



Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
2015 Annual Meeting
Alton Jones Education Center, University of Rhode Island, West Greenwich, RI
August 18-20, 2015

2015 NEPARC Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 18

<p>10:00-1:00</p> <p>1:00-4:00</p>	<p>Field trips</p> <p>Both field trips will take place at these times so attendees can choose one morning trip and one afternoon trip. Meet at main hall of Environmental Education Center at 10:00 and 1:00. Bring your own lunch. Field trips will be led by Nancy Karraker and Peter Paton of the University of Rhode Island.</p> <p>Diamondback terrapin nesting site at Rayner Refuge – Visit the largest nesting site for diamondback terrapins in RI and learn about the 25 year monitoring effort supported by the Barrington Land Conservation Trust. Three hours.</p> <p>Vernal pool monitoring at Alton Jones – Visit the vernal pools monitored by Bob Shoop from the 1970s to the 1990s and hear about the contributions of Dr. Shoop's research to our understanding of vernal pool-breeding amphibians. Two hours.</p>
<p>3:30-9:00</p>	<p>Registration in main hall</p>
<p>4:00-5:30</p>	<p>State Biologists meeting (open to all) in main hall</p>
<p>6:00-8:30</p>	<p>Dinner social (provided with registration) in main hall. Cash bar.</p>

Wednesday, August 19

<p>7:00-8:30</p>	<p>Breakfast (provided with registration) in main hall</p>
<p>8:00-8:30</p>	<p>Registration in main hall</p>
<p>8:30-9:15</p>	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPARC 2015 - co-chairs Lori Erb (Mid-Atlantic Center for Herpetology and Conservation) and Kathy Gipe (PA Fish and Boat Commission) • Welcome to Rhode Island and URI – Nancy Karraker (Univ. of Rhode Island) • What is NEPARC/PARC? – Lori Erb • Introduction of Steering Committee – Kathy Gipe • Introductions around the room – Kathy Gipe
<p>9:15-9:45</p>	<p>National PARC Update – Priya Nanjappa (PARC)</p>

9:45-10:00	PARC Habitat in Focus – Andrea Chaloux (New York Natural Heritage Program)
10:00-10:15	Break – Begin silent auction
10:15-11:30	<p>Update on Ongoing NEPARC Projects –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial Board – Glenn Johnson (SUNY Potsdam)/Peter A. Rosenbaum (SUNY Oswego) • PARCA – (update to be read) • Roads and Road Salts – Brian Zarate (NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife) • Emerging Diseases – Holly Niederriter (DE Division of Fish and Wildlife) • Wood Turtles – Michael Jones (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) • Blanding’s Turtles - Liz Willey (Antioch College, NH) • Hellbenders and Mudpuppies – Noelle Rayman (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
11:30-11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory Update – Al Breisch (retired, NY Dept. Env. Conservation)
11:45-12:00	<p><i>Long-term Monitoring of a Seasonal Pool at Alton Jones, Rhode Island</i></p> <p>Peter Paton (University of Rhode Island)</p>
12:00-1:00	Lunch in main hall (provided with registration)
1:00-1:15	<p>Special Topic: Snake Fungal Disease</p> <p><i>Conserving Snake Species of Greatest Conservation Need Threatened by an Emerging Fungal Skin Disease</i></p> <p>Anne Stengle (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)</p>
1:15-1:30	<p><i>A Comparison of Amphibian Metamorphic Success Between Created and Natural Wetlands</i></p> <p>Lauren McPherson (West Virginia University)</p>
1:30-1:45	<p><i>Effectiveness of Head-starting as a Management Tool for Establishing a Viable Population of Blanding’s Turtles</i></p> <p>Jared Green (University of Georgia)</p>
1:45-2:00	Break
2:00-2:15	<p><i>Post Emergence Behavior, Habitat Selection, and Survival of Hatchling Wood Turtles (Glyptemys insculpta) in an Unusual Landscape</i></p> <p>Jeffrey Dragon (George Mason University)</p>
2:15-2:30	<p><i>Spatial Ecology and Habitat Selection of the Eastern Hognose Snake (Heterodon platirhinos) at Cape Cod National Seashore, Massachusetts</i></p> <p>Scott Buchanan (University of Rhode Island)</p>
2:30-2:45	<p><i>Non-target Impacts Of Chemical Management Under Increased Temperature On Lithobates pipiens</i></p> <p>Amanda Curtis (Dartmouth College)</p>

