

Minnesota Frog and Toad Calling Survey



Sample Forms

The attached forms are completed samples of the survey forms.

The maps show how to mark the stops and how to draw deviations from a pre-established route (only applicable if you are surveying a route that has never previously been run).

The route description should include driving directions to each stop along the route, a written description of each observation site, as well as a description of the wetland. Details such as road names, landmarks, descriptions of where to pull off the roadside vs. where to listen, etc., are very helpful in order for future volunteers to be able to find the exact stop locations. If a GPS unit is available, please also include the GPS coordinates for each observation site. The distance of each observation site from the first site (i.e., trip mileage) should also be included.

The actual survey datasheet should be filled in completely. Please be sure to include your route number, route name, your name, address and phone number on the sheet.

When you have completed your survey please mail all forms back to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at:

Minnesota Frog and Toad Calling Survey
c/o MFTCS coordinator
Minnesota DNR
500 Lafayette Rd., Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

Thank you and enjoy the survey!

SAMPLE

Minnesota Frog and Toad Calling Survey



Survey Route Description

County Ottertail

Name(s) of observer(s) completing this form:

Route Number 50321

John Croaker

Route Name Little McDonald

Ms. Hyla

Year 2003

SAMPLE

Site No.	Distance from Site 1 (miles)	Location of Listening Point (Town/range/1/4-section, road names, where to stand)	Description of Wetland
1	0.00	T118 N R23W Sec 26 NE 1/4 South Intersection of Richfield Rd + 600 Rd	vernal pool
2	1.9	T118 N R23W Sec 26 SE 1/4 East side of Tamarack Dr. Stand across from 2630 Tamarack, next to "Deer Crossing" sign	vernal pool near maple woods
3	3.1	T118 N R23W Sec 27 SE 1/4 Stand on paved bike trail, just north of Irving Road	grassland pool
4	4.5	T118 N R23W Sec 29 SE 1/4 Northeast intersection of Richey Lake Rd + 600 Rd.	forested ditch water, grassland pool to north
5	5.2	T118 N R23W Sec 30 NW 1/4 North side of 600 Road	black + white spruce, winding into big grass meadow sedge pond
6	6.0	T118 N R23W Sec 18 SW 1/4 Crossing at Pine Road	alder + shrub swamp
7	7.0	T118 N R23W Sec 20 NW 1/4 Crossing of Pine Road over Stoney Brook	large pond near maple woods
8	7.8	T118 N R23W Sec 17 SW 1/4 1 mile from County Rd. 196 on East Bend Rd, near striped sign	meadow swamp
9	8.6	T118 N R23W Sec 20 SE 1/4 Listen from dock on southwest shore at edge of cattails	Big Lake (south side)
10	9.8	T118 N R23W Sec 8 SW 1/4 Boat landing on Mission Rd for Big Lake	Big Lake (north side)

