

Wayne R. Wauligman
Jerome D. Lippert
2759 Country Woods Lane
Cincinnati, Ohio 45248-5037

November 8, 1995

John Klein
Hamilton County Parks
10245 Winton Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

Dear John:

Enclosed are the 1995 herpetology field notes for the Miami Whitewater Park wetlands area. Please note the help given by Charlie Saunders.

Breeding reptiles and amphibians in 1995 were the snapping turtle, painted turtle, eastern garter snake, bullfrog, green frog, Blanchard's cricket frog, gray tree frog, spring peeper, American toad and Fowler's toad. All the frog and toad populations appear to be increasing in numbers. Not only were there more ponds present with the creation of Phase 4, but this year was a wet one, with most of Phases 1 and 3 having water present throughout the Summer.

Bullfrogs metamorphosized in the Phase 1 pond at the bike path and the Phase 2 pond along Baughman Road. These were the only two ponds to hold water year round last year. This may change this year with most of Phases 1 and 3 holding water year round. Furthermore, adult males were found in the Phase 4 pond nearest to New Haven Road. This last location also held water throughout the Summer. The increase in bullfrogs will result in increased predation on other frogs, baby snakes, small mammals and birds, such as the baby wood duck seen in Phase 4 near the adult bullfrogs. Conversely, large birds, snakes, turtles and mammals such as mink will eat the bullfrogs. Once northern water snakes breed here, they will rapidly increase in population since they have a voracious appetite for bullfrog larvae.

Green frog metamorphs were also numerous this year, having lived for the last year in the same ponds as the bullfrogs. One exception was the 30' X 5' pond located between Baughman Road and the dike to the Phase 2 pond. It held water throughout the Summer, although shallow, and if it doesn't dry this Fall, many green frogs will come from here. Incidentally, frogs, toads and birds have been road kill in this section of Baughman Road. On May 29 a female painted turtle crossing the road almost was hit.

As predicted last year, there were incredible numbers of cricket frogs everywhere. The fewest seen were around the dike at Phase 2 where numerous green frogs and bullfrogs will eat them. Everywhere else they would disperse as a wave of jumping frogs as we walked. They were especially numerous at pond edges where there were no larger frogs. This large number of a food source should attract predators such as bitterns, herons, grebes, gulls, owls, rails and shorebirds. The predators that feed on these birds and their young will also be more noticeable.

On July 30, when cricket frog larvae and metamorphs were very numerous, none were found in the middle of Phase 3! With one to two feet of water, this area was free of cattails but choked with water plantain. No amphibians at all were present. They congregated all around the edges of Phase 3.

At the new pond in Phase 1 excavated this Summer along the north side of the dirt road, Fowler's toads will breed here extensively next year. In the cattail clogged Phases 1 and 3 ponds located on both sides of the dirt road, Fowler's toads will not breed. They depend upon sunny, open, shallow areas for breeding. This year many larvae developed in the new Phase 4 section with its drying, open and sunny ponds. None bred in the shallows of the Howard Creek oxbow pond this year. Last year they did, but this section of the pond was bulldozed the year before. Vegetation has now covered the mud at this shallow section. Eventually, if all the wetland pools and ponds become clogged with cattails and other vegetation, Fowler's toads will not be present. However, they'll continue to breed in low numbers in sunny, shallow pools of Dry Fork Creek. Thus, future bulldozing to remove cattails and other vegetation will be the only way to keep Fowler's toads here in significant numbers.

American toad, spring peeper, treefrog and cricket frog larvae were numerous in the new Phase 4 wetlands.

As judged by the aquatic insects present, the water quality of all the wetlands is excellent. However, drainage to Phases 2, 3 and 4 comes from the west. This source of the water for the wetlands is subject to future pollution from the existing farm fields located close by and especially from the inevitable development. Sewers, if present in the future, will overflow. Septic systems, with their leach fields, will drain toward the wetlands. Farm and lawn chemicals will seep into the water. Increased road, driveway and sidewalk drainage will result in more auto and household chemicals and salt in the runoff. If future land purchases are to be made, these fields to the west of the Phase 1-4 wetlands should be purchased. If so, please maintain the grassy field with violets at the former C. G. & E. substation site, as this will preserve the meadow fritillary butterfly present here.

