

News and Comment

***The Boreal Dip Net*: Newsletter of the Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Network 7(1) January 2003**

Contents: Editor's Note (Kerrie Serben) — The 7th Annual CARCN Meeting Summary: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Sept 27-30, 2002 (David Cunningham) — Extended Abstracts of Keynote Speakers: Infectious Diseases of Amphibians (Danna M. Schock); Amphibian and Reptile Species at Risk in Canada: The Arrival of SARA (David M. Green) — Field Trip: Narcisse Snake Dens 2002 (William B. Preston) — 2002 CARCN/RCCAR Award Winners (Don McAlpine) — Amphibians in Toxicity Testing (Bruce Pauli) — Le code de déontologie du DAPTF pour la recherche sur la terrain A new code of practice for field studies on amphibians from the DAPTF [Decline in Amphibians Task Force] (Martin Ouellet) — Possible Ways to Incorporate the DAPTF Fieldwork Code of Practice into Field Work (Danna M. Schock) [reprinted from a previous

issue of the Dip Net] — Status of the Northern Leopard Frog in the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area — New Publication Announcement: The Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Stewardship Guide [available online www.terra-plex.com/sin/stewardship_guide or www.terra-plex.com/sin/index.asp] (Kerrie Serben) — Membership in CARCN/RCCAR.

For information on membership in the Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Society/Réseau Canadien de Conservation des Amphibiens et des Reptiles [\$10 students, \$16 non-students] contact Bruce Pauli, Canadian Wildlife Service, National Wildlife Research Centre, Carleton University, Raven Road, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3. Web site: <http://www.carcnet.ca/>

***Froglog*: Newsletter of the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force (56)**

Number 56, April 2003. Contents: Amphibian mortality in a National Park in the North of Portugal (Claudia Soares, Antonio Alves de Matos, J. W. Arntzen, Miguel Carretero & Armando Laureiro) — Ecology and Conservation of the Gunus *Neurergus* in the Zagros Mountains, Western Iran (Nasrullah Rastegar-Pouyani) — DAPTF Seed Grants 2003 (Tim Halliday) — Project SAVE [Saving Amphibian Vital Environments - involving science teachers from North Carolina, USA, and Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico] (David Wojnowski) — Reports on DAPTF Seed Grants (Tim Halliday) — Froglog Shorts.

Number 57, June 2003, Contents: Houston Toad in Bastrop State Park, 1990-2002 (Andy Price) — Amphibian Conservation in the US Pacific Northwest (Deanna H. Olson) — Over half of Mesoamerican Amphibians Threatened with Extinction (Bruce Young, Simon Stuart, Janice Long & Neil Cox) — California-Nevada Working Group Report (David Bradford) — Rocky Mountain Working Group Report

(Stephen Corn & Charles R. Peterson) — Amphibian Declines in the United States (Michael J. Lannoo) — Reports on DAPTF Seed Grants (Tim Halliday) — Froglog Shorts.

Froglog is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Declining Amphibian Populations Task Force of The World Conservation Union (IUCN)/Species Survival Commission (SSC) and is supported by The Open University, The World Congress of Herpetology, and Harvard University. The newsletter is Edited by John W. Wilkinson, Department of Biological Sciences, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, United Kingdom; e-mail: daptf@open.ac.uk. Funding for *Froglog* is underwritten by the Detroit Zoological Institute, P. O. Box 39, Royal Oak, Michigan 48068-0039, USA. Publication of issues 56 and 57 was also supported by Peace Frogs www.peacefrogs.com and by RANA and the US National Science Foundation grant DEB-0130273.

Point Pelee Natural History News 3(1)

The spring 2003 issue, volume 3, number 1, pages 1-20, contains: Unusual Invaders of Lake Erie (Joseph H. Leach) [European Flounder, *Platichthys flesus*; Chinese Mitten Crab, *Eriocheir sinensis*; Grass Carp, *Ctenopharyngodon idella*; Bighead Carp, *Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*; Pacu, *Colossoma* and/or *Piaractus*, unidentified species]; Piranha, *Pygocentrus* and/or *Serrasalmus*, unidentified species; Suckermouth Catfish, species of *Hypostomus*, *Panaque*, *Liposareus*, *Pterygoplichthys*] — Noteworthy Bird Records: December 2002 to February 2003 (Alan Wormington) — Point Pelee Butterflies: Annual Summary for 2002 (Alan Worthington) — The status of the Blue Grosbeak at Point Pelee (Alan Wormington) — Point Pelee Dragonflies: Annual Summary for 2002 (Paul R. Desjardins) — Update on Brown Pelicans in Ontario (Alan

Worthington) — News and Announcements — Upcoming Events and Outings.

This newsletter for Point Pelee National Park, Ontario, is published by the Friends of Point Pelee and edited by Alan Wormington (e-mail: wormington@juno.com). Editorial Assistants are Gordon D. Harvey and Michelle T. Nicholson. The web site is www.wincom.net/~fopp/Natural_History_News.htm. Subscription rates are Canada: CAN \$20 (one year) or \$40 (two years); International: US \$20 (one year) or \$40 (two years). Send payment (and e-mail address, optional) to The Friends of Point Pelee, 1118 Point Pelee Drive, Leamington, Ontario N8H 3V4 Canada. Issues are mailed in March, June, September, and December. Back issues of volumes 1 and 2 are available for \$15 per Volume/ \$5 per issue.

