of any private tract of land where Texas Amphibian Watch data is collected.

\_\_\_\_\_ (volunteer name) is participating as a volunteer in Texas Amphibian Watch. Texas Amphibian Watch is a monitoring program that uses citizen volunteers to gather data about the status and health of frogs, toads, and salamanders in Texas. Although very few of these species are considered threatened or endangered, they can be valuable indicators of the health of our environment. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is very pleased to have the assistance of concerned Texans in watching over the health of these native species.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will not accept data collected on private land without the written approval of the private landowner. Accordingly, we have prepared this form for your approval. The sections described below are the releases that we and our volunteers are required to obtain from you under Section 12.103 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. If you approve, then please sign one or both sections.

### 1. Use of information

This documents my approval for TPWD volunteers and employees to use (such as in analyses) site specific information from the property I own or manage. This may include placing that information onto a topographic map and entering the information into a Department database. Thus, the information could be viewed by the public.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Landowner or authorized agent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

### 2. Reporting information

This also documents my approval for TPWD volunteers and employees to report (such as in publications or technical reports) the above approved information in a manner that permits identification of the location of the specific parcel of property that I own or manage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Landowner or authorized agent signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

### 3. Other conditions

If there are any conditions that apply to this approval, please specify and initial below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name and Address** (of landowner or authorized agent):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Optional:**

Name of ranch or tract \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_







# Data Guide for Amphibian Surveys

## Climatic Conditions:

### Air temp

The best option is to have an outdoor thermometer. You can also call time/temp phone numbers or obtain temperatures from local radio or TV; however, temperatures in rural settings often differ significantly from temperatures in nearby urban settings.

Wind – Record the actual wind speed or use the Beaufort scale described below. Indicate the direction from which the wind is coming. (for example: B2 SW) *Surveys should not be conducted when wind speeds exceed 12 mph, although exceptions can be made for plains counties.*

B0 (less than 1 mph) – calm/still: smoke will rise vertically.

B1 (1-3 mph) – light air: rising smoke drifts; weather vane is inactive.

B2 (4-7 mph) – light breeze: leaves rustle; can feel wind on your face; weather vane is inactive

B3 (8-12 mph) – gentle breeze: leaves and twigs move around; light weight flags extend.

B4 (13-18 mph) – moderate breeze: moves thin branches, raises dust and paper.

B5 (19-24 mph) – fresh breeze: medium tree branches move.

Sky – Use the following National Weather Bureau guide:

0 – Few clouds

2 – Cloudy or overcast

5 – Drizzle

1 – Partly cloudy or variable sky

4 – Fog or smoke

8 – Showers

*Counts may be very effective in light rain, but avoid heavy rain which may impair your ability to hear calls.*

Moon – Simply indicate whether moonlight is visible.

Water level – Describe as average, below average, above average, much below average, or much above average.

Barometric Pressure and Relative Humidity – These two variables may be very important in amphibian calling activity. If your site is located near a National Weather Service station, then you can obtain current data from the Internet. Some local radio and television news programs will also provide these numbers, although they can change quickly over the course of an evening. Portable instruments are also available from garden centers and science supply catalogs.

Background Noise – Low: does not impair ability to hear calls; medium: some noise; may obscure some calls; high: definitely affects effectiveness of call count

## Amphibian Call Index:

This index is used to give a very rough relative abundance for each amphibian species calling at a site.

Index Value 0: No individuals calling

Index Value 1: Individuals can be counted. There is space between calls.

Index Value 2: Calls of individuals can be distinguished, but there is some overlapping of calls.

Index Value 3: Full chorus. Calls are constant, continuous, and overlapping.



# Data Guide for Amphibian Surveys

## Texas Wetland Types:

Texas boasts a wide variety of wetland types—both natural and man-made. The list below includes the types most likely to be encountered during amphibian surveys, but may not be exhaustive. Feel free to describe your wetland type if it does not fit the descriptions below. Please indicate whether your wetland is natural or man-made.