In summary, reptile and amphibian populations have increased due to more habitat being created as well as more adults present from prior years. The wetter than average season also helped. With these large numbers of a food source, we can expect to find an increase in predators, and thus a constantly changing ecological balance. The changing vegetation also has its effect.

No new species of reptiles and amphibians were found in 1995, but 1996 brings new hope they will appear and flourish under the protection of the Hamilton County Park district.

**MIAMI WHITEWATER PARK: RESTORED WETLANDS
1995 HERPETOLOGICAL SURVEY**

HOURS IN FIELD: 30.75

8:00PM-10:00PM	04-17-95	2.0
3:30PM-5:30PM	04-19-95	2.0
8:30PM-10:30PM	05-06-95	2.0
9:30AM-12:00PM	05-29-95	2.5
8:30AM-11:00AM	06-17-95	2.5
7:45PM-10:00PM	07-06-95	2.25
9:00PM-10:00PM	07-29-95	1.0
6:45AM-12:00PM	07-30-95	5.25
9:30AM-11:30AM	08-05-95	2.0
7:30AM-8:30AM	08-09-95	1.0
5:15PM-9:30PM	09-20-95	4.25
6:15PM-8:45PM	10-04-95	2.5
2:30PM-4:00PM	10-15-95	1.5

1995 MIAMI WHITEWATER PARK WETLANDS HERP SURVEY

GENUS	SPECIES	DATE	ST COUNTY	FIELD ID #
Pseudacris	crucifer	04-17-95	OH Hamilton	MWPWT95001
Miami Whitewater Park wetlands				
68°F, cloudy, humid evening			8-10PM; 2 hrs	
Flood plain				
TNTC				
M				
Adults				
Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW				
Phase IV between Baughman and New Haven Roads had numerous spring peepers. Even in the ponds that were just flooded mudflats were they present. They were particularly numerous in the wooded section. On the north side of Baughman, calling male spring peepers were also everywhere, although less numerous at the deeper section near the bullfrogs, which presumably would eat them. No spring peeper larvae were seen yet. No females were seen. Photos were taken.				
Rana	catesbeiana	04-17-95	OH Hamilton	MWPWT95002
Miami Whitewater Park wetlands				
68°F, cloudy, humid evening			8-10PM; 2 hrs	
Flood plain				
45				
Adults, juveniles, 1 larva				
Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW				
Three juveniles were found in the flooded trench by Phase IV south of Baughman Road. One adult male was calling on the north side. Two others were seen in the small pond behind the deep one north of Baughman. All others were in the main deep water pond along Baughman. The one larva was also seen in this pond.				
Rana	clamitans	04-17-95	OH Hamilton	MWPWT95003
Miami Whitewater Park wetlands				
68°F, cloudy, humid evening			8-10PM; 2 hrs	
Flood plain				
4				
M				
Adults				
Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW				
These four were heard calling from the main, deep water pond north of Baughman Road.				
Hyla	chrysoscelis	04-17-95	OH Hamilton	MWPWT95004
Miami Whitewater Park wetlands				
68°F, cloudy, humid evening			8-10PM; 2 hrs	
Flood plain				
5				
M				
Adults				
Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW				
These five were heard calling from different areas. One was in Phase IV south of Baughman Rd. Three were calling from the wooded section just north of Baughman at the main pond. Another was calling and photographed in the small pond just north of the main Baughman Rd wetland.				
Bufo	americanus	04-17-95	OH Hamilton	MWPWT95005
Miami Whitewater Park wetlands				
68°F, cloudy, humid evening			8-10PM; 2 hrs	
Flood plain				
TNTC				
M, 1 F				

Adults

Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW

About 20 were heard in the new Phase IV wetlands. One female was found here and photographed. More were calling from the areas north of Baughman and were unestimable. Our walk was from Phase IV to the two ponds north of Baughman Rd. Several photographs of chorusing males were made. No egg masses were found.

