



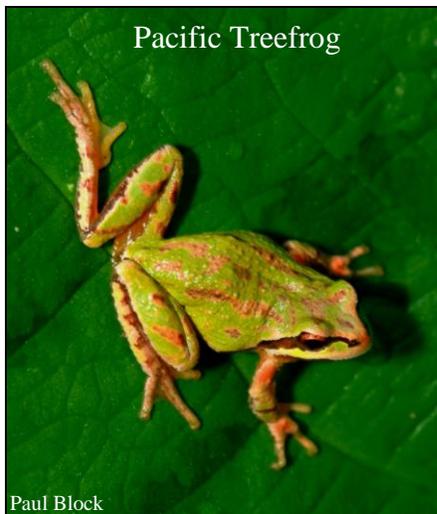
DoD Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

What is DoD PARC?

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) program launched in 2009 to provide leadership, guidance, and support for the conservation and management of amphibians and reptiles on DoD lands in ways that help sustain the military's testing, training and operational mission activities. DoD PARC is voluntary, proactive, and non-regulatory, and consists of military and civilian personnel.

DoD PARC Mission Statement

In support of military readiness, DoD PARC strives to sustain amphibian and reptile populations and their habitats through proactive management, conservation, stewardship, outreach, and partnerships.



DoD PARC Program Goals

- Provide sound, science-based strategies, tools, and information for managing amphibian and reptile populations that can be incorporated into existing natural resources and land management programs.
- Reduce or eliminate population declines of both common and at-risk species, thus helping preclude or minimize Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listings and critical habitat designations.
- Provide outreach tools to the military community, natural resources managers, and other partners to promote collaborative efforts that increase understanding of mission and conservation compatibility.

- Promote awareness, involvement, communication, and coordination both within DoD and among national, regional, and local experts to achieve DoD mission and stewardship goals.



How DoD PARC Benefits the Military Mission

DoD PARC enhances military readiness by promoting healthy landscapes that support long-term testing and training requirements. In addition, the Program increases the effectiveness of resource management on DoD lands through the development of proactive, science-based conservation and management strategies and tools such as *The Strategic Plan for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation and Management on Department of Defense Lands*, a photo website, *Amphibian and Reptile Biodiversity on United States Department of Defense Installations* report and our online training modules (see Accomplishments below).

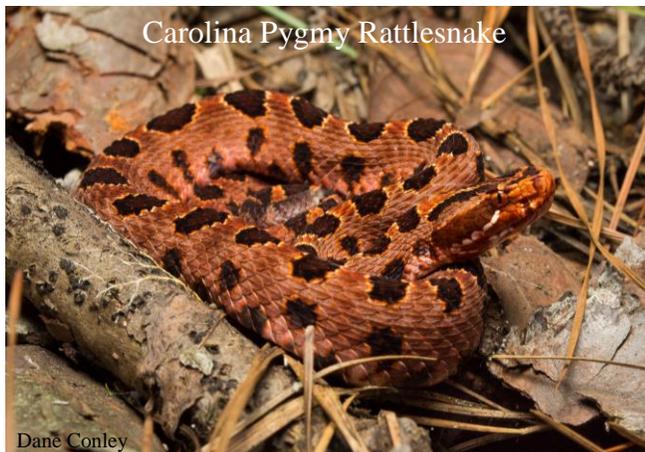
DoD PARC increases communication and partnerships among the DoD community, facilitates collaborative implementation of guidance and problem solving, and saves money by sharing costs across the Military Services and with our non-DoD partners. The Program helps to conserve the nation's biological heritage by developing partnerships that work across boundaries to help prevent species declines, which in turn helps DoD avoid mission restrictions and increases mission flexibility.



Accomplishments

The Strategic Plan for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation and Management on Department of Defense Lands – This plan, which DoD released in 2015, describes strategies and priorities to inform and enhance DoD’s natural resources management activities, and is intended to help natural resources managers better address the conservation and protection of amphibians and reptiles and their habitats; help installations comply with the ESA and the National Environmental Policy Act; and help Commanders and resource managers achieve mission objectives.

DoD PARC Photo Website – This [photo website](#) serves as a platform to share pictures of herpetofauna and their habitats for use in presentations, Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMPs), posters, pamphlets, signs, etc. Group members have added more than 1,700 pictures to the website-more than half of all amphibian and reptile species found in the U.S. We use pictures from the photo website on the amphibian and reptile educational fact sheets that we distribute to group members every two weeks.



Amphibian and Reptile Biodiversity on United States Department of Defense Installations Report – As of 2017, we have updated the herpetofauna species lists for approximately 415 military properties, and used these data to analyze the biodiversity of herpetofauna on military lands. Results indicate that DoD lands are home to 63 percent of all native herpetofauna species and 45 percent of all federally-listed herpetofauna species in the continental U.S. The final report can be downloaded at: <http://www.dodnaturalresources.net/PARC-Resources.html>

Training Modules – In partnership with the Navy, we developed seven online educational training modules about amphibians and reptiles. These modules provide military natural resources personnel a general understanding of herpetofauna biology, ecology, survey techniques, management, and conservation practices. For example, we developed a *Venomous Snake Safety and Removal Techniques* video to train personnel about how to properly and safely remove venomous snakes from military training or housing areas. All the training modules are available to both military and civilian personnel at the Navy’s Environmental Compliance, Assessment, Training and Tracking System (ECATTS) website (<https://environmentaltraining.ecatts.com/>).

Additional Products and Resources:

- Scope of Work Template for Amphibian and Reptile Inventories
- Guidelines for Updating and Enhancing Amphibians and Reptiles Sections of INRMPs
- Library of DoD Herpetofauna Reports
- Educational fact sheets on amphibian and reptiles species on DoD properties

For more information on DoD PARC and to download our products and resources, please visit us at (<http://www.dodnaturalresources.net/DoD-PARC.html>).

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