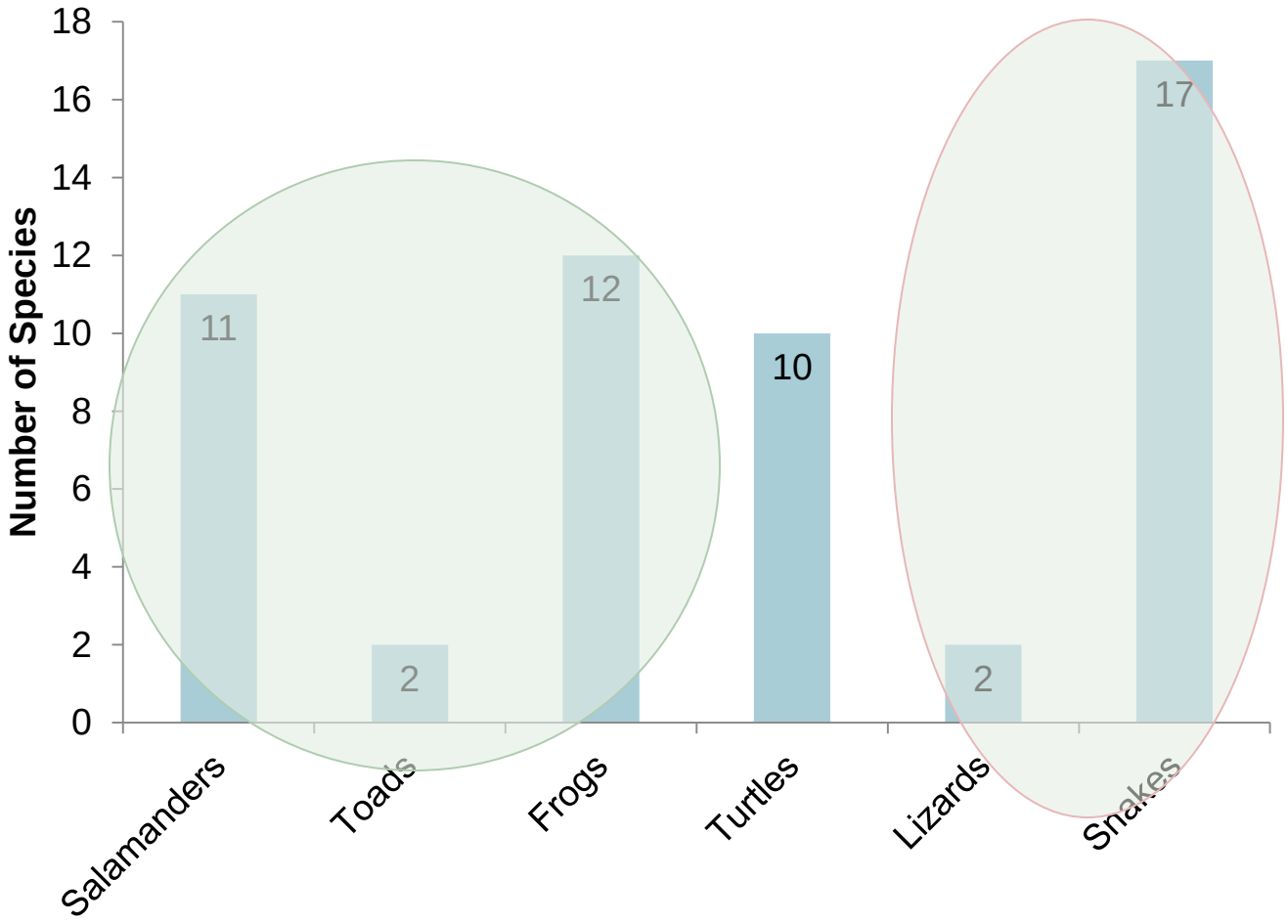
MICHIGAN'S HERPETOFAUNA

Jennifer Moore, GVSU

Herp Diversity – 54 species



Amphibians

Tetrapods

Moist, scale-less, glandular skin

Unshelled aquatic eggs and aquatic larvae

Order Caudata (Salamanders) – don't make noise, have tails

Order Anura (Frogs and toad) – make noise, don't have tails

Family Ambystomatidae – Mole salamanders

Check out those costal grooves!

