

# CHECKLIST OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES OF LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES®

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DATE \_\_\_\_\_ TIME START \_\_\_\_\_ END \_\_\_\_\_  
OBSERVER(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ LOCALITY \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WEATHER \_\_\_\_\_

## Area of Coverage

The area covered by this checklist includes Land Between The Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area and adjacent waters (Kentucky and Barkley lakes and the canal connecting them).

## Habitat Diversity

As is true of all living things, the place where an amphibian or reptile resides is determined by an array of environmental conditions, each of which varies on a daily and seasonal basis. Some species are adapted to life in water, whereas others do best on land. And within these two realms, subtypes of aquatic and terrestrial situations are favored. Two aquatic habitats dominate in LBL and adjacent waters. Within LBL proper, over 500 small

ponds (woodland and open-land, permanent and temporary) provide homes and/or breeding sites for many kinds of frogs and salamanders and a few varieties of snakes and turtles. Outside LBL in its bordering lakes (Kentucky Lake on the west and Lake Barkley on the north and east), many other species, especially riverine turtles, water snakes and a few impoundment-adapted amphibians, abound. A far less available aquatic habitat (due to the nature of its bedrock and soils) in LBL is the freshwater stream. Here can be found a limited array of brookside salamanders and stream-adapted frogs. Among LBL's terrestrial habitats, second-growth, oak-hickory forest dominates. Approximately 153,000 of the total 170,000 acres are covered by this type of woodland, which supports many species of salamanders, snakes, lizards and the ubiquitous Eastern Box Turtle. The remaining land area is occupied by fields in one or another stage of succession. These areas harbor a number of species of snakes and lizards.

## Key to Abundance Categories

Following each animal's scientific and common name<sup>1</sup> (in parentheses) is a letter indicating its relative abundance in LBL and/or adjacent impoundments. These assignments are based on voucher specimens in several natural history museums (primarily those at Austin Peay State University, Murray State University and the University of Louisville) and the personal observations made by the authors. All are subject to change as more data are accumulated.

**C - Common** (widespread, occurring in moderate to large numbers)

**U - Uncommon** (widespread, but always occurring in low

numbers)

**L - Locally abundant** (restricted distribution but occurring in moderate to large numbers where found)

**R - Rare** (restricted distribution, occurring in low numbers)

## Class AMPHIBIA - AMPHIBIANS

Order: CAUDATA - SALAMANDERS

Family: SIRENIDAE - Sirens

\_\_\_\_ *Siren intermedia nettingi* - Western Lesser Siren (U)

Family: SALAMANDRIDAE - True Salamanders

\_\_\_\_ *Notophthalmus v. viridescens* x *N. v. louisianensis* -  
Red-spotted x Central Newt (C)

Family: PROTEIDAE - Mudpuppies

\_\_\_\_ *Necturus maculosus* - Common Mudpuppy (R)

Family: AMBYSTOMATIDAE - Mole Salamanders

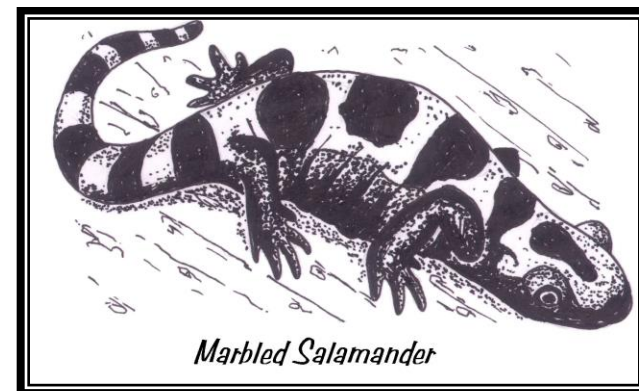
\_\_\_\_ *Ambystoma maculatum* - Spotted Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Ambystoma opacum* - Marbled Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Ambystoma talpoideum* - Mole Salamander (L)

\_\_\_\_ *Ambystoma texanum* - Small-mouthed Salamander (R)

\_\_\_\_ *Ambystoma tigrinum* - Eastern Tiger Salamander (U)



Family: PLETHODONTIDAE - Lungless Salamanders

\_\_\_\_ *Desmognathus conanti* - Spotted Dusky Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Eurycea cirrigera* - Southern Two-lined Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Eurycea longicauda longicauda* - Long-tailed Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Eurycea lucifuga* - Cave Salamander (U)

\_\_\_\_ *Plethodon dorsalis* - Northern Zigzag Salamander (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Plethodon glutinosus* complex - Slimy Salamander s (C)

\_\_\_\_ *Pseudotriton ruber ruber* - Northern Red Salamander (L)



*Eastern American Toad*

Order: ANURA - FROGS AND TOADS

Family: PELOBATIDAE - Spadefoot Toads

\_\_\_ *Scaphiopus holbrookii* - Eastern Spadefoot (R)

