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# Inventory Methods for Pond-breeding Amphibians and Painted Turtle

Standards for Components of British Columbia's Biodiversity  
No. 37 (Version 2.0, March 1998)

## Errata No. 2 October 2008

This document is a compilation of revisions and additions to the *Inventory Methods for Pond-breeding Amphibians and Painted Turtle* (No. 37, Version 2.0, March 1998)<sup>1</sup>.

### Preface

*Add:*

All field work concerning pond breeding amphibians and painted turtle should follow the hygiene protocols set out in "*Interim Hygiene Protocols for Amphibian Field Staff and Researchers*".<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This document is located on the Resources Information Standards Committee (RISC) website at <http://ilmbwww.gov.bc.ca/risc/pubs/tebiodiv/index.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> This document is available at [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/frogwatch/amphibian\\_disease.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/wld/frogwatch/amphibian_disease.htm).

## **Section 3. PROTOCOLS**

### **Section 3.1 Sampling Standards**

#### **Section 3.1.2 Time of survey (Page 22):**

*Replace:*

In general, the best time to survey for amphibians is after a rainfall, during wet weather in the spring or fall. The start of the survey period should be dictated by the probable time of breeding of the species in the area of interest.

*With:*

In general, the best time to survey for migrating amphibians is after a rainfall, during wet weather in the spring or fall. Call surveys are best conducted during warm evenings in the breeding season of the particular species. The start of the survey period should be dictated by the probable time of breeding of the species in the area of interest.

#### **Section 3.1.3 Marking and Identification (Page 22):**

*Delete:*

Nevertheless, toe-clipping is the recommended method for most amphibians.

### **Section 3.3 Presence/Not detected**

#### **Section 3.3.1 Auditory surveys**

##### **Sampling Design (Pages 39-40):**

*Add:*

- A recent study shows that for a number of anurans, a listening duration of 15 minutes has been found to significantly increase detection efficiency compared to a listening duration of 5 minutes (Pierce and Gutzwiller 2004). This is especially true for anurans that call intermittently, such as Great Basin Spadefoots.

##### **Sampling Effort (Page 40):**

*Add:*

- The site visits should be evenly spaced through the breeding season of the target species and may vary according to region. For example, call surveys for Great Basin Spadefoots should start in early-April and extend to end of May in the south Okanagan, start in mid-April and extend to mid-June in the North Okanagan and south Thompson, and start after ice-off and extend to the end of June in the Cariboo.

### **Section 3.3.4 Systematic surveys**

#### **Field Procedures – Amphibians**

Capture (if required for identification or measurement) (Page 52):

*Add:*

- Wear nitrile or vinyl gloves when handling amphibians. Gloves should be changed between individual animals.

## **Literature Cited**

*Add:*

Pierce, B. A., and K. J. Gutzwiller. 2004. Auditory Sampling of Frogs: Detection Efficiency in Relation to Survey Duration. *Journal of Herpetology* 38: 495-500.