

Taxonomic Updates to The Amphibians and Reptiles of Arkansas (2004)

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Amphibian and Reptile Species Erroneously Reported from Arkansas.....39

Squirrel Treefrog (*Hyla squirella*), pg. 152, and **Lined Snake (*Tropidoclonion lineatum*)**, pg. 343, are now confirmed for Arkansas.

Exotic Species.....41

Mediterranean Gecko (*Hemidactylus turcicus*) has now been reported, formally and informally, from the following localities:

Museum records: Arkadelphia (Clark County), Magnolia (Columbia County), Jonesboro (Craighead County), Jefferson (Jefferson County), Brinkley (Monroe County), Hopper (Montgomery County), Ft. Smith (Sebastian County), El Dorado (Union County), Fayetteville (Washington County), and Monticello (Drew County).

Literature records: Texarkana (Bowie County, TX), Little Rock (Pulaski County), and Searcy (White County).

Observational accounts with photographic evidence: Crossett (Ashley County), Hattieville (Conway County), Petit Jean State Park (Conway County), Conway (Faulkner County), Hot Springs (Garland County), Mountain Pine (Garland County), unknown locality (Hempstead County), Texarkana (Miller County), and Trumann (Poinsett County).

Anecdotal accounts: Heber Springs (Cleburne County), Higden (Cleburne County), unknown locality (Conway County), Batesville (Independence County), Texarkana (Miller County), Harrisburg (Poinsett County), Russellville (Pope County), Jacksonville (Pulaski County), Pinnacle State Park (Pulaski County), Bryant (Saline County), Greenwood (Sebastian County), and unknown locality (Sevier County).

Seal Salamander (*Desmognathus monticola*), also referenced in the ADDENDUM on pg. 8, occurs as a thriving population in Spavinaw Creek, near Gravette, Benton County. Genetic analysis has determined the source stock for this population came from northeastern Georgia. The date and method of introduction are unknown, but may have been associated with fish stocking activities. (Bonett *et al.* 2007)

Cuban Brown Anole (*Anolis sagrei sagrei*) was collected from near Langley, Pike County in 2002. The single non-gravid adult female may have been an isolated transplant, perhaps hitchhiking on nursery plants shipped from Florida. There is no evidence to suggest this species has an established breeding population in Arkansas. (McAllister *et al.* 2003)

Additional exotic species have been found occasionally in Arkansas, but only as isolated individuals. These are presumed to be escaped pets or unestablished transplants. For the most part, these observations are not formally documented, as they provide little meaningful contribution to our understanding of herpetofauna in the state.

Ozark Hellbender (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis bishopi*).....56

This species was listed as federally *endangered* on October 6, 2001 under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/amphibians/ozhe/index.html>

Two preserved specimens held in the University of Arkansas Museum suggest the species may have occurred historically in the upper White River of Washington County, per communication with Jeff Briggler.

Once known to harbor a robust population, the species is now effectively extinct in the Spring River, per communication with Kelly J. Irwin.

Eastern Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum*).....68

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Eastern Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*). (Shaffer & McKnight 1996)

Ouachita Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus brimleyorum*).....73

All sampled populations south of the Arkansas River in the state have been genetically identified as Ouachita Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus brimleyorum*), not Spotted Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus conanti*), per communication with Donald B. Shepard and Kelly J. Irwin.

Spotted Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus conanti*).....75

All sampled populations south of the Arkansas River in the state have been genetically identified as Ouachita Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus brimleyorum*), not Spotted Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus conanti*), per communication with Donald B. Shepard and Kelly J. Irwin.

Historically occurred in relatively high densities at a few localities along Crowley's Ridge, but has not been observed in Arkansas since about 70 individuals from at least three localities were collected by D. Bruce Means in 1971. (Much of this research has yet to be published.) Survey efforts, even as recently as 2014, have been unfruitful. All known museum specimens were fixed with 10% formalin, rendering them unsuitable for genetic analysis and leaving some question as to their true taxonomic identity.

Dark-sided Salamander (*Eurycea longicauda melanopleura*).....76

This subspecies may warrant species level recognition from the Eastern Long-tailed Salamander (*Eurycea longicauda longicauda*), but divisions are confounded by hybridization that also occurs with the Cave Salamander (*Eurycea lucifuga*), per communication with Ronald M. Bonett.

