

Carlsbad Caverns

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Carlsbad Caverns National Park
New Mexico



Checklist of Amphibians and Reptiles of Carlsbad Caverns National Park *January 2007*



Class: AMPHIBIA

ANURA: Frogs and toads

PELOBATIDAE: North American spadefoots

Scaphiopus couchii Couch's spadefoot*
Spea multiplicata New Mexico spadefoot*

BUFONIDAE: True toads

Bufo cognatus Great Plains toad*
Bufo debilis insidiosus green toad*
Bufo punctatus red-spotted toad*
Bufo speciosus Texas toad*

HYLIDAE: Treefrogs

Acris crepitans blanchardi cricket frog (extirpated from park)

RANIDAE: True frogs

Rana berlandieri Rio Grande leopard frog*
Rana catesbeiana American bullfrog (I)*

Class: REPTILIA

TESTUDINES: Turtles

EMYDIDAE: Box and water turtles

Pseudemys gorzugi Rio Grande cooter*
Terrapene ornata ornata ornate box turtle*
Trachemys scripta elegans red-eared slider

KINOSTERNIDAE: Mud and musk turtles

Kinosternon flavescens yellow mud turtle

SQUAMATA: Lizards and snakes

Suborder Sauria: Lizards

CROTAPHYTIDAE: Collared and leopard lizards

Crotaphytus collaris eastern collared lizard*

PHRYNOSOMATIDAE: Horned and spiny lizards

Cophosaurus texanus scitulus Chihuahuan greater earless lizard*
Phrynosoma cornutum Texas horned lizard*
Phrynosoma modestum round-tailed horned lizard*
Sceloporus cowlesi southwestern fence lizard*
Sceloporus poinsettii poinsettii northern crevice spiny lizard*
Sceloporus undulatus consobrinus southern prairie lizard*
Urosaurus ornatus schmidti Big Bend tree lizard*
Uta stansburiana stejnegeri eastern side-blotched lizard*

GEKKONIDAE: Geckos

Coleonyx brevis Texas banded gecko

TEIIDAE: Whiptails and racerunners

Aspidoscelis exsanguis Chihuahuan spotted whiptail*

Aspidoscelis gularis gularis Texas spotted whiptail*

Aspidoscelis inornatus heptagrammus Trans-Pecos striped whiptail*

Aspidoscelis tessellatus common checkered whiptail*

Cnemidophorus grahamii checkered whiptail

SCINCIDAE: Skinks

Eumeces multivirgatus epipleurotus variable skink*

Eumeces obsoletus Great Plains skink*

Suborder Serpentes: Snakes

LEPTOTYPHLOPIDAE: Threadsnakes

Leptotyphlops dulcis dissectus New Mexico threadsnake*

COLUBRIDAE: Colubrid snakes

Bogertophis subocularis subocularis Trans-Pecos ratsnake*

Diadophis punctatus ring-necked snake*

Elaphe guttata emoryi Great Plains ratsnake*

Gyalopion canum Chihuahuan hook-nosed snake*

Heterodon nasicus kennerlyi Mexican hog-nosed snake*

Hypsiglena torquata jani Texas nightsnake*

Lampropeltis alterna gray-banded kingsnake*

Lampropeltis getula splendida desert kingsnake

Masticophis flagellum testaceus western coachwhip*

Masticophis taeniatus desert striped whipsnake*

Nerodia erythrogaster transversa water snake

Pituophis catenifer affinis Sonoran gopher snake*

Pituophis melanoleucus bullsnake, gopher snake

Rhinocheilus lecontei tessellates Texas long-nosed snake*

Salvadora deserticola Big Bend patch-nosed snake

Salvadora grahamiae grahamiae mountain patch-nosed snake*

Sonora semiannulata semiannulata variable groundsnake*

Tantilla hobartsmithi southwestern black-headed snake*

Thamnophis cyrtopsis cyrtopsis western black-necked gartersnake*

Thamnophis marcianus marcianus Marcy's checkered garter snake

VIPERIDAE: Vipers

Crotalus atrox western diamond-backed rattlesnake*

Crotalus lepidus lepidus mottled rock rattlesnake*

Crotalus molossus molossus northern black-tailed rattlesnake*

54 species

* = documented in the 2003-04 park inventory

“(I)” = introduced species to Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Black-tailed rattlesnake photograph, NPS 2003.

Nomenclature mostly follows the list of standard English and current scientific names for amphibians and reptiles of New Mexico compiled by Charles W. Painter and James N. Stuart *in*: Stuart, J.N. 2003. A Supplemental Bibliography of Herpetology in New Mexico.

Species Possible in Park or that Need Verification

CLASS AMPHIBIA

ORDER CAUDATA – Salamanders

Ambystomatidae

Ambystoma tigrinum tiger salamander

ORDER ANURA – Frogs and Toads

Bufoiadae

Bufo woodhousii Woodhouse’s toad

Leptodactylidae

Eleutherodactylus augusti eastern barking frog

Microphylidae

Gastrophryne olivacea Great Plains narrowmouth toad

Scaphiopodidae

Spea bombifrons plains spadefoot

Ranidae

Rana blairi plains leopard frog

CLASS REPTILA

ORDER TESTUDINES – Turtles

Chelydridae

Chelydra serpentina snapping turtle

Emydidae

Chrysemys picta painted turtle

Trionychida

Trionyx spiniferus spiny softshell (*Apalone spinifera*)

ORDER SQUAMATA – Lizards and Snakes

SUBORDER SAURIA – Lizards

Crotaphytidae

Gambelia wislizenii longnose leopard lizard

Phrynosomatidae

Holbrookia maculata lesser earless lizard

Phrynosoma douglasii mountain short-horned lizard

Sceloporus magister desert spiny lizard

Teiidae

Cnemidophorus tigris western whiptail

SUBORDER SERPENTES - Snakes

Colubridae

Arizona elegans glossy snake

Coluber constrictor racer

Heterodon nasicus western hognose snake

Lampropeltis triangulum milksnake

Liochlorophis vernalis smooth green snake
(*Opheodrys vernalis*)

Tantilla nigriceps plains black-headed snake

Thamnophis proximus western ribbon snake

Thamnophis sirtalis common garter snake

Trimorphodon biscutatus lyre snake

Leptotyphlopidae

Leptotyphlops humilis western blind snake

Viperidae

Crotalus scutulatus Mojave rattlesnake

Crotalus viridis western rattlesnake

Sistrurus catenatus massasauga