Bufo fowlerii 04-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95006

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

68°F, cloudy, humid evening

8-10PM; 2 hrs

Flood plain

12

M

Adults

Jerry and Pam Lippert, WRW

Two males were heard calling south of Baughman from the newer Phase IV wetlands. The other ten were calling from the small pond just north of the deeper pond north of Baughman Rd. Photos were taken

Acris crepitans 04-19-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95007

MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3

72°F, brilliant sun

3:30-5:30 PM; 2 hrs
(included in

Created wetlands on old flood plain

30

F, M

Adults, juveniles

Whitney Wauligman, WRW

One female was found, 10 juveniles were seen, and 19 or so males were calling. Water levels are down lower than seen before for this time of year.

Pseudacris crucifer 04-19-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95008

MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3

72°F, brilliant sun

3:30-5:30 PM; 2 hrs
(included in

Created wetlands on old flood plain

1

Larva

Whitney Wauligman, WRW

One small spring peeper larva was seen while releasing spotted salamander eggs and larvae. I'm sure there are many more. No green frogs or bullfrogs were calling during this period of brilliant sun and high wind.

Acris crepitans 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95009

MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3

70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky

8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
(included in

Created wetlands on old flood plain

TNTC

M

Adults

Jerry Lippert, WRW

Before the sun set, cricket frogs were calling from all over. Even when walking at the water's edge, numerous ones jumped away. This is the most number of cricket frogs we've heard anywhere at any time. Interestingly, after dusk they became almost silent. The spring peepers then picked up and we only heard one cricket frog calling as we left.

Rana clamitans 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95010
 MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3
 70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky 8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
 (included in
 Created wetlands on old flood plain
 15 M
 Adults calling
 Jerry Lippert, WRW
 Before and after the sun set green frogs called periodically.

Bufo woodhousii 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95011
 MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3
 70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky 8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
 (included in
 Created wetlands on old flood plain
 TNTC Males calling
 Adult, eggs
 Jerry Lippert, WRW
 These Fowler toads called non-stop before and after dusk. The eggs
 were found in a 3 inch deep section near some white research buckets
 on the east side of Phase 1.

Bufo americanus 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95012
 MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3
 70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky 8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
 (included in
 Created wetlands on old flood plain
 1 Male calling
 Adult
 Jerry Lippert, WRW
 This one American toad calling was the only one heard. It is near the
 end of their breeding season and at the peak for the Fowler toads.

Rana catesbeiana 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95013
 MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3
 70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky 8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
 (included in
 Created wetlands on old flood plain
 1 Male calling
 Adult
 Jerry Lippert, WRW
 This one bullfrog called after dusk.

Hyla chrysoscelis 05-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95014
 MWP wetlands Phase 1 and 3
 70°F and dropping, evening and clear sky 8:30-10:30 PM; 2 hrs
 (included in
 Created wetlands on old flood plain
 10 Males calling
 Adults
 Jerry Lippert, WRW
 These tree frogs were calling mostly from the dike area between Phase
 1 and 3. Their eggs will be laid to float on top of the water in a
 small roundish mass unlike the spring peepers which lay strands on the
 bottom.

Chrysemys picta 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95015
 Miami Whitewater Park wetlands
 70°F, raining 9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands, Phase 2

1

F

Adult

WRW

This adult female painted turtle was crossing Baughman Road toward the north side where the deeper pond is located. It was covered with seven leeches. It was moved to the pond edge.

Rana clamitans 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95016

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

7

M

Adults

WRW

These green frogs were calling from the wetland pond north of Baughman Road (phase 2). None were calling from the south side.

Rana catesbeiana 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95017

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

30

Males calling

Adults, sub-adults, juv.

WRW

These bullfrogs were seen jumping in the wetland pond north of Baughman Road. About 3 adult males were calling from the same area. One was found on the south side of Baughman in the newest wetland there.

