

**Guide to the Reptiles
and Amphibians of
East Central Minnesota -
Region 3E**



**Minnesota
Department of
Natural
Resources**

Guide to the Herpetofauna of Central Minnesota

Region 3 - East

This preliminary guide has been prepared as a reference to the occurrence and distribution of reptiles and amphibians of Region 3 - East in Central Minnesota. Taxonomy and identification are based on "A Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians" by Roger Conant (Second Edition, 1975). Figure 1 is a map of this region.

Counties Included: Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, and Pine.

SPECIES LISTTurtles

Common snapping turtle
*Wood turtle
Map turtle
Western painted turtle
*Blanding's turtle
Western spiny softshell

Lizards

Northern prairie skink
*Five-lined (blue-tailed) skink (?)
Six-lined racerunner

Snakes

Red-bellied snake
Northern water snake
Western plains garter snake
Eastern garter snake
Red-sided garter snake (?) } s.s.
Eastern hognose snake
*Western smooth green snake } s.s.
*Eastern smooth green snake }
Bullsnake
Western fox snake
Eastern milk snake

Salamanders

Blue-spotted salamander
Eastern tiger salamander
*Red-backed salamander
Mudpuppy
*Central (Common) newt (?)
*Four-toed salamander (?)

Toads

American toad

Frogs

Northern spring peeper
Gray (Common) treefrog
Boreal chorus frog } s.s.
Western chorus frog }
Mink frog
Northern leopard frog
Green frog
Wood frog
Bull frog

s.s. - single species

(?) - hypothetical species - reports needed

* - special interest species - reports needed

Summary

A total of 30 species have been recorded in Region 3 - East. Three species are represented by two subspecies -- the eastern garter snake, smooth green snake, and chorus frog. Three species are as yet hypothetical for this region -- the five-lined skink, central newt, and four-toed salamander.

Species of special interest include the wood turtle, Blanding's turtle, five-lined skink (if present), red-backed salamander, central newt (if present), four-toed

salamander (if present), and smooth green snake. Any sightings of these species should be recorded and sent to the nongame supervisor.

County records for this region are given on the following pages. If you encounter any new county records, the specimen should be captured and either photographed from several angles or preserved in isopropyl alcohol. Record the collector's name and address, date, county, township, range, section number (or distance and direction from nearest town), and the habitat in which the animal was found. The nongame supervisor should then be contacted concerning disposition of the specimen.

Unless otherwise specified, all county records on the following pages are derived from Reptiles and Amphibians of Minnesota by Walter J. Breckenridge.



Figure 1. Map of Region 3-East. Township numbers are shown on the right margin and range numbers are shown on the top margin.

Reptiles and Amphibians of Minnesota - Region 3 East

Turtles

Common Snapping Turtle

Wood Turtle

Map Turtle

Western Painted Turtle

Blanding's Turtle

Western Spiny Softshell

Lizards

Northern Prairie Skink

Five-lined Skink (?)

Six-lined Racerunner

Snakes

Red-bellied Snake

Northern Water Snake

Western Plains Garter Snake

Red-sided Garter Snake) (?)

Eastern Garter Snake) s.s.

Eastern Hognose Snake

Western Smooth Green Snake) s.s.

Eastern Smooth Green Snake)

Bullsnake

Western Fox Snake

Eastern Milk Snake

	Mille Lacs	Kanabec	Pine	Isanti	Chisago
Common Snapping Turtle				X	
Wood Turtle			X		X
Map Turtle			X		
Western Painted Turtle			X	X	
Blanding's Turtle			X		
Western Spiny Softshell			X		X
Northern Prairie Skink			X	X	X
Five-lined Skink (?)					?
Six-lined Racerunner					X-DNR
Red-bellied Snake	X	X	X		
Northern Water Snake			X	X	
Western Plains Garter Snake	X				
Red-sided Garter Snake) (?)			X		X
Eastern Garter Snake) s.s.	X		X		X
Eastern Hognose Snake			X	X	X-DNR
Western Smooth Green Snake) s.s.			X		X
Eastern Smooth Green Snake)			X		X
Bullsnake					X
Western Fox Snake			X		X
Eastern Milk Snake					X

Salamanders

Mudpuppy

Central Newt (?)

Blue-spotted salamander

Eastern Tiger Salamander

Red-backed Salamander

Four-toed Salamander

Toads

American Toad

Frogs

Northern Spring Peeper

Gray Treefrog

Boreal Chorus Frog

Western Chorus Frog

} s.s.

Mink Frog

Northern leopard frog

Green Frog

Wood Frog

Bull Frog

	Mille Lacs	Kanabec	Pine	Isanti	Chisago
		DNR X	DNR X		
	X		DNR X		
			X		
	X		X		X
					?
	X		X		X
	X		X	X	
			X		X-DNR
	X		X		X
	X		X	Huber X	X
			Huber X	Huber X	
			X		X
			X		X-DNR
	X		X		X
					X-DNR