

# Kinkaid Lake Herpetofauna Survey Report

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Surveys were conducted at and around Kinkaid Lake, Jackson Co., IL in October 2002 (five days) and April 2003 (five days). The areas surveyed were accessed by hiking/walking and via boat. Surveys for reptiles were done by visual encounter survey including searching superficial cover objects, with emphasis on known Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*) areas/hibernacula. Amphibians were also surveyed by visual encounter, but known wildlife ponds were samples for amphibian adults, larvae and eggs. The data included also reflects animals encountered in April 2002.

A total of 63 encounters with reptiles were recorded during this survey (April 2002, October 2002, and April 2003). Because of the difficulty in distinguishing individuals of some species (lizards), only encounters of these were recorded. For other, larger reptiles, individuals were identified and NOT counted if encountered again. The most commonly encountered reptile was the Eastern Fence Lizard (*Sceloporus undulates*); 19. The most commonly encountered snake was the Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*); 9. This may not truly reflect relative abundance of the species because this species was directly targeted in this survey. A complete list of reptiles encountered in this survey is included in table 1. Reptiles that were not encountered in this survey but are believed to/do occur in the Kinkaid Lake area include: Ringneck Snake (*Diadophis punctatus*), Eastern Hognose Snake (*Heterodon platyrhinos*), Prairie Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis calligaster*), Black Kingsnake (*Lampropeltis getula ssp.*), Redbelly snake (*Storeria occipitomaculata*), Western Ribbon snake (*Thamnophis proximus*), Common Garter snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*), Smooth Earth snake (*Virginia valeriae*), Copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*), Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*).

There were more than 102 encounters with amphibians within the parameters of this survey. The most common adult amphibian encountered was the Cricket frog (*Acris crepitans*); more than 30 encounters. Three ponds were identified from sportsmen's maps and surveyed from amphibians. Two of these ponds contained Spotted salamander egg masses (*Ambystoma maculatum*); 49 total masses in the two ponds. Numerous salamander larvae were also encountered in these two ponds along with adult and larvae *Rana* sp. A complete list of amphibians encountered in this survey is included in table 1. Amphibians that were not encountered in this survey but are believed to/do occur in the Kinkaid Lake area include: Marbled salamander (*Ambystoma opacum*), Smallmouth salamander (*Ambystoma texanum*), Eastern newt (*Notophthalmus viridescens*), Green Treefrog (*Hyla cinerea*), Spring Peeper (*Psuedacris crucifer*), Southern Leopard frog (*Rana sphenoccephala*), Wood frog [questionable] (*Rana sylvatica*).

The animals included in "believed to occur" were included based on distribution within the state and the types of habitat which occur in the Kinkaid Lake area.

Table 1

	Common Name	Genus	sp.	Number	
Snakes	Rough Green	<i>Opheodrys</i>	<i>aestivus</i>	2	
	Black Rat	<i>Elaphe</i>	<i>obsoletus</i>	2	
	Racer	<i>Coluber</i>	<i>constrictor</i>	3	
	Milk snake	<i>Lampropeltis</i>	<i>triangulum</i>	1	
	Worm snake	<i>Carphophis</i>	<i>amoenus</i>	1	
	Northern water	<i>Nerodia</i>	<i>sipedon</i>	3	
	Timber Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus</i>	<i>horridus</i>	9	
Turtles	Eastern Box	<i>Terrepene</i>	<i>carolina</i>	4	
	Red-eared slider	<i>Trachemys</i>	<i>scripta</i>	2	
	Painted	<i>Chrysemys</i>	<i>picta</i>	1	
Lizards	Fence	<i>Sceloporus</i>	<i>undulatus</i>	19	
	Ground Skink	<i>Scincella</i>	<i>lateralis</i>	7	
	Five-lined skink	<i>Eumeces</i>	<i>fasciatus</i>	9	
Frogs/Toads	Green Frog	<i>Rana</i>	<i>clamitans</i>	7	
	Bull	<i>Rana</i>	<i>catesbeiana</i>	4	
	Cricket Frog	<i>Acris</i>	<i>crepitans</i>	30	*more than 30
	Gray tree	<i>Hyla</i>	<i>versicolor</i>	1	
	American toad	<i>Bufo</i>	<i>americanus</i>	3	
	Fowler's toad	<i>Bufo</i>	<i>fowleri</i>	1	
Salamander	Longtail	<i>Eurycea</i>	<i>longicauda</i>	1	
	Slimy	<i>Plethodon</i>	<i>glutinosus</i>	6	
	Spotted	<i>Ambystoma</i>	<i>maculatum</i>	49	egg masses
	Spotted	<i>Ambystoma</i>	<i>maculatum</i>	***	larvae
			<i>Total Repts</i>	63	
			<i>Total Amph.</i>	102	
			<i>Total</i>	165	

\*\*\* All names of animals (scientific and common) are consistent with: Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of Illinois. Illinois Natural History Survey, Manual 8. 1999.

Pool No.	<i>A. maculata</i> eggs	<i>A. opacum</i> eggs	<i>Hyla</i> sp. eggs	<i>Pseudacris</i> sp. eggs	<i>A. maculata</i> larvae	<i>A. opacum</i> larvae	<i>Hyla</i> sp. larvae	<i>Pseudacris</i> sp. larvae	Rana larvae	<i>A. maculata</i> adults	<i>A. opacum</i> adults	<i>Hyla</i> sp. adults	<i>Pseudacris</i> sp. adults	Rana adults	map	northing	easting
1	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	185	278267	4181846
2	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	185	281048	4185143
3	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	185		