Marine Turtle Newsletter (100)

April 2003. 60 pages: Marine Turtle Newsletter 100: A Celebration (B. J. Godley and A. C. Broderick — MTN 100: Looking Back, Looking Forward (N. Mrosovsky) — Concerning Those Things Which We Ought to Have Done: Reflections on the Future of Sea Turtle Research (N. B. Frazier) — Why Do We Do This? (J. G. Frazier) — From Ghosts to Key Species: Restoring Sea Turtle Populations to Fulfil their Ecological Roles (K. A. Bjorndal and A. B. Bolton) — Improved Assessments and Management of Shrimp Stocks Could Benefit Sea Turtle Populations, Shrimp Stocks and Shrimp Fisheries (C. Caillouet) — Challenges for Interdisciplinary Sea Turtle Research: Perspectives of a Social Scientist (L. M. Campbell) — Sea Turtle Conservation along the Atlantic Coast of Africa (A. Formia, M. Tiwari, J. Fretey, and A. Billes) — Marine Turtles in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Regional Perspective of Successes,

Failures, and Priorities for the Future (M. A. Marcovaldi, J. Thome, and J. G. Frazier) — Marine Turtle Conservation in South and Southeast Asia: Hopeless Cause or Cause for Hope? (K. Shanker and N. J. Pilcher) — NEWS & LEGAL BRIEFS — RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Marine Turtle Newsletter is edited by Brendan J. Godley and Annette C. Broderick, Marine Turtle Research Group, School of Biological Sciences, University of Wales, Swansea, SA2 8PP Wales, United Kingdom; e-mail MTN@swan.ac.uk; Fax +44 1792 295447. Subscriptions to the MTN and donations towards the production of MTN and its Spanish edition NTM [Noticiero de Tortugas Marinas] should be made online at <<http://www.seaturtle.org/mtn/>> or c/o SEA TURTLE.ORG 11400 Classical Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland 20901 USA.

Recovery: An Endangered Species Newsletter (24)

The June 2003 issue contains: RECOVERY HIGHLIGHTS: Protecting coastal plain — Canada-U.S. effort underway for leatherbacks [*Dermochelys coriacea*] — PROFILE: The ecosystem approach: Recovery planning for aquatic species at risk (Shawn Station and Al Dextrace) NEWS BITES: Crested Myna disappears from North America [last two *Acridotheres cristatellus* died in Vancouver, British Columbia, from collisions with vehicles, after being established since the 1890s, and reaching a population of 2500 in the early 1960s] — PEI appoints advisory committee to protect species at risk — Recovering a rare mollusc [Northern Abalone *Haliotis kamtschatkana* in British Columbia] (Christiane Cote and Laurie Convey) — Volunteers H.E.L.P. Bricknell's Thrush [*Catharus bicknelli*] (Becky Whittam) — RENEW [REcovery of Nationally Endangered Wildlife] Update — HSP [Habitat Stewardship Program] Update — IRF [Interdepartmental Recovery Fund] Update — FIELD NOTES: Pale flyers of the night [Southern Okanagan Basin population of Pallid Bat,

Antrozous pallidus] (Daniela A. Rambaldini) — Scientists construct next boxes for snakes [Black Ratsnakes, *Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta* in eastern Ontario] (Patrick Weatherhead, University of Illinois [with Gabriel Blouin-Demers, University of Ottawa]) — Why is the flycatcher in decline [Acadian Flycatcher, *Empidonax virescens*, rare in Ontario] (Bonnie Woolfenden) — ANNOUNCEMENTS: Site Seeing — New Publications — Awards [Plover recovery work honoured] — COSEWIC Update [Two Atlantic Cod populations designated at risk] — Upcoming Events — FEATURED SPECIES: Reversing the decline: Conserving the Newfoundland Marten [*Martes americana atrata*] (Brian Hearn).

Published by the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3. Edited and designed by West Hawk Associates.

Recovery online:
www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca/species/publications/recovery/june03/index_e.cfm

Vancouver Aquarium Leatherback Poster

The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre, with assistance from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, has issued a poster featuring a Leatherback (sea turtle) *Dermochelys coriacea* head and forepart of carapace breaking the surface of the ocean and the question "Do you know this turtle?" This is an appeal to report sightings of Pacific Leatherback Turtles by phoning 1-866-I SAW ONE (1-866-472-9663) to increase knowledge of its distribution and frequency in British Columbia waters.

Leatherbacks are the world's largest living turtle. They are totally marine except for southern temperate and tropical beach nesting by females. A fact sheet included with the

poster notes that they reach a maximum of 2.4 m (6 ft.) in total length (snout to tail tip) and a maximum of 916 kg (2015 lbs). They can eat their own weight in jellyfish in a day. Moves of up to 12,000 km and dives to 1200 m have been recorded. World populations are thought to have declined from 115,000 individuals in 1980 to 30,000 at present.

More information and references are available on the Vancouver Aquarium website www.vanaqua.org or contact Carla Sbrocchi, Coordinator, Sea Turtle Conservation Group, Vancouver Aquarium, Marine Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia V6B 3X8; telephone 604-659-3400; Fax 604-659-3515, e-mail: sbroccc@vanaqua.org.