Pseudacris crucifer 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95018

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

TNTC

Larvae and recent metamorphs

WRW

Spring peeper larvae were in every wet area, including a ten foot cattail pond north of Baughman Rd. Many were leaving the water and were found in the field north of Baughman Rd. It was surprising to see the long tails still present on the ones out in the field. Larvae were found south of Baughman, but with the recent rains raising the level of the water there, the larvae were more dispersed.

Acris crepitans 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95019

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

20

M

Adults

WRW

Even last year's metamorphs are now adult size. About ten were heard calling, and another ten were seen as we walked around. None were heard on the south side of Baughman, but I presume they are there.

Bufo woodhousii 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95020

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

TNTC,1

F

Adult Female and tntc larvae

WRW

In the pond north of the main Baughman Rd pond were many recently hatched Fowler toad larvae. Likewise in the second pond south of Baughman. The one adult female was found on the horse trail south of Baughman Road and next to the bike path.

Thamnophis sirtalis 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95021

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

1

Sub-adult

WRW

This garter snake was on top of the piece of wood 50 feet north of Baughman Rd and 20 feet west of the bike path. This is the same location other garter snakes have been found. Unlike the others, this one had no red on it.

Bufo americanus 05-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95022

Miami Whitewater Park wetlands

70°F, raining

9:30-12:00; 2.5hrs

created wetlands

tntc

Larvae

WRW

These American toad larvae were in the second pond north of Baughman Rd as well as the first pond south of Baughman.

Pseudacris crucifer 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95023

Miami Whitewater Park

81°F, sunny

8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

74

Larvae

WRW

Most of the spring peepers caught were close to transforming. Perhaps the majority have already left the pond. The water level was higher than I've ever seen it before in the last three years.

Hyla chrysoscelis 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95024

Miami Whitewater Park

81°F, sunny

8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

10

Larvae, small

WRW

These tree frog larvae were all in one location on the south side of the pond in a sunny location and right up against the shore, presumably to escape the many dragonfly larvae present.

Acris crepitans 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95025

Miami Whitewater Park

81°F, sunny

8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

2
Adults
WRW

These two cricket frogs were in the pond and thus presumably male.

Rana clamitans 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95026
Miami Whitewater Park
81°F, sunny 8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek

1 M
Adult
WRW

This green frog was calling from Howard Creek itself. In the past I've found green frog larvae in the creek.

Rana catesbeiana 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95027
Miami Whitewater Park
81°F, sunny 8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek

1 M
Adult
WRW

This bullfrog was calling from Howard Creek itself.

Bufo fowlerii 06-17-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95028
Miami Whitewater Park
81°F, sunny 8:30-11:00 AM; 2.5
hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

0
WRW

This year there were no toads at all breeding in the Howard Creek oxbow pond. Last year there were both. Perhaps the higher water level has something to do with it as they like shallower, warmer water.

Bufo fowlerii 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95029
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Phase IV wetland between Baughman and New Haven Roads
TNTC,5 M

Larvae, adults
WRW

Recently hatched Fowler toad larvae were in two pools close to New Haven Road. Later, about 9:30 PM five males were heard calling closer to Baughman Road.

Rana catesbeiana 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95030
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Phase IV wetland between Baughman and New Haven Roads

2
Adults
WRW

These two large adult bullfrogs were big enough to eat birds,

including the newly hatched wood duck observed in an adjacent pool.

Acris crepitans 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95031
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Phase IV wetland between Baughman and New Haven Roads
TNTC M

Adults, metamorphs, larvae
WRW

Cricket frogs as chorusing adults, recent metamorphs and transforming larvae were everywhere. Each pool had some present. I was suprised to see the transforming larvae had no black tip tails as I observed in the past. They also appeared smaller at metamorphosis. Most of these frogs and larvae were at the edges of the pools. I would guess I saw 500 recent metamorphs. A photo was taken of a particularly green female.