Graybelly Salamander (*Eurycea multiplicata griseogaster*).....81

All populations occurring north of the Arkansas River were found to be genetically conspecific with the Oklahoma Salamander (*Eurycea tynerensis*). (Bonett & Chippindale 2004)

See the Oklahoma Salamander (*Eurycea tynerensis*) account, pg. 86, for additional taxonomic updates.

Many-ribbed Salamander (*Eurycea multiplicata multiplicata*).....83

Species now referenced as Many-ribbed Salamander (*Eurycea multiplicata*), after subspecies status rejected (upon reclassification of *Eurycea multiplicata griseogaster*). Occurs only south of the Arkansas River. (Bonett & Chippindale 2004)

Two genetically distinct clades, Eastern and Western, warrant full species designation, per communication with Ronald M. Bonett.

Dwarf Salamander (*Eurycea quadridigitata*).....84

Multiple divergent lineages have been genetically identified within this complex, but no species splits have been proposed yet. (Bonett *et al.* 2014)

Oucahita Streambed Salamander (*Eurycea subfluvicola*).....86

Newly recognized species that is known only from a single stream system in the vicinity of Hot Springs. (Steffen *et al.* 2014)

Oklahoma Salamander (*Eurycea tynerensis*).....86

Formerly recognized populations of Graybelly Salamander (*Eurycea multiplicata griseogaster*) occurring north of the Arkansas River were synonymized under this species designation. (Bonett & Chippindale 2004)

Three genetically distinct clades, Eastern, Western, and Southwestern, warrant full species designation. The Southwestern clade has not been definitively confirmed for Arkansas, but occurs right up to the Arkansas-Oklahoma border just north of the Arkansas River, per communication with Ronald M. Bonett.

Western Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon albagula*).....90

This species, along with the currently recognized Louisiana Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon kisatchie*) and Sequoyah Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon sequoyah*), form a taxonomic complex that is not well worked out. Recent sampling and genetic analysis suggests the current species and distribution range designations in Arkansas are in need of revision, per communication with Donald B. Shepard and Kelly J. Irwin. Until this research provides a clearer picture, it is suggested to effectively consider all of these populations *Plethodon albagula*.

Caddo Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon caddoensis*).....94

Four highly divergent, geographically distinct lineages have been identified, but no species designations have been proposed. (Shepard & Burbrink 2011)

Fourche Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon fourchensis*).....96

Four well-supported, geographically structured lineages have been identified, but no species designations have been proposed. (Shepard & Burbrink 2009)

A hybridization zone with the Rich Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon ouachitae*) has been identified near the community of Rich Mountain. (Shepard *et al.* 2011)

Kiamichi Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon kiamichi*).....98

A population of Rich Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon ouachitae*) that lacks the usual chestnut colored wash occurs at the higher elevations of Round Mountain, which may confound correct field identification, per communication with Donald B. Shepard.

Louisiana Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon kisatchie*).....99

See the Western Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon albagula*) account, pg. 90, for additional taxonomic updates.

Rich Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon ouachitae*).....99

Seven well-supported lineages structured across six major mountains have been identified, but no species designations have been proposed. (Shepard & Burbrink 2008)

A hybridization zone with the Fourche Mountain Salamander (*Plethodon fourchensis*) has been identified near the community of Rich Mountain. (Shepard *et al.* 2011)

Southern Redback Salamander (*Plethodon serratus*).....102

Five geographically distinct lineages have been identified, but no species designations have been proposed. (Thesing *et al.* 2015)

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Southern Red-backed Salamander. (Crother 2012)

Sequoyah Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon sequoyah*).....101

See the Western Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon albagula*) account, pg. 90, for additional taxonomic updates.

Grotto Salamander (*Typhlotriton spelaeus*).....104

Species complex now designated as Grotto Salamander (*Eurycea spelaea*). (Bonett & Chippindale 2004)

Three genetically distinct clades, Eastern, Western, and Northern, warrant full species designation, per communication with Ronald M. Bonett.

