

**Declining Amphibian Task Force (DAPTF)
California-Nevada Working Group
January 15-16, 2004
Reno, Nevada**

AGENDA

David Bradford, Chair
Anita Cook, Eric Simandle, Tom Skiles: Local Committee

Thursday, January 15, 2004

10:00-10:10 am **Introduction and Announcements.** David Bradford, US Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas, NV

DISEASE, MALFORMATIONS, AND AMPHIBIAN POPULATION DECLINES

Moderator: David Bradford, US Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas, NV

10:10-10:30 am **Amphibian Diseases! Why Didn't We Think of This Before?** Gretchen Padgett-Flohr, Rana Resources, Davis, CA.

10:30-11:10 am **Chytridiomycosis in the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog.** Cheryl Briggs*, Lara Rachowicz*, and John Parker*, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, CA.

11:10-11:30 am **Amphibian Chytridiomycosis and California Herpetofauna.** Gretchen Padgett-Flohr, Rana Resources, Davis, CA.

11:30-11:40 am **Larval Diseases, Should We Be Concerned?** Nathan Nieto, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA.

11:40-11:50 am **Amphibian Malformations at Three National Wildlife Refuges in California.** Jamie Bettaso, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Arcata, CA.

11:50-1:20 pm **Lunch**

Moderator: Amy Lind, US Forest Service, Sacramento, & Univ. Calif., Davis, CA.

INVASIVE SPECIES AND NATIVE AMPHIBIANS

1:20-1:40 pm **Synopsis of Current Amphibian Projects Supported or Conducted by the California Department of Fish and Game.** Betsy Bolster, CA Dept. Fish & Game, Sacramento, CA

1:40-2:00 pm **Negative Effects of Introduced Trout on *Ambystoma macrodactylum* in the Sierra Nevada, California: Results from "Historic Site" Surveys, Watershed Surveys, and Experimental Data.** Karen Leye, Univ. of Calif., Davis, CA.

2:00-2:10 pm **Community Response to Experimental Fish Removals in Wilderness Basins in Northern California.** Karen Pope, Univ. of Calif., Davis, CA.

2:10-2:25 pm **Foothill Yellow-Legged Frog (*Rana boylei*) Predation by the Introduced Signal Crayfish (*Pacifasticus leniusculus*) in the North Fork Feather River, CA.** Kevin Wiseman, Garcia & Assoc., San Francisco, CA.

ROLE OF CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION IN AMPHIBIAN DECLINES

2:25-2:30 pm **Summary of Ongoing Projects Addressing Effects of Airborne Contaminants on Amphibians in California Mountains.** Dave Bradford, US Environmental Protection Agency, Las Vegas, NV.

2:30-2:50 pm **The Role of Contaminants in California Amphibian Declines.** Gary Fellers, USGS, Biological Resources Division, Pt. Reyes, CA.

2:50-3:35 pm **Break**

Moderator: Betsy Bolster, Calif. Dept. Fish & Game, Sacramento, CA.

LEGAL ACTIONS

3:35-3:45 pm **Legal Status Summary.** Deanna Spooner, Pacific Rivers Council, Eugene, OR.

3:45-3:55 pm **Status of Two Lawsuits Against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Pesticide Regulation.** Michael Graf, private attorney, El Cerrito, CA.

ECOLOGY, POPULATION GENETICS, AND ACTIVE MANAGEMENT – BUFONID TOADS MOSTLY

3:55-4:15 pm **Amphibian Conservation Planning in Nevada: The Efficacy of Conservation Agreements and Strategies.** Jon Sjoberg, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife, Las Vegas, NV.

4:15-4:35 pm **Metapopulation Structure in Two Species of Rare Toads (*Bufo nelsoni* and *Bufo exsul*) with Implications for Conservation.** Eric Simandle* and C. Richard Tracy, Univ. of Nevada, Reno, NV.

4:35-4:55 pm **Use of habitat by Adult Amargosa Toads (*Bufo nelsoni*).** Denise Jones* and C. Richard Tracy, Univ. of Nevada, Reno, NV.

POSTERS

All Day **Imperiled Amphibians of the West.** Pacific Rivers Council, Eugene, OR.

All Day

Metapopulation Processes or Infinite Dispersal?: Habitat Patch Occupancy by Toads (*Bufo punctatus*) in a Naturally Fragmented Desert Landscape.

David F Bradford¹, Anne C Neale¹, Maliha S Nash¹, Donald W Sada², and Jef R Jaeger³. ¹U.S. Environ. Protection Agency, Las Vegas, NV; ²Desert Research Institute, Reno, NV; ³Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV.

