

**Guide to the Reptiles  
and Amphibians of  
Southeast Minnesota-  
Region 5**



**Minnesota  
Department of  
Natural  
Resources**

## Guide to the Herpetofauna of Southeast Minnesota

## Region 5

This preliminary guide has been prepared as a reference to the occurrence and distribution of reptiles and amphibians of Region 5 in Southeast 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 the region.

Counties Included: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona.

SPECIES LISTTurtles

- Common snapping turtle
- \*Wood turtle
- \*False map turtle
- Map turtle
- Western painted turtle
- \*Blanding's turtle
- Smooth softshell
- \*Eastern spiny softshell

Lizards

- Northern prairie skink
- \*Six-lined racerunner

Snakes

- Red-bellied snake
- Texas brown (DeKay's) snake
- Northern water snake
- Eastern plains garter snake
- Red-sided garter snake } s.s.
- Eastern garter snake }
- Plains western hognose snake
- Eastern hognose snake
- \*Prairie ringneck snake
- \*Blue racer
- \*Western smooth green snake
- Bullsnake
- Western fox snake
- \*Black rat snake
- Eastern milk snake
- \*Eastern massasauga
- \*Timber rattlesnake

Salamanders

- Eastern tiger salamander
- \*Four-toed salamander (?)
- Mudpuppy
- \*Central (Common) newt (?)

Toads

- American toad

Frogs

- Northern spring peeper
- Gray (common) treefrog
- \*Blanchard's cricket frog
- Western chorus frog
- \*Pickereel frog
- Northern leopard frog
- Green frog
- Wood frog
- \*Bullfrog

s.s. - single species

(?) - hypothetical species - reports needed

\* - special interest species - reports needed

Summary

A total of 38 species have been recorded in Region 5. Two subspecies of the common garter snake are present.

Species of special interest in this region include the wood turtle, false map turtle, Blanding's turtle, Eastern spiny softshell, six-lined racerunner, four-toed salamander (if present), central newt, prairie ringneck snake, blue racer, western smooth green snake, black rat snake, eastern massasauga, timber rattlesnake, Blanchard's cricket frog, pickerel frog, and bullfrog.

Any sightings of these species should be documented 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 be contacted concerning disposition of specimens.