Dwarf American Toad (*Bufo americanus charlesmithi*).....139

Species now designated as Dwarf American Toad (*Anaxyrus americanus charlesmithi*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Bufo*. (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Fowler's Toad (*Bufo fowleri*).....140

Species now designated as Fowler's Toad (*Anaxyrus fowleri*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Bufo*. (Frost *et al.* 2006)

The delineations between this species, Rocky Mountain Toad (*Anaxyrus woodhousii woodhousii*), East Texas Toad (*Anaxyrus velatus*), and other closely related types are not clearly defined, particularly since ample hybridization is thought to occur. Until genetic research clarifies the picture, it is suggested to distinguish True Toad species found in Arkansas as either *Anaxyrus americanus charlesmithi* or *Anaxyrus fowleri*.

Gulf Coast Toad (*Bufo nebulifer*).....142

Species now designated as Gulf Coast Toad (*Incilius nebulifer*). However, this species is not currently recognized as part of the natural herpetofauna of Arkansas. The single specimen collected near Calion, Union County in 1949 is thought to have been a transplant associated with fish stocking activities, per communication with Kelly J. Irwin. No additional specimens have been collected and evidence of a breeding population in the state is therefore lacking. Due to the known northern limits of its distribution range in Louisiana, it should still be considered a species of potential occurrence.

Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans blanchardi*).....144

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris blanchardi*). It is the only species of *Acris* currently recognized to occur in the state. (Gamble *et al.* 2008)

Northern Cricket Frog (*Acris crepitans crepitans*).....146

All populations of cricket frog (genus *Acris*) in Arkansas have been synonymized as Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris blanchardi*).

See the Blanchard's Cricket Frog (*Acris blanchardi*) account, pg. 144, for additional taxonomic updates.

Bird-voiced Treefrog (*Hyla avivoca*).....147

Species recognized to subspecies level as Western Bird-voiced Treefrog (*Hyla avivoca avivoca*), but this is based on a more historical study. (Smith 1953)

***Hyla chrysoscelis/Hyla versicolor* Sibling Species Complex**.....149

Unfortunately, the range distributions for these species are still not worked out well for Arkansas. As a general guide, the Gray Treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*) is by far the most common form in the Ozarks, while the Cope's Gray Treefrog (*Hyla chrysoscelis*) is the most common form in the remainder of the state. (Holloway 2006)

Squirrel Treefrog (*Hyla squirella*).....152

This species was reported in 2013 from a locality in the vicinity of El Dorado, Union Co. An additional locality, a relatively short distance away from the original site, was discovered shortly thereafter. It is likely other, as-yet-undiscovered, localities occur in southern Arkansas. However, this species is similar in appearance and breeding call to the Green Treefrog (*Hyla cinerea*), which could easily confound less attuned observers. (Fulmer & Connor 2013)

Northern Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer crucifer*).....152

Species now referenced as Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*), after genetic analysis found subspecies recognition uninformative. (Moriarty & Cannetella 2004)

Illinois Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris streckeri illinoensis*).....154

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Illinois Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris illinoensis*). (Moriarty & Cannetella 2004)

Strecker's Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris streckeri streckeri*).....156

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Strecker's Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris streckeri*). (Moriarty & Cannetella 2004)

Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*).....157

In clarifying this traditionally problematic taxonomic clade, a new species, Cajun Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris fouquettei*), was defined and hypothesized to occur nearly statewide. (Moriarty *et al.* 2008)

Populations in northwest Arkansas were sampled in 2008 and genetic analysis by the Lemmon lab confirmed the presence of Boreal Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris maculata*) from the western boundary of the Pea Ridge National Military Park (as yet unpublished). An additional set of samples collected in 2014 is awaiting genetic analysis to further clarify the range delimitations of these nearly identical species in the northwest corner of the state, per Matthew B. Connor.

Additional uncertainties exist along the Arkansas-Missouri border as to the southern range extents of the Boreal Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris maculata*) and in extreme northeastern Arkansas as to the presence of Upland Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris feriarum*).

