

2014 End of Season Newsletter

October 2014

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Pickerel Frog
© M. Zielinski

Dear Recipient,

Another FrogWatch USA monitoring season has ended and it was a fantastic 16th year of the program! Online data entry and real-time exploration is now available to all. Based on data submitted to date, more than **12,500** unique species observations across over **850** stations were submitted by nearly **1,400** dedicated volunteers in 2014. Thank you to each and every volunteer and chapter coordinator for your contributions to this robust and important collection of data. We look forward to your continued participation in 2015!



Boreal Chorus Frog
© D. Kazyak

SUBMIT DATA ONLINE

FrogWatch USA observations are collected from February 1st through August 31st of each year. [Current volunteers](#) should ensure data from the 2014 season are entered and continue to practice frog call identification during the off season.

Enter data online using [FrogWatch-FieldScope](#), the online data entry and exploration tool developed in collaboration with National Geographic Education. Click "Enter Data" and log in to get started. Volunteers monitoring in 2014 for the first time will need to create an account to enter data and save maps and graphs. Click on "Login" in the upper-right corner, and follow the prompt to register for a new account.

Returning volunteers should already have a user account linked to the email address used when registering a FrogWatch USA site previously. Follow the instructions for a forgotten password when logging into the system for the first time. Consult the [online data entry handout](#), [data entry video tutorial](#), or email FrogWatch USA (frogwatch@aza.org) if additional assistance is needed. Volunteers may [email datasheet copies](#) or mail hard copies if needed.

[New To FieldScope? Click Here to Register.](#)

Email Address:

Password:

[Forgot Your Password? Click Here to Recover.](#)

Recovering your password requires navigating to a new page.
You will not be able to save any work in progress.

Log In

Continue Without Logging In



EXPLORE THE DATA

FrogWatch USA data have been collected since 1998 and wetland monitoring sites have been registered in every state. Data from the 2014 season are available in real time and historic data from 1999-2002 and 2010-2013 have been imported and are available online. Historic data from 2003-2009 will be available by the year's end. Use the powerful mapping and graphing tools to explore the data on your own. The following links will take you to templates that can be used to answer interesting research questions and guide you through some of the available mapping

and graphing tools:

- [Map Templates](#)
- [Graph Templates](#)

You are encouraged to customize each map or graph based on your own interests, and to share them with your family, friends, and other FrogWatch USA volunteers. Maps and graphs are an invaluable way to visualize data, examine frog and toad patterns over the years, and see how species are distributed across states.



Green Treefrog
© R.D. Bartlett

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do you have any questions or need help entering and exploring FrogWatch USA data? Video tutorials and instructional handouts are available on the [Current FrogWatch Volunteers](#) page and from the [FieldScope Help](#) section. These tutorials include information on how to enter observations, map data, and create graphs.

Local FrogWatch USA chapter coordinators are a great resource as well! Currently, there are **118** chapters in **39** states. If you are unaffiliated with a chapter but would like to join one, please refer to the list on the [Become a FrogWatch USA Volunteer](#) page or refer to the [online chapter map](#).

In 2014 nearly 180 enriching volunteer training opportunities were held across the nation. Email frogwatch@aza.org if you would like an introduction to a local chapter coordinator or if there is not a chapter nearby.

Welcome to our newly established chapters in 2014:

- Baton Rouge Zoo FrogWatch (LA)
- Bergen County Zoo FrogWatch (NJ)
- Connecticut River Valley FrogWatch (MA)
- Downeast Lakes FrogWatch (ME)
- FrogWatch Utica (NY)
- Great Plains FrogWatch (SD)
- Lower Penobscot FrogWatch (ME)
- Mid-Coast Maine FrogWatch (ME)
- MidSouth FrogWatch (TN)
- Miller Park Zoo FrogWatch (IL)
- Minot FrogWatch (ND)
- Mount Desert Island FrogWatch Chapter (ME)
- North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences FrogWatch (NC)
- North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council Frogwatch (OR)
- Northark FrogWatch USA (AR)
- Pacific Northwest - Edmonds FrogWatch (WA)
- Quoddy Region FrogWatch Chapter (ME)
- Sandy Creek FrogWatchers (GA)
- Southwest Waldo FrogWatch Chapter (ME)
- The Virginia Living Museum FrogWatch Chapter (VA)
- WAVE Foundation at the Newport Aquarium FrogWatch (KY)
- Western North Carolina Nature Center FrogWatch (NC)



WHAT CAN I DO BETWEEN SEASONS?

There are a variety of other citizen science programs with data collection in the fall and winter that need your help! One example is [Project BudBurst](#), which monitors seasonal changes in plant life year-round. This free, countrywide program is open to individuals of all ages and abilities. Like FrogWatch USA, Project BudBurst utilizes [FieldScope](#) to engage its volunteers in visualizing data.

You can also locate additional [FieldScope Projects](#) and other citizen science projects in need of your help using [Citizen Science Central](#). Keep your FrogWatch USA skills fresh by practicing frog and toad call identification using the [USGS Frog Call Quiz](#) and other call resources on the [Current FrogWatch USA Volunteers](#) page, and by reviewing the [FrogWatch USA protocol](#). You can also follow FrogWatch USA through social media by clicking on the links under "Stay Connected".

Stay Connected



Spring Peeper
© L. Powers

Thank you all once again for a terrific year! FrogWatch USA is not possible without your support, involvement, and hard work. Have a wonderful winter and see you again in February for the start of the 2015 FrogWatch USA season!

Sincerely,

The AZA FrogWatch USA Team

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