2:45-3:00	<i>Assessing the Sustainability of Virginia's Commercial Snapping Turtle Harvest</i> John Kleopfer (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries)
3:00-4:30	Working Group Breakout Session I – Downstairs meeting rooms or outside <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wood Turtle • Emerging Diseases <p>Poster presenters should set up posters during a previous break or at this time</p>
4:30-6:30	Poster Session/Refreshing Beverage Hour (cash bar) – main hall
6:30-7:30	Dinner in main hall (provided with registration)
7:30-8:30	Featured Presentation: Herps of Rhode Island – Chris Raithel, Wildlife Biologist, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management – main hall
9:00-10:00	Herp Call Competition – main hall Start practicing now! Launch your best herp call (examples: spadefoot toad or mating male box turtle) on the meeting attendees with a chance to win a fabulous prize!

Thursday, August 20

7:00-8:30	Breakfast (provided with registration) in main hall
8:30-8:45	<i>Status of the Northern Red-bellied Cooter (Pseudemys rubriventris) in Plymouth County, Massachusetts</i> Michael Jones (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)
8:45-9:00	<i>Infection Rates of Ranavirus and Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis in Green Frog Populations of Pennsylvania</i> James Julian (Pennsylvania State University - Altoona College)
9:00-9:15	<i>Effects of Salt Marsh Restoration on Spotted Turtle Populations and Habitat Use at Medouie Creek, Nantucket Island, MA</i> Danielle O'Dell (Nantucket Conservation Foundation)
9:15-9:30	Special Topic: Communicating Science – Patricia Johnson (NEPARC Representative to the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science)
9:30-9:45	<i>Created Vernal Pools: How Well Are We Doing?</i> Mary Beth Kolozsvary (Siena College)
9:45-10:00	<i>Determinants of Nest Success, Hatchling Survival, and Recruitment for the State Threatened Wood Turtle (Glyptemys insculpta)</i> Ellery Ruther (Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute)

10:00-10:15	Break	
Concurrent Sessions		
10:15-12:00	Working Group Breakout Session II – Downstairs meeting rooms or outside <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roads and Road Salt • Hellbenders/Mudpuppies 	Workshop: Communicating Science Beyond the Science Community – main hall Megan Skrip, Scott Buchanan, Nancy Karraker (URI); Patricia Johnson (TurtleAdvocate.org) Workshop will help biologists distill their science into an easy to understand message for the public. Identify your audience, organize your message for that audience, think about word choice, and practice writing a press release! This will be an active session including discussion and practice writing. Please come with an idea (Example: 50% of diamondback terrapin nests are preyed upon by foxes) and we will help you make it interesting and accessible to the public. All are welcome.
12:00-1:00	Lunch in main hall (provided with registration)	
1:00-1:15	<i>Patterns in Pool-breeding Amphibian Health Across a Gradient of Human Disturbance</i> Carly Eakin (University of Maine)	
1:15-1:30	<i>Basking Habitat Assessment of the Northern Red-Bellied Cooter in Plymouth County, Massachusetts</i> Nikolis Gualco (Antioch University)	
1:30-1:45	Special Topic: Atlantic Coast Leopard Frog <i>Update on the Rangewide Distribution and Status of the Atlantic Coast Leopard Frog (Rana kauffeldi)</i> Matthew Schlesinger (New York Natural Heritage Program)	
1:45-2:00	<i>The Salamander Population and Adaptation Research Collaboration Network (SPARCnet): The First Two Years in Regional Population Monitoring</i> David Muñoz (Pennsylvania State University)	
2:00-2:15	Break	
2:15-2:30	<i>Patterns of Long-Term Abundance and Survival of Snapping Turtles Before and After a Population Catastrophe</i> Matthew Keevil (Laurentian University)	
2:30-3:15	Breakout Sessions Wrap-up – Lori Erb	
3:15-3:45	NEPARC Business – Kathy Gipe	
3:45	Annual Meeting Ends	