Eastern Narrowmouth Toad (*Gastrophryne carolinensis*).....159

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad. (Crother 2012)

Great Plains Narrowmouth Toad (*Gastrophryne olivacea*).....161

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Great Plains Narrow-mouthed Toad. (Crother 2012)

Eastern Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*).....162

Variations in the state currently recognized as full species by authoritative sources: Eastern Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus holbrookii*), denoted with open circles, and Hurter's Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus hurterii*), denoted with solid circles. (Crother 2012)

Plains Spadefoot (*Spea bombifrons*).....164

Two additional localities for this species have been confirmed in southern Johnson County and northern Logan County, bringing the total currently known to four (as yet unpublished).

Additional localities are likely to occur in agricultural floodplains of the Arkansas River from the Arkansas-Oklahoma border to near Little Rock.

The first recognized specimens of this species collected in Arkansas were originally misidentified as Hurter's Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus hurterii*), a similar-looking species. It may warrant rechecking the IDs of other museum specimens of spadefoot collected along the Arkansas River. (Plummer & Turnipseed 1982)

Crawfish Frog (*Rana areolatus*).....166

Species now designated as Crawfish Frog (*Lithobates areolatus*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Rana*. (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Clear morphological differences exist between the two recognized subspecies: Northern Crawfish Frog (*Lithobates areolatus* *circulosus*) and Southern Crawfish Frog (*Lithobates areolatus* *areolatus*). Future genetic analysis may clarify if these warrant full species recognition.

Recent survey efforts to reconfirm the presence of Southern Crawfish Frog (*Lithobates areolatus* *areolatus*) in southern Arkansas have been unfruitful. These historical populations may now be extirpated, per communication with Tobin Fulmer and Kelly J. Irwin.

Plains Leopard Frog (*Rana blairi*).....167

Species now designated as Plains Leopard Frog (*Lithobates blairi*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

An additional specimen was collected in spring 2015 from Mississippi County, providing evidence of an established breeding population in northeastern Arkansas, per communication with Jeremy D. Chamberlain, Tim A. Clay, and Kelly J. Irwin.

While published distribution range maps suggest this species may also occur in northwestern Arkansas, survey efforts have not produced any specimens.

American Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*).....169

Species now designated as American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Bronze Frog (*Rana clamitans*).....171

Species now designated as Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Molecular data have revealed population structures not consistent with the morphological subspecies designations. (Austin & Zamudio 2008)

Pickerel Frog (*Rana palustris*).....173

Species now designated as Pickerel Frog (*Lithobates palustris*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Southern Leopard Frog (*Rana sphenocephala*).....175

Species now designated as Coastal Plains Leopard Frog (*Lithobates sphenocephalus utricularius*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

There have been some inconsistencies in the attributed species name in past publications. (Crother 2012)

Future genetic analysis may elucidate “hidden” species within this complex.

Wood Frog (*Rana sylvatica*).....177

Species now designated as Wood Frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*). (Frost *et al.* 2006)

Common Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina serpentina*).....214

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the adjective “common” has been dropped so that the species is now designated simply as Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). (Crother 2012)

Genetic evidence has supported a single, virtually invariant lineage, prompting the abandonment of subspecies recognition. (Shaffer *et al.* 2008)

Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*).....216

While two new species of Alligator Snapping Turtle from the southeastern United States were described in 2014, those found in Arkansas are retained as the nominal species. (Thomas *et al.* 2014)

Southern Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta dorsalis*).....219

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Southern Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys dorsalis*). (Starkey *et al.* 2003)

There remains some conflict between genetic and color pattern data, so that species/subspecies designation is not fully resolved. (Fritz & Havaš 2007)

Common Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*).....222

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the adjective “common” has been dropped so that the species is now designated as Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*). (Crother 2012)

Ouachita Map Turtle (*Graptemys ouachitensis ouachitensis*).....223

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Ouachita Map Turtle (*Graptemys ouachitensis*). However, there remains some uncertainty as to its taxonomic status within this complex. (Lindeman 2013)

River Cooter (*Pseudemys concinna*).....227

Species now recognized to subspecies level as Eastern River Cooter (*Pseudemys concinna concinna*). (Ernst *et al.* 1994)

Three-toed Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina triunguis*).....228

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Three-toed Box Turtle (*Terrapene triunguis*). (Martin *et al.* 2013)

While Martin *et al.* proposed the resurrection of the species name *Terrapene mexicana*, more consistent nomenclature practices support *Terrapene triunguis* as the appropriate designation, according to the Center for North American Herpetology (CNAH).