Friday, January 16, 2004

Moderator: Roland Knapp, Univ. of Calif., Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab, Mammoth Lakes, CA

ECOLOGY, POPULATION GENETICS, AND ACTIVE MANAGEMENT – BUFONID TOADS MOSTLY (continued)

8:30-8:50 am **Population Status, Threats, and Conservation Efforts for the Amargosa Toad (*Bufo nelsoni*).** Brian Hobbs, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife, Las Vegas, NV.

8:50-9:10 am **Using the ARMI (Amphibian Research and Monitoring Initiative) Metric, Percent Area Occupied, for Monitoring Arroyo Toads in Southern California.** Cheryl Brehme, USGS, Biol. Resources Division, San Diego, CA.

ECOLOGY, POPULATION GENETICS, AND ACTIVE MANAGEMENT – RANID FROGS MOSTLY

9:10-9:30 am **Status of the Relict Leopard Frog (*Rana onca*): Our Limited Understanding of the Distribution, Size, and Dynamics of Extant and Recently Extinct Populations.** Jef Jaeger^{1*}, David Bradford², Randy Jennings³, and Brett Riddle¹. ¹Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas, NV; ²US Environ. Protection Agency, Las Vegas, NV; ³Western New Mexico Univ., Silver City, NM.

9:30-9:45 am **Conservation Activities and Plans for the Relict Leopard Frog, *Rana onca*.** Ross Haley, Lake Mead Nat. Recreation Area, Boulder City, NV.

9:45-9:55 am **Population Survey and Inventory Results for the Columbia Spotted Frog, *Rana luteiventris*, in Elko County, Nevada for 2003.** Chris Drake, Nevada Dept. of Wildlife.

9:55-10:40 am **Break**

Moderator: Gary Fellers, USGS, Biological Resources Division, Pt. Reyes, CA

10:40-11:00 am **An Experimental Approach to Managing Rare Ranids in Southern California.** Cindy Hitchcock, USGS, Biol. Resources Division, San Diego, CA.

11:00-11:10 am **Overview of Amphibian Projects at the USFS Redwood Sciences Lab.** Don Ashton, US Forest Service, Arcata, CA.

11:10-11:20 am **Spatial Dynamics of a Montane Frog (*Rana cascadae*) in Response to Resource Availability.** Justin Garwood, Humboldt State Univ., Arcata, CA.

11:20-11:30 am **Aspects of the reproductive ecology of *Rana boylei*: implications for species conservation and management.** Clara Wheeler, US Forest Service, Arcata, CA.

- 11:30-11:50 am **Reintroduction of a Declining Amphibian: Determining an Ecologically Feasible Approach Through Analysis of Decline Factors, Genetic Structure, and Habitat Associations.** Amy Lind, US Forest Service, Sacramento, & Univ. Calif., Davis, CA.
- 11:50-1:05 pm **Lunch (Note: Lunch today is shorter than yesterday)**
- Moderator: Anita Cook, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Reno, NV
- 1:05-1:25 pm **Re-establishment of California Red-legged Frog Populations at Pinnacles National Monument.** Paul Johnson^{1*}, Norman Scott², and Amy Fesnock.
¹Pinnacles Nat. Monument, Paicines, CA; ²Creston, CA.
- 1:25-1:45 pm **Population Studies on the Declining Amphibians: *Rana aurora*, *R. muscosa*, and *Bufo boreas*.** Gary Fellers, USGS, Biol. Resources Division, Pt. Reyes, CA.
- 1:45-1:55 pm **Restoration of Mountain Yellow-legged Frogs in Kings Canyon National Park.** Danny Boiano, Sequoia & Kings Canyon Nat. Parks, Three Rivers, CA.
- 1:55-2:05 pm **Restoration of Mountain Yellow-legged Frog Populations in Humphreys Basin.** Roland Knapp, Univ. of Calif., Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab, Mammoth Lakes, CA.
- 2:05-2:20 pm **Updates on the US Forest Service's Amphibian Conservation Assessments and Sierra Nevada Amphibian Monitoring Program.** Cathy Brown¹ or Amy Lind². ¹US Forest Service, Albany, CA; ²US Forest Service, Sacramento

OTHER IMPORTANT TOPICS

- 2:20-2:30 pm **Update on the Forest Reptile and Amphibian Working Group's (FRAWG) Consideration of Seeps, Springs, Wet Meadows, and Wet Areas in California's Forest Practice Rules and Habitat Conservation Plans.** Don Ashton, US Forest Service, Arcata, CA.
- 2:30-2:50 pm **Factors Implicated in Amphibian Population Declines: A National Perspective.** Dave Bradford, US Environ. Protection Agency, Las Vegas, CA.
- 2:50-3:10 pm **Demonstration and Discussion of the New CA/NV DAPTF Website.** Amy Lind. US Forest Service, Sacramento, and Univ. Calif., Davis, CA.
- 3:10-3:15 pm **Next meeting date and place.**

* Indicates speaker in multi-authored talk.