



HAVE YOU SEEN A BLANDING'S TURTLE ?



Carapace



Male=concave Plastron Female=flat

Carapace (upper shell):
Round, dome-shaped, very smooth, dull black with specks and streaks of yellow throughout.

Plastron (lower shell):
Yellow with dark splotches on each scute (section); hinged between 3rd and 4th pair of scutes (front closes like a drawbridge) So the Blanding's turtle is sometimes called a "semi-Box Turtle"

The **bright yellow chin and underside of the long neck** is one of the most conspicuous features of this turtle.

Marshes, ponds, rivers & streams, adjacent uplands; Also travel overland & cross roads. May bask on logs, shore



Yellow neck/chin; no stripes



Domed Carapace

The MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program (NWP) is seeking reports of **Blanding's turtles** in the counties of southern Minnesota*.

If possible, sightings should be verified promptly by either:

1. photographs showing identifying characteristics (top & bottom of shell, jaw) AND/OR
2. a detailed written description specifying identifying characteristics and circumstances of the sighting. (incl. if turtle shell is marked in any way)

Please include:

- Name phone number &/or email address of person reporting sighting
- Date of Sighting
- Number of Blanding's turtles observed
- Specific Location of Sighting
e.g. GPS coordinates OR Township, Range Section to the nearest ¼ ¼ section &/OR
- Specific directions (e.g. roads with distance and direction from nearest town or other conspicuous landmark with any other information that may be helpful for locating the site. Details about the habitat & landowner contacts also really help. **Many Thanks !**

Please Report Sightings as soon as possible to:

MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program- Southern Region
261 Hwy 15 South; New Ulm, MN 56073
Lisa Gelvin-Innvaer Phone: 507-359-6033 Email: lisa.gelvin-innvaer@state.mn.us