<http://cnah.org/createdContent.aspx?cnaid=1865|6>

Ornate Box Turtle (*Terrapene ornata*).....230

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Ornate Box Turtle (*Terrapene ornata*). (Martin *et al.* 2013)

The spotty distribution for this species in the state has proven difficult to resolve, particularly since habitat alterations (prairie to forest and suburban sprawl) have surely shrunk its abundance. More recent observations have confirmed its continued presence in northwestern Arkansas, in the vicinity of Ft. Smith, and southern Prairie County. However, the legitimacy of records from farther east in Arkansas have come into question, per communication with Stanley E. Trauth and Scotty Winningham. Other isolated, single records from near developed areas (escaped pets?) and less-than-ideal forested habitats remain somewhat enigmatic.

Razorback Musk Turtle (*Sternotherus carinatus*).....236

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Razor-backed Musk Turtle. (Crother 2012)

Stinkpot (*Sternotherus odoratus*).....238

Species common name now designated as Eastern Musk Turtle. (Crother 2012)

Northern Fence Lizard (*Sceloporus undulatus hyacinthinus*).....256

Populations west of the Mississippi River are now designated as Prairie Lizard (*Sceloporus consobrinus*), while those to the east retain the nominal species name. (Leaché 2009)

Southern Coal Skink (*Eumeces anthracinus pluvialis*).....260

Species now designated as Southern Coal Skink (*Plestiodon anthracinus pluvialis*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Eumeces*. (Brandley *et al.* 2005)

Five-lined Skink (*Eumeces fasciatus*).....261

Species now designated as Common Five-lined Skink (*Plestiodon fasciatus*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Eumeces*. (Brandley *et al.* 2005)

It is uncertain why the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database has retained the “common” adjective for this species while dropping it for others. This may prove to have been an oversight. (Crother 2012)

Broadhead Skink (*Eumeces laticeps*).....263

Species now designated as Broad-headed Skink (*Plestiodon laticeps*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Eumeces*. (Brandley *et al.* 2005)

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Broad-headed Skink. (Crother 2012)

Great Plains Skink (*Eumeces obsoletus*).....265

Species now designated as Great Plains Skink (*Plestiodon obsoletus*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Eumeces*. (Brandley *et al.* 2005)

This species is cataloged by a single 1963 preserved specimen housed in the University of Arkansas Museum. It may now be extirpated in NW Arkansas due to habitat alterations (Beaver Lake reservoir and overgrowth of rocky glades by Eastern Red Cedars).

More recent observations of the species have occurred in the vicinity of Mena, but no photographs or specimens exist to scientifically document these records, per communication with Kelly J. Irwin and Tommy Young.

Southern Prairie Skink (*Eumeces septentrionalis obtusirostris*).....266

Species now designated as Southern Prairie Skink (*Plestiodon septentrionalis obtusirostris*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Eumeces*. (Brandley *et al.* 2005)

Ground Skink (*Scincella lateralis*).....268

Species common name now designated as Little Brown Skink. (Crother 2012)

Evidence of significant genetic structure among populations may lead to future species splits within this complex. (Jackson & Austin 2010)

Prairie Racerunner (*Cnemidophorus sexlineatus viridis*).....269

Species now designated as Prairie Racerunner (*Aspidoscelis sexlineata viridis*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Cnemidophorus*. (Reeder *et al.* 2002)

Northern Scarlet Snake (*Cemophora coccinea copei*).....291

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Northern Scarletsnake. (Crother 2012)

Eastern Racer (*Coluber constrictor*).....293

Species common name now designated as North American Racer. (Crother 2012)

Great Plains Rat Snake (*Elaphe guttata emoryi*).....296

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Great Plains Ratsnake. (Crother 2012)

Species now designated as Great Plains Ratsnake (*Pantherophis emoryi*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Elaphe*. (Utiger *et al.* 2002)