Pseudacris crucifer 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95032
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Phase IV wetland between Baughman and New Haven Roads
1 M

Adult
WRW

One male was calling around 8:30 from the fencerow west of the wetlands.

Bufo fowlerii 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95033
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Four wetlands north of Baughman Road
3,3 M

3 adults, 3 metamorphs
WRW

The three adults were screaming from the shallow end of the larger wetland along Baughman Road. The three recent metamorphs were in the second, small wetland south of Baughman. No larvae were found.

Acris crepitans 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95034
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Four wetlands north of Baughman Road
TNTC M

Adults, metamorphs
WRW

As on the south side of Baughman in Phase IV, cricket frogs were calling from everywhere and recent metamorphs were found mostly at the pond edges. No larvae were seen only because it was dark.

Rana clamitans 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95035
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, partly sunny 7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25
hrs

Four wetlands north of Baughman Road
200 M

Adults, juveniles

WRW

Male green frogs were calling from everywhere, especially from the midst of cattails. One was freshly killed in Baughman Road. Many were heard in the third and fourth ponds north of Baughman. At the same time there was the phenonemon of thousands of tree and barn swallows coming into the cattails to roost at dusk.

Rana catesbeiana 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95036

Miami Whitewater Park

75°F, partly sunny

7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25 hrs

Four wetlands north of Baughman Road

40

M

Adults, juveniles

WRW

About eight bullfrogs were calling from all four ponds north of Baughman. The others were seen along the dike at Baughman. One was dead in the road. Many more were present but I didn't seek them out as I wanted to avoid disturbing the Pied billed grebes and their young.

Hyla chrysozelis 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95037

Miami Whitewater Park

75°F, partly sunny

7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25 hrs

Dry Fork Creek at New Haven Road

4

M

Adults

WRW

Four tree frogs were calling from the creek area about 10 PM.

Elaphe obsoleta 07-06-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95038

Miami Whitewater Park

75°F, partly sunny

7:45-10:00 PM; 2.25 hrs

Dry Fork Creek at New Haven Road

1

Yearling (14")

WRW

This young black rat snake was apparantly just hit in the road. This is the first one I've seen in the Deep Stage Ohio area. There was also a sub adult dead in Crosby Road up on top the hill where I usually find them.

Rana catesbeiana 07-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95039

Miami Whitewater Park

85°F, clear evening

9-10 PM; 1 hr

Baughman Road wetland Phase 2

TNTC

Adults and sub-adults

WRW

Along the dike and out in the water were more bullfrogs than I've ever seen anywhere. The absence of fish and northern water snakes (for now) may have something to do with this.

Rana clamitans 07-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95040

Miami Whitewater Park

85°F, clear evening

9-10 PM; 1 hr

Baughman Road wetland Phase 2

TNTC

M

Adults calling

WRW

Throughout the Phase 2 wetland green frogs were calling. Tonight at the Paddy's Run south cattle pond I found a mass of green frog eggs just laid. Perhaps the males are calling in earnest.

Acris crepitans 07-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95041

Miami Whitewater Park

85°F, clear evening

9-10 PM; 1 hr

Baughman Road wetland Phase 2

10

Recent metamorphs

WRW

These metamorph cricket frogs were noted at the small pool, 1 foot deep by 30 X 5 feet, located between the dike on the north side of Baughman and the Road itself.

Rana clamitans 07-29-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95042

Miami Whitewater Park

85°F, clear evening

9-10 PM; 1 hr

Baughman Road wetland Phase 2

tntc

Larvae

WRW

These green frog larvae were noted at the small pool, 1 foot deep by 30 X 5 feet, located between the dike on the north side of Baughman and the Road itself. This may dry up before they transform, as it takes until next summer (1 full year) to do so.

Rana clamitans 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95043

Miami Whitewater Park

86°F, brilliant sun, no wind

6:45 AM to noon;

5.25 hrs

Baughman Road wetland Phase 2

tntc

Larvae

Charlie Saunders, WRW

These green frog larvae were again noted at the small pool, 1 foot deep by 30 X 5 feet, located between the dike on the north side of Baughman and the Road itself. A number of larvae were photographed in Charlie Saunder's hands.