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

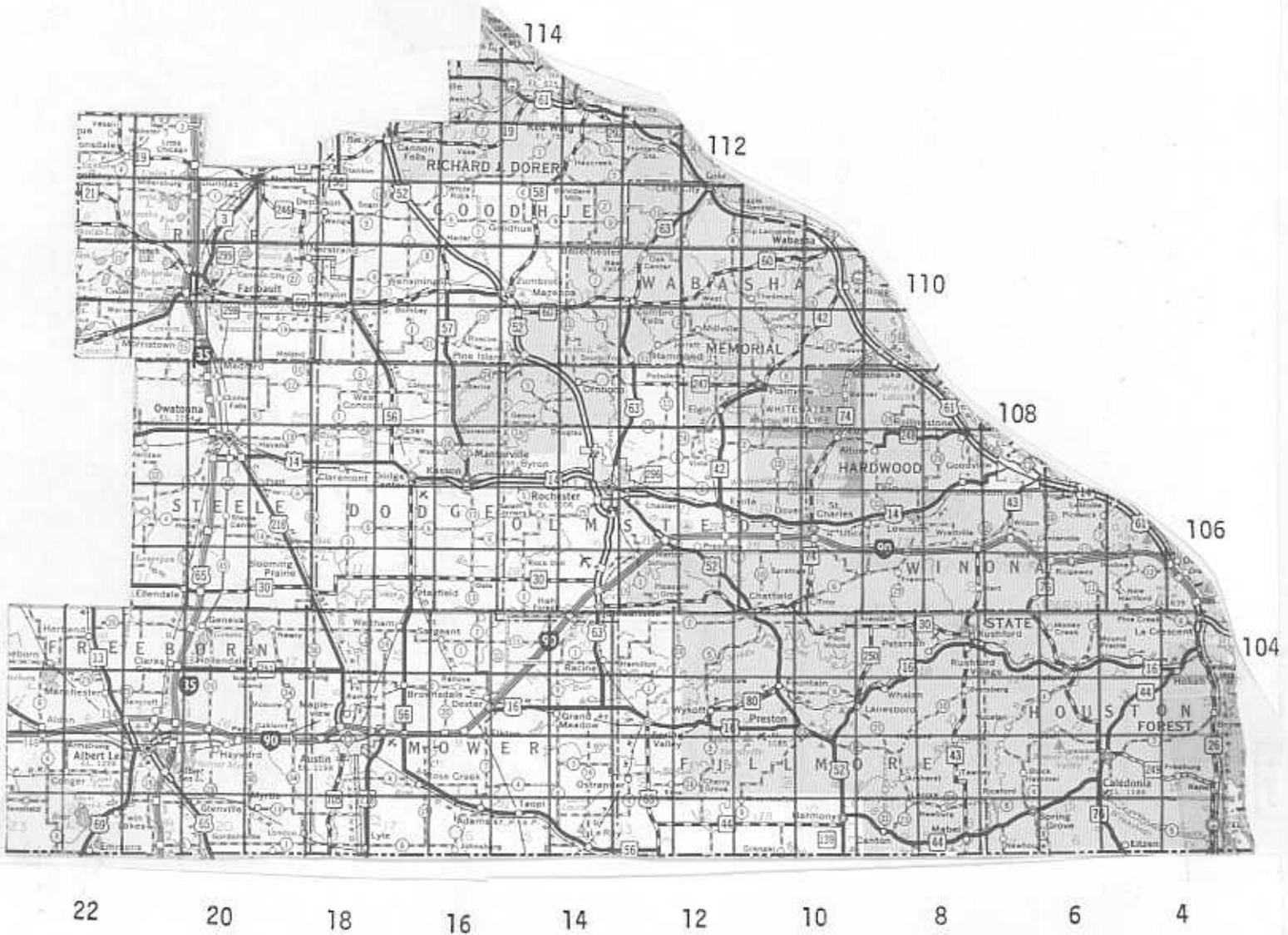


Figure 1. Map of Region 5. Township numbers are shown in the right margin and range numbers are shown at the bottom margin.

Reptiles and Amphibians of Minnesota - Region 5

Turtles

Common Snapping Turtle

Wood Turtle

False Map Turtle

Map Turtle

Western Painted Turtle

Blanding's Turtle

Smooth Softshell

Eastern Spiny Softshell

Lizards

Northern Prairie Skink

Six-lined Racerunner

Snakes

Red-bellied Snake

Texas Brown Snake

Northern Water Snake

Eastern Plains Garter Snake

Red-sided Garter Snake }  
Eastern Garter Snake } s.s.

Plains Western Hognose Snake

Eastern Hognose Snake

Prairie Ringneck Snake

Blue Racer

	Houston	Winona	Wabasha	Goodhue	Fillmore	Olmsted	Dodge	Mower	Freeborn	Steele	Rice
Common Snapping Turtle	X	X		X							
Wood Turtle				X		X	DNR X				X
False Map Turtle			DNR X	X							
Map Turtle	X	X	DNR X	X							
Western Painted Turtle	X		DNR X	X					X		X
Blanding's Turtle	X	B* X	DNR X			B* X		H** X		X	DNR X
Smooth Softshell	X	DNR X	DNR X								
Eastern Spiny Softshell	X	Huber X	DNR X	X			X				X
Northern Prairie Skink	X			X							X
Six-lined Racerunner	X	DNR X	DNR X								
Red-bellied Snake		DNR X									X
Texas Brown Snake	X	X	X								
Northern Water Snake	X	X	X	X	X			X			
Eastern Plains Garter Snake					X			X	X	X	X
Red-sided Garter Snake	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		
Eastern Garter Snake	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
Plains Western Hognose Snake			B* X								
Eastern Hognose Snake	X	X	X								
Prairie Ringneck Snake		X			X						
Blue Racer	X	X	X	X							

\*Brekke  
\*\*Heather

Snakes - Continued

Western Smooth Green Snake  
 Bullsnake  
 Western fox snake  
 Black rat snake  
 Eastern milk snake  
 Eastern massasauga  
 Timber rattlesnake

Salamanders

Mudpuppy  
 Central Newt (?)  
 Eastern Tiger Salamander  
 Four-toed Salamander

Toads

American Toad

Frogs

Northern spring peeper  
 Gray treefrog  
 Blanchard's cricket frog  
 Western chorus frog  
 Pickere1 frog  
 Northern leopard frog  
 Green frog  
 Wood frog  
 Bullfrog

	Houston	Winona	Mabasha	Goodhue	Fillmore	Olmsted	Dodge	Mower	Freeborn	Steele	Rice
Western Smooth Green Snake		X					X	DNR X			
Bullsnake	X	X	X	X	DNR X	X					
Western fox snake	X	X		X	DNR X	DNR X	X				
Black rat snake	X					B* X					
Eastern milk snake	X	X	DNR X	X	X						X
Eastern massasauga			X								
Timber rattlesnake	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Mudpuppy		DNR X									
Central Newt (?)											
Eastern Tiger Salamander	X	X	X		X						X
Four-toed Salamander	?										
American Toad	X	X	X	X		X			X		
Northern spring peeper		X	X	X	X						
Gray treefrog	X	X	X	X	DNR X						
Blanchard's cricket frog	X				X	X		X			
Western chorus frog	X	X			DNR X	X					X
Pickere1 frog	X	X			X			X			
Northern leopard frog	X	DNR X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X
Green frog	X		X	X	X		X	X			X
Wood frog			B* X								X
Bullfrog	X										

\*Brekke