

RESULTS OF THE SPRING 2002 KHS FIELD TRIP

The spring 2002 KHS field trip to the Cimarron National Grasslands in Morton County, Kansas, was held from 31 May to 2 June 2002 amidst the blazing sun and sweltering heat that only a desert grassland in June can generate.

Despite the weather, over fifty hardy participants gathered that weekend to search for the (still) elusive Green Toad and other amphibians, turtles, and reptiles. And the number found and observed was more than adequate. Eighteen species were encountered; over 200 specimens were seen. There was a lot of night cruising.

Participants were: Lucia Baldwin, Mary Kate Baldwin, Alex Bergman, Jason Bird, Dan Carpenter, Cassie Carter,

Mike Cass, Phillip Cass, Audrey Chamberlain, Keith Coleman, Joseph T. Collins, Suzanne L. Collins, Garrett Dean, Ken Dean, Mark Ellis, James Gubanyi, Calen Henderson, Daniel Hoffman, Guy Huey, David Humenczuk, John Humenczuk, Dan Johnson, Dustin Johnson, Eric Kessler, James Markley, Debra May, Larry L. Miller, Suzanne Miller, Dan Murrow, David Oldham, Jackson Oldham, Robin Oldham, Tag Oldham, Dale Randall, Colleen Riley, Mike Rochford, Eloise Schafer, Mark Schafer, Curtis Schmidt, Kathy Shidler, Andy Sindorf, Arthur Smith, Chris Smith, Eddy Stegall, Savilla Stegall, John Stoklosa, Travis W. Taggart, Jeremy Washburne, Mike Washburne, Bob Zurwekh, Mike Zurwekh.

The count for the trip (compliments of Mary Kate Baldwin and Eric Kessler):

<i>Species</i> .....	<i>Number Observed</i>
<b>SALAMANDERS</b>	
Barred Tiger Salamander ( <i>Ambystoma mavortium</i> ) .....	±50 larvae & 1 adult
<b>FROGS</b>	
Woodhouse's Toad ( <i>Bufo woodhousii</i> ) .....	3
Plains Leopard Frog ( <i>Rana blairi</i> ) .....	2
Bullfrog ( <i>Rana catesbeiana</i> ) .....	±50 larvae & ±10 adults
<b>TURTLES</b>	
Common Snapping Turtle ( <i>Chelydra serpentina</i> ) .....	1
Yellow Mud Turtle ( <i>Kinosternon flavescens</i> ) .....	±15
Ornate Box Turtle ( <i>Terrepenne ornata</i> ) .....	22
<b>LIZARDS</b>	
Texas Horned Lizard ( <i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i> ) .....	8
Prairie Lizard ( <i>Sceloporus consobrinus</i> ) .....	1
Great Plains Skink ( <i>Eumeces obsoletus</i> ) .....	1
Six-lined Racerunner ( <i>Aspidoscelis sexlineata</i> ) .....	9
<b>SNAKES</b>	
Western Hognose Snake ( <i>Heterodon nasicus</i> ) .....	3
Eastern Glossy Snake ( <i>Arizona elegans</i> ) .....	11
Eastern Racer ( <i>Coluber constrictor</i> ) .....	4
Gopher Snake ( <i>Pituophis catenifer</i> ) .....	13
Longnose Snake ( <i>Rhinocheilus lecontei</i> ) .....	1
Plains Garter Snake ( <i>Thamnophis radix</i> ) .....	1
Prairie Rattlesnake ( <i>Crotalus viridis</i> ) .....	7
Number of Species .....	18
Number of Specimens .....	±213





Participants at the KHS spring 2002 field trip to the Cimarron National Grassland in Morton County, Kansas, gather for the traditional group photograph at the campground. Photograph by Larry L. Miller.



KHS field trip participants plot the best roads to cruise after nightfall. By using this hunting technique, many snakes were observed on the Cimarron National Grassland. Photograph by Larry L. Miller.



The Cimarron National Grassland were not completely dry this year, and the sight of water was too much for the students to resist. Photograph by Larry L. Miller.