SAMPLE

SAMPLE

<-Cr 17

1 ● Start
50126
Chokio

SAMPLE

△ Cin State Wildlife Manage

County Ditch Number Fifteen

↙ road
inaccessible

3

4

County Ditch Number Thirtysome

Count

28

Chokio

28

28

5 ●

<-Cr 13

Clark Lakebed



6 ●

7 ●

Jipson Slough



County Ditch Number Eighteen

8 ●

County Ditch Number Twentyfive

<-C

Eleven

© 1993 DeLorme Mapping

LEGEND

- County Boundary
- Street, Road
- Major Street/Road
- Intermittent River

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

1 Miles

2 KM

Chokio: Route 50126

Mag 13.00

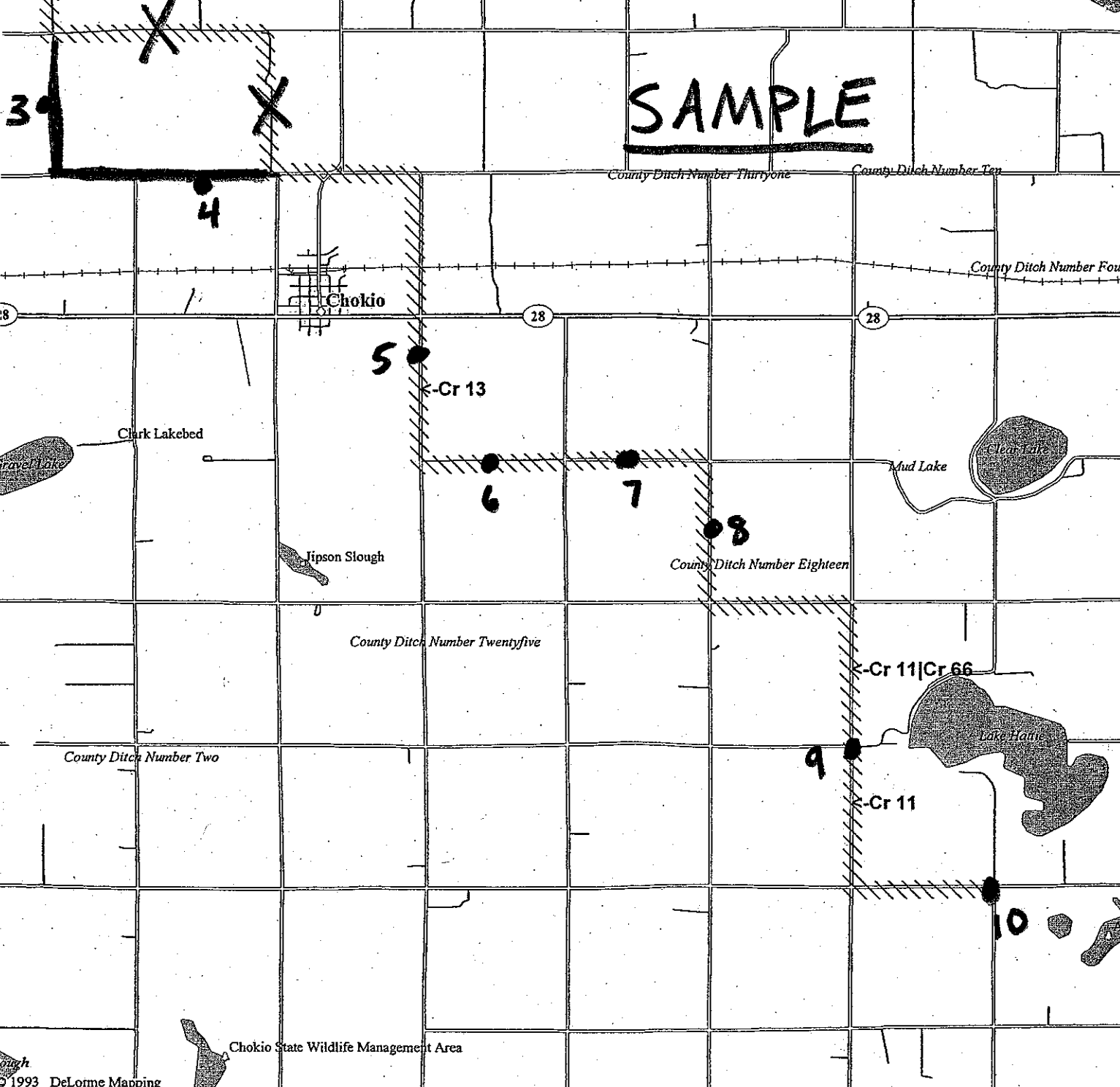
Fri Mar 27 14:40:28 1998

Stevens

125N/44W

SAMPLE

SAMPLE



- LEGEND**
- Population Center
 - State Route
 - ◇ Town, Small City
 - △ Park
 - ... County Boundary
 - - - Street, Road
 - == Major Street/Road
 - == State Route
 - +++ Railroad
 - Airfield
 - Open Water
 - Intermittent River

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

1 Miles

2 KM

Chokio: Route 50126
 Mag 13.00
 Fri Mar 27 14:40:45 1998
 Stevens
 125N/44W

SAMPLE

Minnesota Frog & Toad Calling Survey



Route Number: 500321 Route Name: Little McDonald County: Otter Tail Year: **2009**

Instructions: Use this form for new or established survey routes. Each route consists of 10 stops (minimum of 0.5 miles apart), and is repeated three times during the breeding season, according to the minimum water temperature and approximate range of dates as follows:

Water Temp.	Approximate Dates
First Run: ~50°F	April 15 – 30
Second Run: ~60°F	May 15 – June 5
Third Run: ~70°F	June 25 – July 10

Dates for NORTHERN counties*

April 25 – May 15
May 30 – June 15
July 5 – July 20

*Northern counties include: Beltrami, Carlton, Clearwater, Cook, Itasca, Kittson, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Lake Mahanomen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau, and St. Louis. Also includes the northern half of the following counties: Aitkin, Cass, and Pine.

Run your survey after dark, when wind velocity is less than 12 mph. Listen for 5 minutes at each stop and record an Index Value for each species as follows:

- Index Value = 1:** Individuals of the species can be counted; there is silence between the calls you hear.
- Index Value = 2:** Calls of individuals can be distinguished, but there is some overlapping of the species' calls.
- Index Value = 3:** Full chorus for the species. Calls are constant, continuous, and overlapping.