Rana clamitans 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95044

Miami Whitewater Park

86°F, brilliant sun, no wind

6:45 AM to noon;

5.25 hrs

Wetland Phase 3, just south of Phase 1 dirt road, near bat h

tntc

Larvae

Charlie Saunders, WRW

These green frog larvae were everywhere in a small area close to the road at the bathhouse. After wading the entire length of this pond, no other areas of green frog larvae were noted. There is a vast area of water out in the middle of this pond where it is dense with water plantain, but no green frog larvae or even cricket frogs were found, just in-numerable species and varieties of dragonflies. Occasionally a male green frog called from all the wetlands between Baughman Road and Phase 1. None were present or calling south of Baughman.

Rana catesbeiana 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95045
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

All wetlands except south of Baughman
tntc

M

Adults, juv, larvae
Charlie Saunders, WRW

These bullfrogs were seen and heard in all the wetlands from Baughman Road to the original wetlands. They breed in Phase 1 by the bike path and in the deeper pond along Baughman. Many larvae were seen coming up for air as the water temperature was warm.

Acris crepitans 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95046
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

All wetlands including south of Baughman
tntc

Adults, juv, larvae
Charlie Saunders, WRW

These cricket frogs were everywhere in incredible numbers. Around the edges of ponds they would jump away in a mass before our every step. There were still larvae present in a pond of Phase 4 halfway between Baughman Road and New Haven. These larvae did not have the characteristic black tipped tail I've seen in other cricket frog larvae, yet they definitely had the mottled black appearance. I can't explain this unless earlier hatches only have the black tip or there are two hybrids. A photo was taken of one very green cricket frog seen with other green ones near this pool of larvae. None of the ones on the south side of Baughman had this green!?

Pseudacris crucifer 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95047
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

Phase 4 in woodlot and between Phase 1 and 3
5

Recent metamorphs, 1 month old
Charlie Saunders, WRW

These spring peepers were only seen early in the day while there was still dew, on tops of the weeds. Photo taken. None were found after it became hot and dry as they apparently climb down to the ground. This means anyone walking throughout the woodlots will step on them. The ones seen have grown fast since metamorphosis only a month or two ago.

Hyla chrysoscelis 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95048
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

Phase 4 in woodlot
1

Recent metamorph, 1-2 months old
Charlie Saunders, WRW

This gray tree frog was up high on a weed in the woodlot south of Baughman Rd, soaking up the dew. Its emerald green color would lead one to believe it a green tree frog, but the lichen coloration of the adult gray tree frog is not acquired as long as it hides out on green

leaves when young. As adults and with greater weight, they use the tree trunks and branches.

Chrysemys picta 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95049
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

Western dike of Baughman Rd pond, Phase 2
4

Nests that were dug up by predator(s)
Charlie Saunders, WRW

These four painted turtle nests that were eaten could have been laid by one or two turtles instead of four. I did see an adult female here at the end of May. Hopefully, some of the eggs will hatch although predation is high. The eggs were oblong as opposed to the round eggs of the snappers.

Thamnophis sirtalis 07-30-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95050
Miami Whitewater Park
86°F, brilliant sun, no wind 6:45 AM to noon;
5.25 hrs

East of dam between Phase 2 and 3
1

Recent newborn, 6 inches
Charlie Saunders, WRW

This garter snake newborn was exiting a wet area and heading toward a weedy field. It was near a large sycamore that has recently had nests of the eastern kingbird and warbling vireo.

Chelydra serpentina OH Hamilton MWPWT95051
Miami Whitewater Park
Dike of Phase 1 wetland along bike path
1 F

Adult

Brian (Hamilton Co Park Employee)

John Klein reported to me July 31 that Brian saw a snapping turtle laying eggs during the second week of June at the Phase 1 wetland by the bike path. This is the first time a 'snapper' has been seen anywhere in the new wetlands that I know. They are quite common in the Howard Creek oxbow pond, where they hibernate. They also are found in Howard Creek itself and the shaker pond. I wondered how long it would take one to find the wetlands. If these eggs hatch, there should be many more present from now on!