- Bog* – Found in East Texas, these are sites found on acid peat soils that are low in nutrients. They have essentially no water flow in or out. Vegetation includes low shrubs, herbs, and a few tree species, with the ground cover dominated by sphagnum moss. Some are very overgrown with vegetation, while others may contain areas of open water.
- Ditch* – Ditches are obviously man-made linear wetland habitat, with a wide array of native and non-native vegetation. Despite their artificial nature, many ditches are used by amphibians as breeding habitat.
- Lake* – Lakes are described as any body of water over 20 acres in size dominated by deep open water. Vegetation and anuran habitat is usually limited to the shallow areas along the shore. With only one natural freshwater lake in Texas, most lakes are actually man-made reservoirs.
- Marsh* – Marshes are any wetland characterized as maintaining water year round and dominated by herbaceous, non-woody vegetation. Water depths can vary but are not usually greater than 3 feet. Common plant species include cattails, rushes, sedges, and grasses, along with submergent plants in the more open water areas. In West Texas spring-fed marshes are known as cienegas.
- Pond* – These are lakes smaller than 20 acres in size. Vegetation can vary, but anuran habitat is usually restricted to shallow areas near the shore. Please indicate whether *natural* or *man-made*.
- Swamp* – Found most frequently in East Texas, these wetlands are dominated by woody vegetation. Standing water is usually present year-round.
- Stream* – Streams include a variety of wetland habitats from small, intermittent drainages to large rivers in Texas. Anurans are most likely to utilize the edges of slow-moving stream bodies, but some salamanders are adapted to using deeper water (for example, amphiuma and sirens in East Texas streams) or faster flow areas (for example, the spring-dwelling Eurycea salamanders found in Central Texas streams). Streams should be characterized on the data form as *intermittent*, *small* (less than 15 feet in width), or *large* (more than 15 feet in width). *Spring-fed* stream habitat should also be noted.
- Temporary Pool* – This category includes “puddles.” A temporary pool is defined as any non-permanent water body that is not part of a larger wetland complex as described above. Temporary pools most often result from spring rains, although they may occur in the summer and fall in West Texas.
- Wet Meadow* – These areas are dominated by grasses, sedges, and rushes and may appear prairie-like for most of the year. In areas with water-logged soils, however, water can stand during the spring and support breeding amphibians.



# Amphibian References

**Tapes and CDs** – Except where noted below, these are often available in nature stores.

*Texas Amphibian Watch Guide to the Calls of Frogs and Toads in Texas (CD)* – Contains recordings of nearly all frogs and toads in Texas, as well as recordings of other night creatures and a guide to interpreting frog and toad choruses. Available from the TPWD Wildlife Diversity Program (800-792-1112 x7011). Cost: \$5.

*Voices of the Night* – Contains recordings of 36 frog and toad species found in eastern North America, including the eastern half of Texas, along with information about the species. Distributed by Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology (607-266-7425).

*Frog and Toad Calls of the Rocky Mountains and Southwest* – Contains species found in the western part of Texas, among others. Distributed by Cornell Laboratory (607- 266-7425).

*The Calls of Frogs and Toads - Eastern and Central North America* – Contains recordings and written information about 42 species of frogs and toads found east of the Great Plains. Side two contains a guide to variations in calls and interpretation of mixed species choruses. Distributed by One Good Tern (800-432-8376).

*A Guide to Night Sounds* – Contains recordings of night birds and insects (useful for comparison to anuran calls.) Distributed by One Good Tern (800-432-8376).

**Field Guides** – These are available in most book stores and nature stores. Most paperback costs range from \$10 to \$20.

*A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern/Central North America* – by Roger Conant and Joseph T. Collins. Color drawings, maps, and text for all Texas species. Part of the Peterson Field Guide series, published in 1991 by Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston.

*Reptiles and Amphibians (Golden Series)* – by H.S. Zim & H. M. Smith. Color drawings, maps and text for most Texas species. Published by Golden Books.

*The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Reptiles and Amphibians* – by J.L. Behler and F. W. King. Photos, maps, and text. Published in 1985 by Alfred A. Knopf.

*Amphibians and Reptiles of Texas with Keys, Taxonomic Synopses, Bibliography, and Distribution* – by J. Dixon. A more technical book, with distribution maps by county, but fewer illustrations. Published by Texas A&M Press.

# List of Frogs and Toads Found in Texas

The following species have all been recorded in Texas, along with subspecies of some of the species listed below. The first column lists the scientific name; some alternative names are given in parentheses. The second column lists the common name. The third column gives an indication of the species' rarity on a global scale, while the fourth column indicates its rarity within the state (G5 and S5 species are the most common, while G1 and S1 species are the most rare). The fifth column indicates whether the species is listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as threatened (LT) or endangered (LE), while the sixth column indicates whether the species is listed by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

We are especially interested in whether you encounter any S1 or S2 species during the course of your frog-watching activities. It would be helpful if you could photograph or record any of these rare species. Please note that permits are required to collect species listed as threatened or endangered by the state or federal government.