Family: BUFONIDAE - True Toads

\_\_\_ *Anaxyrus americanus americanus* - Eastern American Toad (R)

\_\_\_ *Anaxyrus americanus charlesmithi* - Dwarf American Toad (C)

\_\_\_ *Anaxyrus fowleri* - Fowler's Toad (C)

Family: HYLIDAE - Treefrogs

\_\_\_ *Acris crepitans crepitans* - Eastern Cricket Frog (C)

\_\_\_ *Hyla chrysoscelis* - Cope's Gray Treefrog (C)

\_\_\_ *Hyla cinerea* - Green Treefrog (L)

\_\_\_ *Pseudacris crucifer* - Northern Spring Peeper (C)

\_\_\_ *Pseudacris feriarum* - Upland Chorus Frog (C)

Family: MICROHYLIDAE - Narrowmouth Toads

\_\_\_ *Gastrophryne carolinensis* - Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad (C)

Family: RANIDAE - True Frogs

\_\_\_ *Lithobates catesbeianus* - Bullfrog (C)

\_\_\_ *Lithobates clamitans melanota* - Green Frog (C)

\_\_\_ *Lithobates sphenoccephalus utricularius* - Southern Leopard Frog (C)

**Class: REPTILIA - REPTILES**

Order: TESTUDINES - TURTLES

Family: KINOSTERNIDAE - Mud and Musk Turtles

\_\_\_ *Kinosternon subrubrum subrubrum* - Eastern Mud Turtle (U)

\_\_\_ *Sternotherus odoratus* - Eastern Musk Turtle (C)

Family: CHELYDRIDAE - Snapping Turtles

\_\_\_ *Chelydra serpentina serpentina* - Eastern Snapping Turtle (C)

\_\_\_ *Macrochelys temminckii* - Alligator Snapping Turtle (R)

Family: EMYDIDAE - Emydid Turtles

\_\_\_ *Chrysemys picta marginata* - Midland Painted Turtle (U)

\_\_\_ *Graptemys geographica* - Northern Map Turtle (U)

\_\_\_ *Graptemys ouachitensis ouachitensis* - Ouachita Map Turtle (C)

\_\_\_ *Graptemys pseudogeographica kohnii* - Mississippi Map Turtle (U)

\_\_\_ *Pseudemys concinna concinna* - Eastern River Cooter (C)

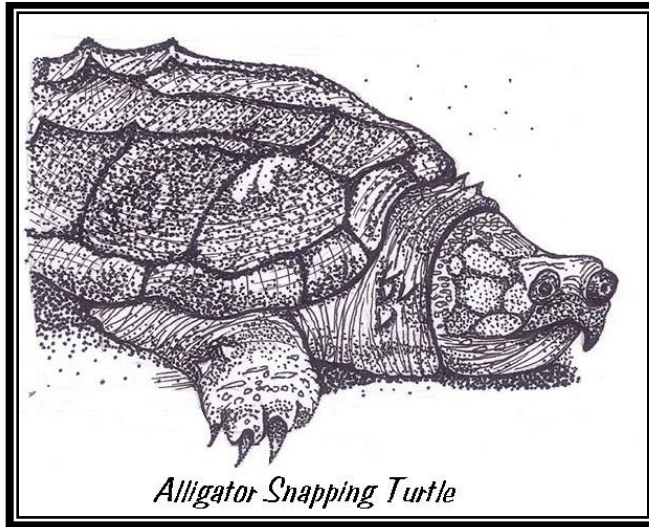
\_\_\_ *Terrapene carolina carolina* - Eastern Box Turtle (C)

\_\_\_ *Trachemys scripta elegans* - Red-eared Slider (C)

Family: TRIONYCHIDAE - Softshell Turtles

\_\_\_ *Apalone mutica mutica* - Midland Smooth Softshell (U)

\_\_\_ *Apalone spinifera spinifera* - Eastern Spiny Softshell (U)



*Alligator Snapping Turtle*

Order: SQUAMATA - SNAKES AND LIZARDS

Suborder: SAURIA - LIZARDS

Family: IGUANIDAE - Iguanid Lizards

\_\_\_ *Sceloporus undulatus* - Eastern Fence Lizard (C)

Family: TEIIDAE - Racerunners

\_\_\_ *Aspidoscelis sexlineata sexlineata* - Eastern Six-lined Racerunner (L)