Spotted salamander, *Ambystoma maculatum*

Family Ambystomatidae – Mole salamanders

Hybrid complex

Blue-spotted salamander, *Ambystoma laterale*

Family Ambystomatidae – Mole salamanders

T.

Marbled salamander, *Ambystoma opacum*

Family Ambystomatidae – Mole salamanders

E.
SE counties only

Small-mouthed salamander, *Ambystoma texanum*

Family Ambystomatidae – Mole salamanders

Eastern tiger salamander, *Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum*

Family Plethodontidae – lungless salamanders (*these suckers breathe through their skin!)

1-4 inches long
Nasolabial ridge
13-14 costal grooves

Four-toed salamander, *Hemidactylium scutatum*

Family Plethodontidae – lungless salamanders

Extremely common
2-5 inches

“lead-backed” phase

Eastern red-backed salamander, *Plethodon cinereus*

Family Proteidae – permanently aquatic salamanders

Common Mudpuppy, *Necturus maculosus maculosus*

Family Salamandridae – rough skinned, toxic salamanders

Eastern newt, *Notophthalmus viridescens*

Terrestrial red eft

Family Sirenidae – eel-like bodies, aquatic

No hind legs
7-20 inches
Still in MI?

Western lesser siren, *Siren intermedia nettingi*

Was that a croak or a ribbit?

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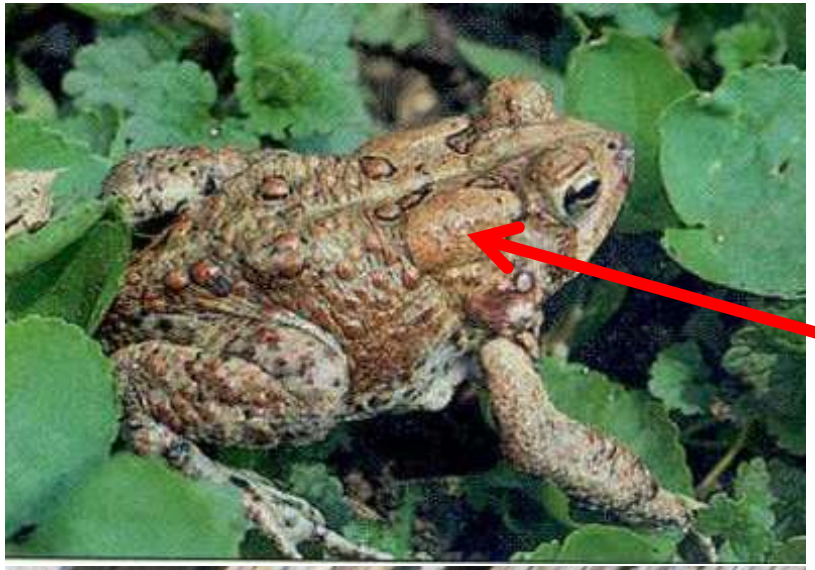
11.
12.

Family Bufonidae – true toads



Eastern American Toad, *Bufo americanus americanus*

Parotoid gland

Fowler's Toad, *Bufo fowleri*

Black may encircle more 3+ bumps (vs. 1-2 on *americanus)*

Family Hylidae – treefrogs (sorta)

Blanchard's Cricket frog, *Acris crepitans blanchardi*

Toe pads
S.C.

Northern Spring Peeper, *Pseudacris crucifer crucifer*

Family Hylidae – treefrogs

Gray treefrog, *Hyla versicolor* – tetraploid!

Cope's gray treefrog, *Hyla chrysoscelis* – diploid!

Both calling

Family Hylidae – treefrogs

Western chorus frog,
Pseudacris triseriata

Boreal chorus frog,
Pseudacris maculata

Isle Royale only!

