

AMPHIBIAN & REPTILE SURVEYS SCAPPOOSE WATERSHED – 2011

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NERI Report 11-02

ABSTRACT – Working with local agencies, groups and citizens, the Northwest Ecological Research Institute (NERI) conducted surveys in 2011 in the Scappoose Bay Watershed for reptile and amphibian species, several of which are declining in Oregon due to a number of factors. The 2011 field surveys were the first known formal herpetological inventory conducted in the watershed to collect information on species presence and habitat use on public and privately owned lands. All of the native pond-breeding amphibian species, including the northern red-legged frog, were documented during surveys on both private and public lands. Of the two native turtles species, western painted turtles were observed during surveys but no western pond turtles were found. In addition, habitat assessments were conducted in order to help determine where habitat restoration was needed. Overall, the information collected from surveys will assist the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council (SBWC) in their efforts to assess watershed health and conduct restoration activities and will contribute to filling in some of the data gaps addressed in the Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS).