

**2026 Annual Meeting of Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile
Conservation
Paul Smith's College, Paul Smiths, NY
July 29-31, 2026**



Wednesday, July 29, 2026

8:00AM-7:00PM – Registration and Check-in- St. Regis, Student Center
8:00AM-9:00AM – Breakfast for those with pre-purchased vouchers
11:00AM-12:30PM – Lunch for those with pre-purchased vouchers
9:00AM-4:00PM – Field Trips
4:00PM-5:30PM – State Biologist Meeting (Bobcat Lounge- Student Center)
5:00PM-6:30PM – Dinner (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration)
{Silent Auction Begins in St. Regis Hall}
6:30PM-7:30PM – Guest speaker (TBA)
7:30PM-10:00PM – Social (Great Lawn Lean-to/Fire Pit)
10:00PM – Quiet hours begin

Thursday, July 30, 2026

7:30AM-8:30AM – Breakfast (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration)
8:30AM-8:45AM – Welcome and Meeting Info – NEPARC Co-Chairs
8:45AM-8:55AM – Welcome to New York! (Val Titus)
8:55AM-9:25AM – What is PARC/NEPARC? – NEPARC Co-chairs
9:25AM-10:00AM – Updates from PARC initiatives – JNSC update (Bradley O’Hanlon), ARC update (Jess Meck)
10:00AM-10:30AM – Working Group introductions
10:30 AM-11:00 AM – Break
11:00-12:00 PM – Oral Presentations (15 min ea)

- Breisch- The Timber Rattlesnake Conservation Action Plan - What have we done? What do we need to do now?
- Rosenbaum- Diel activity cycles and overwintering phenology of Timber Rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) in the northeastern United States

- Karraker- Limiting Wildlife Professionals' Contributions to Illegal Trade in Reptiles and Amphibians: A Turtle Case Study
- Meck- Priority Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas: Implementing a National Conservation Framework

12:00PM-1:30PM – Lunch (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration)

1:30PM-2:30PM – Amphibian Brigade Collaboration Session

- Charney- Harnessing Community Science in Tracking Amphibian Migrations
- Mitchell- Amphibian Brigade Panel

2:30PM – Group Photo

2:30PM-3:00PM – Break

3:00PM-4:45PM – Working Group Breakout Session

- Advancing Education
- Vernal Pools

5:00PM-6:00 PM – Dinner (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration)

6:15PM-7:25PM – Poster Session/Social- St. Regis Hall

7:30PM-7:40PM – NEPARC Conservation Awards Presentation- Great Lawn Tent

7:40PM-8:30PM – Keynote Presentation- Great Lawn Tent

8:45 PM – End silent auction

10:00PM – Quiet hours begin

Friday, July 31, 2026

7:30AM-8:30AM – Breakfast (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration)

8:30AM-9:45AM – Oral Presentations (15 min ea)

- Edwards and Brand- The State of USGS Amphibian Disease Research: Keeping Tabs on a Changing Landscape
- Fabricant- Boxturtleid.com: A Machine Learning Platform For Automated, Non-Invasive Individual Identification And Citizen Science Engagement
- Martin- Predicting Future Amphibian Body Size across Northeastern United States under Different Climate and Land Use Scenarios
- Connolly- Understanding the Importance of Time Budgets for Species Under Human Care- A Case Study of Eastern Hellbenders (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*)
- Eichelberger- We Need To Talk... About The Broad Existential Threat To Declining SGCN Turtles From Increasing Mammalian Mesopredators

9:45AM-10:15AM – Break

10:15AM-11:00AM – Working Group Breakout Session A

- Student Group
- Herp Salvage

11:15AM-12:00PM – Working Group Breakout Session B

- Turtle Group
- Landscape Connectivity

12:00PM-1:30 PM – Lunch (Dining Hall; Provided with Registration) and Lodging Checkout- St. Regis Hall

1:30 PM-2:45 PM – Oral Presentations (15 min ea)

- Togninalli- The Discovery of the White-spotted Slimy Salamander, a Species Previously Unknown to Occur in Connecticut
- Deming- The Role of Floodplain Complexity in Wood Turtle Habitat Use
- Bredin- No Choice but to Jaywalk, Revealing Juvenile Salamander Road Mortality using a Novel Semi-passive Method
- Metcalfe- First Evidence of Neonicotinoid Pesticide Contamination in Wild Reptiles: A Pilot Study of Snakes in Agricultural Landscapes in Vermont
- Muccio- A Decade-Long Study on Eastern Copperhead Habitat Selection in the Central Piedmont of New Jersey

2:45PM-3:00PM – NEPARC Business Meeting and Presentation of Student Awards

Thank you to our sponsors!

