

AMPHIBIAN SURVEYS IN THE GREATER YELLOWSTONE ECOSYSTEM, 2001

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INTRODUCTION

During mid-summer of 2001, I spent three weeks as a volunteer surveying for amphibians in and adjacent to Yellowstone National Park (YNP). David Corkran was the scout, data recorder, site photographer, and occasional surveyor. Tory and Meredith Taylor were amphibian surveyors and horsepackers for the final week of our work. Our efforts were part of a project to characterize amphibian species distribution and abundance within the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE), by surveys to identify breeding sites. Principal investigators are Debra Patla and Dr. Charles Peterson at Idaho State University. The project is part of the U. S. Department of Interior's Amphibian Research and Monitoring Initiative (ARMI). Generous grants from the Sierra Club Foundation and the Northwest Ecological Research Institute (NERI), and partial reimbursement of expenses from the ARMI budget, helped defray most of our direct costs for the project, particularly the outfitter fees for the horsepack trip. This report summarizes all of our work, but focuses on the final week of surveys for which the two grants were received.

Figure 5. a.) Horsepacking (and hiking) to the Two Ocean Plateau.



Figure 5. b.) Chipmunk Creek watershed and Table Mtn.



Figure 6. a.) Surveying wetland bench along Upper Chipmunk Creek.



Figure 6. b.) Columbia spotted frog.



Figure 7. a.) Boreal chorus frog.



Figure 7. b.) Western toad.