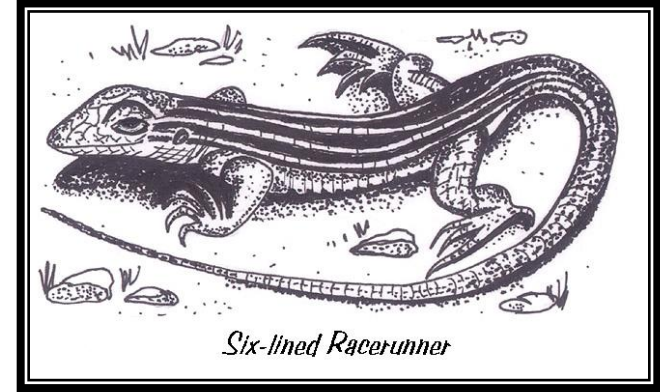
Family: SCINCIDAE - Skinks

\_\_\_ *Plestiodon fasciatus* - Common Five-lined Skink (C)

\_\_\_ *Plestiodon inexpectatus* - Southeastern Five-lined Skink (R)

\_\_\_ *Plestiodon laticeps* - Broad-headed Skink (U)

\_\_\_ *Scincella lateralis* - Little Brown Skink (C)



*Six-lined Racerunner*

Suborder: SERPENTES - SNAKES

Family: COLUBRIDAE - Colubrid Snakes

\_\_\_ *Carphophis amoenus helenae* - Midwestern Wormsnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Cemophora coccinea copei* - Northern Scarletsnake (U)

\_\_\_ *Coluber constrictor priapus* - Southern Black Racer (C)

\_\_\_ *Diadophis punctatus stictogenys* - Mississippi Ring-necked Snake (C)

\_\_\_ *Heterodon platirhinos* - Eastern Hog-nosed Snake (C)

\_\_\_ *Lampropeltis calligaster calligaster* - Prairie Kingsnake (U)

\_\_\_ *Lampropeltis getula nigra* - Eastern Black Kingsnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Lampropeltis triangulum elapsoides* - Scarlet Kingsnake (L)

\_\_\_ *Lampropeltis triangulum sypila* - Red Milksnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Nerodia erythrogaster flavigaster* x *N. e. neglecta* - Yellow-bellied Watersnake x Copper-bellied Watersnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Nerodia rhombifer rhombifer* - Northern Diamond-backed Watersnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Nerodia sipedon pleuralis* - Midland Watersnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Ophedrys aestivus aestivus* - Northern Rough Greensnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Pantherophis spiloides* - Gray Ratsnake (C)

\_\_\_ *Pituophis melanoleucus melanoleucus* - Northern Pinesnake (R)

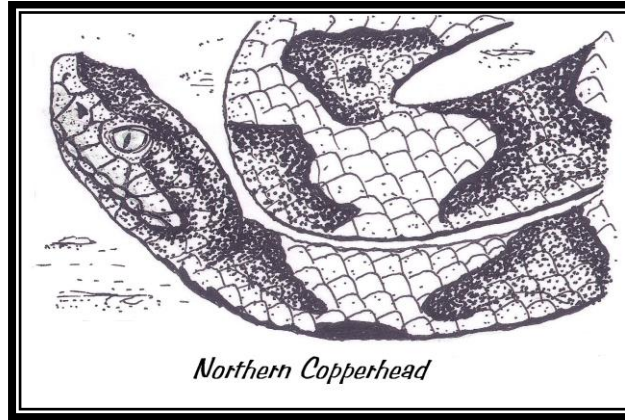
\_\_\_ *Regina septemvittata* - Queensnake (R)

\_\_\_ *Storeria dekayi wrightorum* - Midland Brown Snake (C)

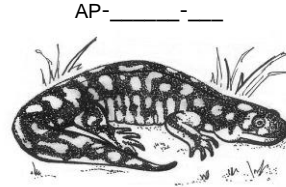
\_\_\_ *Storeria occipitomaculata occipitomaculata* - Northern Red-bellied Snake (U)

\_\_\_ *Tantilla coronata* - Southeastern Crowned Snake (U)

- \_\_\_\_\_ *Thamnophis sauritus sauritus* - Common Ribbonsnake (R)
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis* - Eastern Gartersnake (C)
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Virginia valeriae elegans* - Western Smooth Earthsnake (C)
- Family: VIPERIDAE - Pit Vipers
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Agkistrodon contortrix mokasen* - Northern Copperhead (C)
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Agkistrodon piscivorus leucostoma* - Western Cottonmouth (L)
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Crotalus horridus* - Timber Rattlesnake (U)
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Sistrurus miliarius streckeri* - Western Pigmy Rattlesnake (R)



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# Checklist of AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES of Land Between The Lakes

<sup>1</sup>Scientific and common names are those found in: Crother, B. I. (ed.). 2008. Scientific and standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North American North of Mexico. SSAR Herpetological Circular 37. Taxa names above the genus level are from: Conant, R. and J. T. Collins. 1998. A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America. Third Edition Expanded. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston.

Collecting wildlife at LBL is not allowed - please leave amphibians and reptiles for all to enjoy.

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