

Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Survey

RIGHT OF ENTRY AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AGREEMENT

The Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Survey (PARS) is a statewide program to document the presence of amphibians and reptiles throughout Pennsylvania.

The Mid-Atlantic Center for Herpetology and Conservation (MACHAC), in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), is conducting a 10-year atlas of the amphibians and reptiles of Pennsylvania beginning in 2013. The purpose of this project is to update historical distributions and establish a baseline for future efforts to detect change in regional distributions. Understanding patterns of change at the regional scale is necessary for land managers, regulators, and citizens to make choices that conserve the herpetofauna of the State. Final survey results will be compiled into a publication.

PARS has recruited professionals and trained enthusiasts to volunteer and visit locations throughout the state to search for these animals. Searching methods involve driving along roads looking for crossing or dead animals, listening for calling frogs, and walking and actively searching for amphibians and reptiles. The majority of animals will be hiding, so survey crews are also requesting permission to flip logs, rocks, and other debris, and will be sure to return these objects as close as possible to their original positions. For proper identification purposes, some animals may need to be photographed or collected. Surveys are expected to take a minimum of thirty minutes but could last multiple hours. For exceptionally large properties, two or more surveys might be requested.

This agreement is intended to allow project volunteers access to private property and to release and hold harmless the private property owner from liability arising from that access. You may grant survey crews permission to enter your property and conduct all or only some of these activities. Please specify restrictions to survey methods or time spent on the property.

Property owners: _____

Address: _____

Contact Information _____ *(optional)*

USGS Quadrant / Block:

Crew Leader:

Site Name:

Access Granted?

Yes No

Restrictions to survey or other instructions from land owner:

Permission is hereby given for the volunteer(s) listed above to enter private property for the purposes of accomplishing the survey on stated date. In addition, those volunteer(s) named above do hereby release, hold harmless and forever discharge the private property owner named above, and MACHAC, from any and all liability for any damage, injury, or loss which may be sustained as a result of their entry onto the private lands described in this agreement.

Signature of landowner:

_____ Date: _____

Signature of PARS representative:

_____ Date: _____