Elevated to full species status based on molecular support. The Slowinski's Cornsnake (*Pantherophis slowinskii*) should be considered a species of potential occurrence in southern Arkansas. (Burbrink 2002)

Western Rat Snake (*Elaphe obsoleta*).....298

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Western Ratsnake. The common name for this species has been fairly unstable; even recently designated as Texas Ratsnake by authoritative sources. It is still most commonly known as the “Black Ratsnake” or simply “Black Snake”. (Crother 2012)

Species now designated as Western Ratsnake (*Pantherophis obsoletus*), after this strictly North American taxon was delimited from the genus *Elaphe*. (Utiger *et al.* 2002)

Speckled Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula holbrooki*).....304

Elevated to full species status, while retaining the same common name: Speckled Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis holbrooki*). (Pyron & Burbrink 2009)

While the taxon was relegated to west of the Mississippi River and the Eastern Black Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis nigra*) to the east, the later has recently been reported from near the Missouri Bootheel. Sampling and genetic analysis will be required to check for the potential occurrence of *L. nigra* in northeastern Arkansas. (Daniel & Edmond 2014; Edmond & Daniel 2014)

Louisiana Milk Snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum amaura*).....306

Red Milk Snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum sypila*).....307

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species complex should be referenced as Milksnake. (Crother 2012)

After “rewriting the book” on Milksnakes, genetic analysis has supported that (at least) two distinct species, the Western Milksnake (*Lampropeltis gentilis*) and Eastern Milksnake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*) occupy Arkansas. The ranges do not readily correspond to those previously recognized for subspecies, but rather divide the state roughly in half northwest to southeast, with the former occupying the western/southern half and the later occupying the eastern/northern half. While the range interface is not well defined, the Arkansas River is likely a genetic barrier at play. Additional species splits may be warranted, but sampling across Middle America is needed to clarify the picture. (Ruane *et al.* 2014)

Eastern Coachwhip (*Masticophis flagellum flagellum*).....309

Species now designated as Eastern Coachwhip (*Coluber flagellum flagellum*), after the genus *Masticophis* was synonymized with *Coluber*. (Nagy *et al.* 2004; Utiger *et al.* 2005)

According to unpublished work by Pyron and Burbrink, the genus *Masticophis* may be supported as monophyletic and resurrected. Additionally, mitochondrial data suggests this species may consist of multiple, independently evolving lineages that are not concordant with currently defined subspecies.

Rough Green Snake (*Ophedrys aestivus*).....312

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database and recognized to subspecies level, this species should be referenced as Northern Rough Greensnake (*Ophedrys aestivus aestivus*). (Crother 2012; Walley & Plummer 2000)

Ground Snake (*Sonora semiannulata*).....314

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database and recognized to subspecies level, this species should be referenced as Variable Groundsnake (*Sonora semiannulata semiannulata*). However, the subspecies level recognition is based on older studies. (Crother 2012)

After a nearly 50 year hiatus, this species has been reported in more recent years from a couple of localities in Carroll County, Marion County (McAllister *et al.* 1991), and Polk County, per communication with Kelly J. Irwin and others.

Survey efforts in recent years at presumed historical sites near Sulphur Springs and other suitable localities around Beaver Lake, Benton County, have been unfruitful.

Mississippi Green Water Snake (*Nerodia cyclopion cyclopion*).....316

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Mississippi Green Watersnake. (Crother 2012)

Due to elevation of the Florida Green Watersnake to full species status, this species is no longer recognized to subspecies level: Mississippi Green Watersnake (*Nerodia cyclopion*). (Crother 2012)

Yellowbelly Water Snake (*Nerodia erythrogaster flavigaster*).....318

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Plain-bellied Watersnake. (Crother 2012)

Mitochondrial data has demonstrated that this taxon represents a single widespread species with no concordance to any of the described subspecies: Plain-bellied Watersnake (*Nerodia erythrogaster*). (Makowsky *et al.* 2010)

Broad-banded Water Snake (*Nerodia fasciata confluens*).....320

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Broad-banded Watersnake. (Crother 2012)

Diamondback Watersnake (*Nerodia rhombifer rhombifer*).....323

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Northern Diamond-backed Watersnake. (Crother 2012)

Midland Water Snake (*Nerodia sipedon pleuralis*).....325

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Midland Watersnake. (Crother 2012)

Gulf Crayfish Snake (*Regina rigida sinicola*).....330

The species has been reassigned to a newly resurrected genus, prompting a corresponding change to the common name: Gulf Swampsnake (*Liodytes rigida sinicola*). (McVay & Carstens 2013)

Queen Snake (*Regina septemvittata*).....332

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Queensnake. (Crother 2012)

Midland Brown Snake (*Storeria dekayi wrightorum*).....333

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Midland Brownsnake. (Crother 2012)

Redbelly Snake (*Storeria occipitomaculata*).....336

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Red-bellied Snake. (Crother 2012)

Western Ribbon Snake (*Thamnophis proximus proximus*).....338

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database and assigned an updated common name, the species should be referenced as Orange-striped Ribbonsnake. (Crother 2012)

Eastern Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*).....340

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Eastern Gartersnake. (Crother 2012)

While some sources suggest the Red-sided Gartersnake (*Thamnophis sirtalis parietalis*) may range into NW Arkansas, no specimens fitting the description of this subspecies have been definitively observed.

Lined Snake (*Tropidoclonion lineatum*).....343

This species has been confirmed from three specimens documented from Bentonville, Benton County, in 2013 and 2014 (as yet unpublished).

Rough Earth Snake (*Virginia striatula*).....343

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database and reassigned to a newly resurrected genus, this species should be referenced as Rough Earthsnake (*Haldea striatula*). (Crother 2012; McVay & Carstens 2013)

Western Smooth Earth Snake (*Virginia valeriae elegans*).....344

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Western Smooth Earthsnake. (Crother 2012)

Midwest Worm Snake (*Carphophis amoenus helenae*).....346

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Midwestern Wormsnake. (Crother 2012)

Western Worm Snake (*Carphophis vermis*).....346

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Western Wormsnake. (Crother 2012)

Prairie Ringneck Snake (*Diadophis punctatus arnyi*).....349

Mississippi Ringneck Snake (*Diadophis punctatus stictogenys*).....349

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Ring-necked Snake. (Crother 2012)

Mitochondrial data has supported at least 14 lineages within this wide-ranging taxon that do not follow the geographic ranges of currently recognized subspecies. Based on preliminary sampling, 2-3 Ring-necked species may occur in Arkansas, but no new species splits have been proposed yet. Until there is greater clarity on this taxon, it is suggested to disregard any subspecies recognition and simply reference this species complex as Ring-necked Snake (*Diadophis punctatus*). (Fontanella *et al.* 2008)

Western Mud Snake (*Farancia abacura reinwardtii*).....353

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Western Mudsnake. (Crother 2012)

Eastern Hognose Snake (*Heterodon platirhinos*).....354

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Eastern Hog-nosed Snake. (Crother 2012)

Flathead Snake (*Tantilla gracilis*).....358

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Flat-headed Snake. (Crother 2012)

Texas Coral Snake (*Micrurus tener tener*).....360

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database and assigned an updated common name, the species should be referenced as Texas Gulf-Coast Coralsnake. (Crother 2012)

Southern Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix contortrix*).....362

Genetic analysis has supported two copperhead lineages that are not concordant with traditionally recognized subspecies. The species now recognized to occupy Arkansas should be referenced as Eastern Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*). (Burbrink & Guiher 2014)

Hybrids with the Broad-banded Copperhead (*Agkistrodon laticinctus*) may just edge into West-Central Arkansas.

Western Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus leucostoma*).....365

Genetic analysis has supported two cottonmouth lineages that are not concordant with traditionally recognized subspecies. The species now recognized to occupy Arkansas should be referenced as Northern Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus*). (Burbrink & Guiher 2014)

Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*).....368

Following the conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be referenced as Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake. (Crother 2012)

Western Pigmy Rattlesnake (*Sistrurus miliarius streckeri*).....374

Following the spelling conventions of the SSAR North American Standard English & Scientific Names Database, the common name for this species should be spelled as Western Pygmy Rattlesnake. (Crother 2012)

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