At the start and end of each run, record one of the following sky & wind condition codes:

Sky Code	Sky Condition	Wind Code	Wind Condition
0 -	Clear or only a few clouds	0 -	Calm (less than 1 mph) smoke rises vertically
1 -	Partly cloudy or variable	1 -	Light Air (1 – 3 mph) smoke drifts in direction of wind
2 -	Broken clouds or overcast	2 -	Light Breeze (4 – 7 mph) wind felt on face; leaves rustle
4 -	Fog	3 -	Gentle breeze (8-12 mph) leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag
5 -	Drizzle or light rain (not affecting hearing)	4* -	Moderate breeze (13-18 mph) moves thin branches, raises loose papers <i>*Do not conduct survey at level 4, unless in Great Plains</i>
7 -	Snow	5** -	Fresh breeze (19 mph or greater) small trees begin to sway <i>** Do not conduct survey at Level 5 in ALL REGIONS</i>
8 -	Showers (is affecting hearing ability) <i>do not conduct survey</i>		

Record your comments at the end of the run. This may include information about difficulties, background noise, uncertain calls, observed changes in habitat since previous run, etc. If you believe you hear a species outside of their known range (see distribution ranges on the DNR website at http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/reptiles_amphibians/frogs_toads/index.html), please contact Krista Larson, MFTCS Coordinator for the Nongame Wildlife Program (contact information is at the bottom of the reverse side); if possible, an audio recording would be helpful in verifying species identification.

SAMPLE

Species Name	Stop Number									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Air Temp. (required)	50	51	52	49	53	53	52	51	50	54
Moon visible? Y/N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
# of Cars passing during 5 min survey	2	0	0	4	3	0	1	1	0	2
Distracting Noise? Y/N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N
Wood Frog	2	2		2				3	3	1
Boreal Chorus Frog	3	3	3	2	1	3	3		3	2
Spring Peeper	3						2			
Northern Leopard Frog		1	1	1	3	2		2		1
Pickerel Frog										
American Toad										
Gray Treefrog										
Cope's Gray Treefrog										
Northern Cricket Frog*										
Mink Frog										
Green Frog										
Bullfrog										
Canadian Toad										
Great Plains Toad										

RUN #1

Month: April
 Day: 25
 Year: 2009
 Start Time: 7:45 pm
 Start Wind: 0
 Start Sky: 2
 End Time: 9:30 pm
 End Wind: 1
 End Sky: 2
 Water Temp (optional): 51°F
 Observer: John Croaker
 Address: 33 Froggy Lane
Toadville, MN 55104
 Phone Number: (222) 222-2222
 Assistant/s: Miss Hyla
 Comments: Dog barking @ stop 5
Loud stream @ stop 9

Minnesota Frog & Toad Calling Survey

2009



SAMPLE

Check here if there have been any changes to your route (and please include a description of the changes with this form). Thank you!

Species Name	Stop Number									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Air Temp. (required)	60	60	62	65	63	63	61	59	60	60
Moon visible? Y/N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
# of Cars passing during 5 min survey	0	0	1	2	0	0	4	0	2	2
Distracting Noise? Y/N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N
Wood Frog										
Boreal Chorus Frog	2	2	1	1		3	3		2	
Spring Peeper										
Northern Leopard Frog										
Pickerel Frog										
American Toad	2	2	3	1	1			3	3	3
Gray Treefrog		1	1	1	2	2	3	1		
Cope's Gray Treefrog			3	2						
Northern Cricket Frog*										
Mink Frog										
Green Frog										
Bullfrog										
Canadian Toad										
Great Plains Toad										

RUN #2

Month: June
 Day: 1
 Year: 2009
 Start Time: 8:30 pm
 Start Wind: 2
 Start Sky: 0
 End Time: 10:15 pm
 End Wind: 0
 End Sky: 1
 Water Temp. (optional): 64°F
 Observer: John Croaker
 Address: (if different than Run 1)
 Same
 Phone Number: Same
 Assistant/s: Miss Hyla
 Comments: Stop 7 - tractor in field nearby

Species Name	Stop Number									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Air Temp. (required)	72	72	70	70	69	68	65	67	68	66
Moon visible? Y/N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N
# of Cars passing during 5 min survey	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	2	5
Distracting Noise? Y/N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Wood Frog										
Boreal Chorus Frog										
Spring Peeper										
Northern Leopard Frog										
Pickerel Frog										
American Toad										
Gray Treefrog										
Cope's Gray Treefrog			2			1			2	1
Northern Cricket Frog*										
Mink Frog	1	1								
Green Frog					3	2		2		
Bullfrog			1							
Canadian Toad										
Great Plains Toad										

RUN #3

Month: June
 Day: 28
 Year: 2009
 Start Time: 9:30 pm
 Start Wind: 3
 Start Sky: 1
 End Time: 11:30 pm
 End Wind: 3
 End Sky: 1
 Water Temp. (optional) 75°F
 Observer: John Croaker
 Address: (if different than Run 1 or 2)
 Same
 Phone Number: Same
 Assistant/s: Miss Hyla
 Comments:

Return this form by AUGUST 1st to:
Minnesota Frog & Toad Survey
c/o Krista Larson
Minnesota DNR
500 Lafayette Rd, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155

* If you believe you have heard a Northern Cricket Frog, please try to verify it by a photograph or tape recording of the call, and report it to Krista Larson, (651-259-5120, Krista.Larson@dnr.state.mn.us, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St. Paul, MN 55155-4025. Thank you!

For extra data sheets see the **MFTCS website:**
http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/volunteering/frogtoad_survey/index.html