



National Park Service
Alaska Region Inventory & Monitoring Program
AMPHIBIAN FIELD FORM



Please provide as much information as possible, even if you are unsure of the species.

Date of observation _____ / _____ / _____ Time _____ : _____ am pm
month day year

Observer First Name _____ MI _____ Last _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

E-mail Address _____

Affiliation (please circle)

NPS Employee

Contractor

Volunteer

Park/Office/Organization: _____

Description of Animal(s) **Number of individuals observed** _____

Common Name _____

Genus/Species _____

Skin Color _____ Skin Texture _____

Body Length (cm) _____ Pupil Shape _____

Other description: _____

Growth Form (circle)

Egg **Larvae** **Tadpole** **Subadult** **Adult**

Other (describe) _____

Deformities Present? (circle) **Yes** **No**

If yes, please list them here: _____

Description of any observed behavior: _____

Have you identified this species before? (circle) **Yes** **No**
 Did you photograph this individual? (circle) **Yes** **No**
 Did you collect this individual for curation? (circle) **Yes** **No**
 Collection Information/ Location/ Number: _____

Weather/ Habitat

Temperature (deg C): _____ Cloud cover % _____
 Recent Precipitation? (circle) **Yes** **No** Raining/ Snowing? **Yes** **No**

Habitat type (circle)

freshwater pond / lake stream river wetland/bog
salt water/ estuarine other (please describe) _____

Additional Habitat Information: _____

Inventory & Monitoring Site Name: _____

Site Name: _____

Water-body Name (if different): _____

GPS Location

GPS Unit Type		Longitude	
Datum		Latitude	
EstHorizlError		Elev. (m)	
Accuracy Comments		Aspect	
		Slope	

Remarks _____

Yay, you're almost done! Please send this form and any related documents, photos, or maps to the address on the bottom of the page. Thank you for contributing your time and skills to this project!



FIELD FORM GUIDELINES

Please fill out all spaces on the form if applicable. This will ensure that your observations are recorded. If you have any questions or comments, please send them to the address or fax number on the bottom of the page. Photographs of observed species would be greatly appreciated and can be returned if requested.

This field data form is meant to accompany the Final NPS **Amphibians of Alaska Flashcards** developed by the Alaska Region Inventory and Monitoring Program. This project was funded by the Southeast Alaska Inventory and Monitoring Network, **Lewis Sharman** Network Lead, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Thank you to **Kirk Lohman**, NPS Regional Science Advisor and **Chad Soiseth**, Aquatic Biologist, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve for review and comments, as well as the numerous photographers who graciously allowed the use of their images for the flashcards.

Data Collection Instructions:

Description: Describe the animal as accurately as you can so we can identify it from your description if necessary. Characteristics to note include size/length, shape, color, pattern (e.g., striped, banded, blotched, or unicolor), skin texture (e.g., smooth, shiny, rough, scaled, etc.), pupil shape (round or elliptical), and presence or absence of limbs and tail. This helps to distinguish life stages. See the references below for more information on identifying characteristics.

Behavior: Behavioral descriptions are useful in identifying animals and are inherently interesting. For example, was the animal moving or still? Did it crawl or hop? Was it fast or slow? Was it trying to escape from you, or was it hunting or feeding? Did it vocalize? What did it sound like?

Location: Accurate locality information can greatly enhance the value of your observation. Please use a GPS unit for locations if possible, and note datum, unit name, etc... Please include the exact coordinates (latitude and longitude in NAD27 is preferred). Otherwise, try to describe the site so that someone else could relocate it from your directions. For example, in a small pond, 4.5 miles N and 3.3 miles east of a known landmark (lake, trail, etc.). Please include a map if needed.

Habitat: Describe the major cover type (forested [needleleaf, broadleaf, or mixed], non-forested [alpine, grassland, shrubland, or barren, etc.], riparian and wetland [forested or scrub, scrub riparian, marsh, estuary, pond/lake, etc.], or developed land [i.e. urban]). Also describe the immediate area around the animal (burrow, rotten log, talus slope, stream bank, etc.).

Weather: Please include ambient air temperature in C, percent cloud cover, and recent precipitation.

Remarks: Please include any other information you consider relevant.

Useful Sources

Altig, R., R.W. McDiarmid, K.A. Nichols and P.C. Ustach. Tadpoles of the United States and Canada: A Tutorial and Key. USGS Web Site: <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/tadpole/>

Hodge, Robert Parker. 1976. Amphibians and Reptiles in Alaska, the Yukon Territories and Northwest Territories. Anchorage: Alaska Northwest Publishing Company.

National Park Service, Final Alaska Amphibian Field Flashcards, Inventory and Monitoring Program, 2002. Blain Anderson, editor.

Richter, Klaus. 2000. How to identify salamanders and frogs in Puget Sound Lowlands. King County, Washington, Department of Natural Resources, Water and Land Division. Amphibian Web Site: <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wlr/waterres/amphibian/index.htm>.

Stebbins, Robert C. 1985. Western Reptiles and Amphibians. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.

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