

AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES of the
BALCONES CANYONLANDS NWR

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Despite intensive field work since 1989, relatively little concerted effort has been focused on searching for amphibians and reptiles on the Refuge. Except for a few of the most conspicuous diurnal species, most amphibians are only detected after heavy rains. Many of the snake species are seldom encountered although they may be fairly numerous. Taxonomy and species sequence generally follows Dixon (1987) with common names (e.g., at the subspecific level) most often taken from Garrett and Barker (1987) and Tennant (1985).

Amphibians

Whitethroat Slimy Salamander	<i>Plethodon glutinosus albagula</i>	Uncommon
Cliff Chirping Frog	<i>Syrrophus marnockii</i>	Common
Blanchard's Cricket Frog	<i>Acris crepitans blanchardi</i>	Abundant
Gray Treefrog	<i>Hyla versicolor</i>	Rare
[Spotted/Upland Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris clarki/triseriata</i>	Hypothetical]
Strecker's Chorus Frog	<i>Pseudacris streckeri</i>	Common
Red-spotted Toad	<i>Bufo punctatus</i>	Rare
Gulf Coast Toad	<i>Bufo valiceps</i>	Fairly common
Couch's Spadefoot Toad	<i>Scaphiopus couchii</i>	Uncommon
Rio Grande Leopard Frog	<i>Rana berlandieri</i>	Abundant
[Bullfrog	<i>Rana catesbiana</i>	Hypothetical]
Great Plains Narrowmouth Toad	<i>Gastrophyne olivacea</i>	Uncommon

Reptiles

Common Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina serpentina</i>	Fairly common
Yellow Mud Turtle	<i>Kinosternon flavescens</i>	Uncommon
Texas Cooter	<i>Pseudemys texana</i>	Common
Ornate Box Turtle	<i>Terrapene ornata ornata</i>	Introduced and rare resident
Red-eared Slider	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	Common
Spiny Softshell (ssp.)	<i>Trionyx spinifer</i> ssp.	Uncommon
Green Anole	<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>	Common
Texas Earless Lizard	<i>Cophosaurus texanus texanus</i>	Common
Eastern Collared Lizard	<i>Crotaphytus collaris collaris</i>	Uncommon
[Eastern Earless Lizard	<i>Holbrookia maculata perspicua</i>	Hypothetical]
Texas Spiny Lizard	<i>Sceloporus olivaceous</i>	Fairly common
Southern Prairie Lizard	<i>Sceloporus undulatus consobrinus</i>	Fairly common
Eastern Tree Lizard	<i>Urosaurus ornatus ornatus</i>	Probably rare
Short-lined Skink	<i>Eumeces tetragrammus brevilineatus</i>	Uncommon
Ground Skink	<i>Scincella lateralis</i>	Common
Texas Spotted Whiptail	<i>Cnemidophorus gularis gularis</i>	Uncommon
Six-lined or Prairie Racerunner	<i>Cnemidophorus sexlineatus</i> ssp.?	Fairly common
Plains Blind Snake	<i>Leptotyphlops dulcis dulcis</i>	Uncommon
Eastern Yellowbelly Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor faviventris</i>	Uncommon
Diamondback Water Snake	<i>Nerodia rhombifera</i>	Uncommon
Blotched (Yellow-bellied) Water Snake	<i>Nerodia erythrogaster</i>	Uncommon
Prairie Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus arnyi</i>	Rare; one report
Great Plains Rat Snake	<i>Elaphe guttata emoryi</i>	Rare
Texas Rat Snake	<i>Elaphe obsoleta lindheimeri</i>	Fairly common
Western Coachwhip	<i>Masticophis flagellum testaceus</i>	Fairly common
Central Texas Whipsnake	<i>Masticophis taeniatus girardi</i>	Uncommon
Rough Green Snake	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>	Fairly common

Bullsnake	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	Rare
Texas Patchnose Snake	<i>Salvadora grahamiae lineata</i>	Uncommon
Ground Snake	<i>Sonora semiannulata</i>	Fairly common
Flathead Snake	<i>Tantilla gracilis</i>	Rare?; two reports
Plains Blackhead Snake	<i>Tantilla nigriceps fumiceps</i>	Rare; one report
Eastern Blackneck Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis cyrtopsis ocellatus</i>	Uncommon
Checkered Garter Snake	<i>Thamnophis marcianus marcianus</i>	Rare?; one report
Redstripe Ribbon Snake	<i>Thamnophis proximus rubrilineatus</i>	Fairly common
Rough Earth Snake	<i>Virginia striatula</i>	Uncommon?
Texas Coral Snake	<i>Micrurus fulvius tenere</i>	Uncommon
Western Cottonmouth	<i>Agkistrodon piscivorous</i>	Uncommon
Broad-banded Copperhead	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix laticinctus</i>	Uncommon
Western Diamondback Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus atrox</i>	Common