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	GRANK	SRANK	USES A	SPROT
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) AMERICANUS	AMERICAN TOAD	G5	S3		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) COGNATUS	GREAT PLAINS TOAD	G5	S5		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) DEBILIS	GREEN TOAD	G5	S4		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) HOUSTONENSIS	HOUSTON TOAD	G1	S1	LE	E
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) PUNCTATUS	RED-SPOTTED TOAD	G5	S5		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) SPECIOSUS	TEXAS TOAD	G5	G5		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) WOODHOUSII	WOODHOUSE'S TOAD	G5	S5		
ANAXYRUS (BUFO) WOODHOUSII VELATUS	EAST TEXAS TOAD	G5	S4		
CHAUNUS (BUFO) MARINUS	GIANT TOAD (MARINE TOAD)	G5	S2		
CRANOPSIS NEBULIFER (BUFO VALLICEPS)	GULF COAST TOAD	G5	S5		
ACRIS CREPITANS	CRICKET FROG	G5	S5		
HYLA ARENICOLOR	CANYON TREEFROG	G5	S4		
HYLA CHRYSOSCELIS	COPE'S GRAY TREEFROG	G5	S5		
HYLA CINEREA	GREEN TREEFROG	G5	S5		
HYLA SQUIRELLA	SQUIRREL TREEFROG	G5	S5		
HYLA VERSICOLOR	NORTHERN GRAY TREEFROG	G5	S5		
PSEUDACRIS CLARKII	SPOTTED CHORUS FROG	G5	S5		
PSEUDACRIS STRECKERI	STRECKER'S CHORUS FROG	G5	S5		
PSEUDACRIS TRISERIATA	STRIPED CHORUS FROG	G5	S5		
PSEUDACRIS CRUCIFER	SPRING PEEPER	G5	S5		
SMILISCA BAUDINII	MEXICAN TREEFROG	G5	S3		T
LEPTODACTYLUS LABIALIS	WHITE-LIPPED FROG	G5	S1		T
SYRRHOPHUS CYSTIGNATHOIDES	RIO GRANDE CHIRPING FROG	G5	S3		
SYRRHOPHUS GUTTILATUS	SPOTTED CHIRPING FROG	G4	S3		
SYRRHOPHUS MARNOCKII	CLIFF CHIRPING FROG	G5	S5		
CRAUGASTER (ELEUTHERODACTYLUS) (HYLACTOPHRYNE) AUGUSTI	BARKING FROG	G4	S4		
GASTROPHRYNE CAROLINENSIS	EASTERN NARROWMOUTH TOAD	G5	S5		
GASTROPHRYNE OLIVACEA	GREAT PLAINS NARROWMOUTH TOAD	G5	S5		
HYPOPACHUS VARIOLOSUS	SHEEP FROG	G5	S2		T
SCAPHIOPUS COUCHII	COUCH'S SPADEFOOT	G5	S5		
SCAPHIOPUS HURTERII (HOLBROOKII)	EASTERN SPADEFOOT	G5	S5		
SPEA BOMBIFRONS	PLAINS SPADEFOOT	G5	S5		
SPEA MULTIPLICATA	NEW MEXICO SPADEFOOT	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) AREOLATUS	CRAWFISH FROG	G4	S3		
LITHOBATES (RANA) BERLANDIERI	RIO GRANDE LEOPARD FROG	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) BLAIRI	PLAINS LEOPARD FROG	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) CATESBEIANUS	BULLFROG	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) CLAMITANS	BRONZE (GREEN) FROG	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) GRYLIO	PIG FROG	G5	S2		
LITHOBATES (RANA) PALUSTRIS	PICKEREL FROG	G5	S5		
LITHOBATES (RANA) PIPIENS	NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG	G5	S1 (extirpated)		
LITHOBATES (RANA) SPHENOCEPHALUS	SOUTHERN LEOPARD FROG	G5	S5		
RHINOPHRYNUS DORSALIS	MEXICAN BURROWING TOAD	G5	S2		T



# Some Useful Information

*There are several excellent Web sites that provide information about amphibians and amphibian monitoring programs.*

[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/amphibians/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/amphibians/)

This site provides electronic copies of all the Texas Amphibian Watch materials.

[www.nwf.org/frogwatchUSA/](http://www.nwf.org/frogwatchUSA/)

FrogWatch, an adopt-a-frog pond program sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and the USGS, can provide more information about nocturnal monitoring, as well as on-line reporting of data.

[www.zo.utexas.edu/research/txherps](http://www.zo.utexas.edu/research/txherps)

This site, provided by the University of Texas, provides descriptions of all the amphibians and reptiles in the state, photos of most species, and recordings of calls for most of the frogs and toads.

[www.pwrc.usgs.gov/naamp/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/naamp/)

This site, provided by the Biological Resource Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, provides information on the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program, including background on amphibian declines, monitoring guidelines, a frog call quiz, and different state programs.

[www.frogweb.gov](http://www.frogweb.gov)

This site, provided by a variety of partners under the leadership of the U.S. Geological Survey, is an education-oriented site designed to gather information about the occurrence of malformations in amphibians.

#### NOTICE:

TPWD receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies. TPWD is therefore subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, in addition to state anti-discrimination laws. TPWD will comply with state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any TPWD program, activity or event, you may contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203, Attention: Civil Rights Coordinator for Public Access.

## Also of Interest

### Amphibian Monitoring Workshops

One of the best ways to get started is to attend an amphibian monitoring workshop. Texas Amphibian Watch will offer several workshops each year. We highly recommend that you attend a workshop before joining the program. Participants in NAAMP are required to attend a workshop. Workshops will present information about the biology and characteristics of amphibians in your area and detailed instructions for conducting amphibian monitoring.

### Classroom guides

Texas Amphibian Watch has several curriculum guides about amphibians for use in Texas classrooms. The curriculum guide offers classroom activities that allow teachers to expand upon the field activities described above.

### Other monitoring programs

Finally, don't forget that the Texas Amphibian Watch activities can mesh well with some other monitoring programs, such as Adopt-a-Wetland and Texas Watch water quality monitoring. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department also has other citizen monitoring programs in which you may be interested.

# Amphibian



Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas 78744