Family Ranidae – true frogs

Northern Green frog, *Rana clamitans melanota*

American bullfrog, *Rana catesbeiana*

Family Ranidae – true frogs

Mink frog, *Rana septentrionalis*

Stink frog!
U.P. only

Family Ranidae – true frogs

Pickerel frog, *Rana palustris*

Northern Leopard frog, *Rana pipiens*

Family Ranidae – true frogs

Wood frog, *Rana sylvatica*

Reptiles

Order Testudines (Turtles)

Order Squamata (Snakes and Lizards)

Family Chelydridae

Eastern snapping turtle, *Chelydra serpentina serpentina*

Family Emydidae

Painted turtle, *Chrysemys picta*

Midland p.t., *Chrysemys picta marginata* & Western p.t *Chrysemys picta bellii* (W. U.P)

Family Emydidae

Spotted turtle, *Clemmys guttata*

T

Family Emydidae

Blanding's turtle, *Emydoidea blandingii*

S.C.

Family Emydidae

Wood turtle, *Glyptemys insculpta*

S.C.

Family Emydidae

Northern Map turtle, *Graptemys geographica*

Family Emydidae

Eastern box turtle, *Terrepene carolina carolina*

Family Emydidae

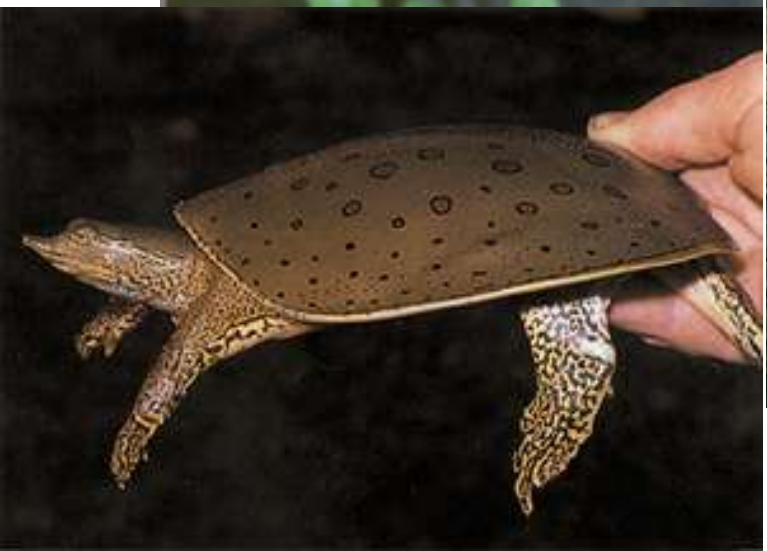
Red-eared slider, *Trachemys scripta elegans*

Family Kinosternidae

Eastern musk turtle, *Sternotherus odoratus*

Family Trionychidae

Eastern Spiny Softshell, *Apalone spinifera spinifera*



Family Scincidae

Five-lined skink, *Plestiodon fasciatus*

Family Teiidae

Six-lined racerunner,
Cnemidophorus sexlineatus

One population, Tuscola County (thumb)
T. – relict or introduced?

NAME THAT SNAKE!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

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10.

11.

12.

13.

Name that snake!

1. Blue racer, *Coluber constrictor foxii*
2. Northern Ring-necked snake, *Diadophis punctatus edwardsii*
3. Eastern hog-nosed snake, *Heterodon platirhinos*
4. Eastern milksnake, *Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum*
5. Copper-bellied water snake, *Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta*
6. Northern water snake, *Nerodia sipedon sipedon*
7. Smooth green snake, *Opheodrys vernalis*
8. Black ratsnake, *Pantherophis spiloides (*ex *Elaphe obsoleta*)
9. Eastern foxsnake, *Pantherophis gloydi* or Western foxsnake, *Pantherophis vulpinus*
10. Queen snake, *Regina septemvittata*
11. Dekay's Brownsnake, *Storeria dekayi*
12. Eastern Gartersnake, *Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*
13. Eastern massasauga, *Sistrurus catenatus catenatus*

Northern red-bellied snake, *Storeria occipitomaculata occipitomaculata*

Butler’s garter snake, *Thamnophis butleri*

Northern Ribbonsnake, *Thamnophis sauritus septentrionalis*

Kirtland's snake, *Clonophis kirtlandii*

E.