

Herps

Survey Plan

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SURVEY PLAN HERPS: DRAFT 2/27/09

The survey will document presence of frogs, turtles, lizards and snakes. Techniques include intensive visual searches. The habitats to be surveyed include upland and floodplain, mostly on the north side of the creek.

A local group of citizen scientists who are certified in the Amphibian Watch program periodically provide training sessions. If you are interested in attending a workshop and joining the monitoring team, you can learn more at:

<http://grovesite.com/page.asp?o=tmn&s=bv&p=141112>

College Station wants to know how the diversity of herps changes over time. The drainage patterns and vegetation types are changing in Lick Creek Park. The park is becoming more of an isolated fragment of habitat as subdivisions are developed around the periphery. The floods on the creeks are carrying higher volumes of water for shorter periods.

1. How does each species use the upland and lowland habitat in times of flood/drought?
2. What species do we no longer find in the park, which used to be here (locally extinct)?
3. What invasive species are coming into the park attracted by human activities?
4. What new native species have moved into the park, which we did not record previously?
5. What herp species might be sensitive to human activities in this park?
6. What is the expected home range size of each species, does it fit within the park?
7. What species might be a safety risk to park visitors?