

# News and Comment

## Marine Turtle Newsletter (118)

October 2007. 32 pages: EDITORIALS: Conservation Conflicts, Conflicts of Interest, and Conflict Resolution: What Hopes for Marine Turtle Conservation? (L. M. Campbell) — ARTICLES: From Hendrickson (1958) to Munroe & Limpus (1979) and Beyond: An evaluation of the Turtle Barnacle *Tubicinella cheloniae* (A. Ross and M. G. Frick) — Nest Relocation as a Conservation Strategy: Looking from a Different Perspective (O. Turkkozan and C. Yilmaz) — Linking Micronesia and Southeast Asia: Palau Sea Turtle Satellite Tracking and Flipper Tag Returns (S. Klain, J. Eberdong, A. Kitalong, Y. Yalap, E. Matthews, A. Eledui, M. Morris, W. Andrew, D. Albin and P. Kemesong) — Morphometrics of the Green Turtle at the Atol das Rocas Marine Biological Reserve, Brazil (A. Grossman, P. Mendonca, M. Rodrigues da Costa, and C. Bellini) — NOTES: Epibionts of Olive Ridley Turtles Nesting at Playa Ceuta, Sinaloa, Mexico (L. Angulo-Lozano, P. E.

Nava-Duran and M. G. Frick) — Self-Grooming by Loggerhead Turtles in Georgia, USA (M. G. Frick and G. McFall) — IUCN-MTSG QUARTERLY REPORT — ANNOUNCEMENTS — NEWS & LEGAL BRIEFS — RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

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## The Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Project Publishes the First Vermont Amphibian Posters

The Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Project has produced two informational posters on the amphibians of Vermont. Amphibians Part 1 contains the frogs of Vermont and Amphibians Part 2 contains the salamanders of Vermont. Photographs of all Vermont amphibians are included on the posters along with the latest available (2005) distribution maps, identification information, and the basic natural history of each species. These posters reflect the most reliable and current information available on Vermont amphibians. Each color poster is approximately 23" by 16" and is printed on durable, glossy, heavyweight paper with non-fading inks. Posters cost \$9.43 each (\$10 with VT sales tax) with a \$3 shipping charge. In 2006, two Vermont reptile posters were printed and all four posters can be seen at the Atlas website <http://community.middlebury.edu/~herpatlas/index.html>. All proceeds from the sale of the posters will help fund the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas project.

The Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas Project is an effort begun in 1994 by the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Scientific Advisory Group to the Endangered Species committee. The atlas project initially began as an effort to gather data for use by this volunteer advisory group in order to make informed recommendations regarding the appropriate status and conservation of reptiles and amphibians in Vermont. Since then, the goals have widened to incorporate public education, encourage citizen involvement, and promote conservation. The Atlas Project is coordinated by Jim Andrews, a research herpetologist at Middlebury College. The ultimate goal of the Atlas is to gather and disseminate data on reptiles and amphibians in Vermont in a way that involves and informs Vermont individuals and organization so that they will become more informed and effective stewards of wildlife habitat. Since the Atlas began in 1994, over 3,000 individuals, fifteen private organizations, and many government employees and agencies have provided over 60,000 records of local reptiles and am-

phibians. With the help of these volunteers and a few part-time staff members, the atlas continues to collect information and broaden the knowledge base regarding the natural history, distribution, and effective conservation of Vermont's reptiles and amphibians.

Any resident or visitor can contribute valuable distribution information simply by reporting what they saw, when they saw it, and where it was. Reports can be forwarded by mail, phone, or better yet, through the use of online reporting system at the website <http://community.middlebury.edu/~herpatlas/index.html>. Photographs are particularly helpful but not necessary. With a good description, sketch, or photograph, they can figure out what species you have observed and enter it into their database. The data help them generate accurate maps of the in-state distribution of Vermont's native herptofauna.

Maps at their website show clearly the towns and species most in need of additional survey work. Some of the towns most in need of additional reports include Lunenburg, Lyndon, Andover, Baltimore, Burke, Danville, Granby, Irasburg, Rutland, Cabot, Derby, Elmore, Warner's Grant, Avery's Gore, and Pittsfield. Cities most in need of additional surveys include St. Albans, Barre, Newport, and Vergennes. Species most in need of additional reports include all reptiles but particularly snakes other than Gartersnake and all turtles. However, gaps exist in the distribution maps for even some common species and in some towns that have been surveyed more thoroughly.

Additional information on the posters, how to contribute to the survey effort, and resources on identification and natural history of these species groups can be found at <http://community.middlebury.edu/~herpatlas>.

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