Bufo fowlerii 08-05-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95052
Miami Whitewater Park
70°F, raining 9:30-11:30 AM
Dirt road back to Phase 1 and 3
2

Metamorphs

Clint Horner, WRW

These two 3/4 inch long Fowlers' toads were in the dirt road back to Phase 1 and 3. I'm sure more were present but in the downpour it was hard to see! A new small wetland just created was filling with water and had 7 killdeer in it. This will be a good Fowler toad breeding site next year.

Acris crepitans 08-05-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95053
Miami Whitewater Park

70°F, raining
Dirt road back to Phase 1 and 3
TNTC

9:30-11:30 AM

Metamorphs

Clint Horner, WRW

These cricket frogs were everywhere, even on the dirt road in the vicinity of the wetlands.

Pseudacris crucifer

08-05-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95054

Miami Whitewater Park

70°F, raining

9:30-11:30 AM

Dirt road back to Phase 1 and 3

4

Metamorphs

Clint Horner, WRW

These four spring peeper metamorphs were on the leaves of weeds inbetween Phases 1 and 3.

Rana clamitans

08-05-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95055

Miami Whitewater Park

70°F, raining

9:30-11:30 AM

Phases 1 and 3

TNTC

M

Adults

Clint Horner, WRW

Green frogs were calling frequently in the rain from both sides of the dirt road.

Rana catesbeiana

08-05-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95056

Miami Whitewater Park

70°F, raining

9:30-11:30 AM

Phases 1 and 3

TNTC

M

Adults

Clint Horner, WRW

Bull frogs were calling frequently in the rain from both sides of the dirt road.

Thamnophis sirtalis

08-05-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95057

Miami Whitewater Park

70°F, raining

9:30-11:30 AM

Dead in Baughman Road

1

Sub-adult

Clint Horner, WRW

This young garter snake was killed crossing Baughman Road in the vicinity of the barn near Oxford Road. It did not have the red coloration I'd seen before on those in the vicinity of the bike path and Baughman Road.

Rana clamitans

08-09-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95058

Miami Whitewater Park

75°F, overcast

7:30-8:30 AM; 1 hr

pond just off New Haven Rd-Phase 4

1, 2

Adult, 2 egg masses

Jerome Lippert

This pond closest to New Haven Rd is retaining 2-3 feet of water. An adult green frog jumped into the pond and two egg masses were found.

Acris crepitans 08-09-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95059
Miami Whitewater Park
75°F, overcast 7:30-8:30 AM; 1 hr
pond just off New Haven Rd-Phase 4
1
Metamorph
Jerome Lippert
This pond closest to New Haven Rd is retaining 2-3 feet of water. A recent metamorph cricket frog was seen.

Acris crepitans 09-20-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95060
Miami Whitewater Park
70°F, overcast 5:15-9:30 PM (listed
under pond
Original wetlands, Phase 1, west shore
6
Metamorphs
Jerome Lippert, WRW
On our way to the oak/hickory woods cricket frogs readily jumped into the water as we passed nearby. During the last three Septembers this Phase 1 wetland completely dried. This year it still has water present.

Rana clamitans 09-20-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95061
Miami Whitewater Park
70°F, overcast 5:15-9:30 PM (listed
under pond
Original wetlands, between Phases 1 and 3
1
Metamorph
Jerome Lippert, WRW
On our way to the oak/hickory woods we found this recent metamorph green frog on the road, in the clover between Phases 1 and 3. Water is still present on both sides of the dirt road. Last year both were dry. Thus this green frog did not come from either of these two ponds as maturity takes one year. It must have come from either the Phase 1 pond along the bike path or Phase 2 along Baughman Road.

Pseudacris crucifer 09-20-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95062
Miami Whitewater Park
70°F, overcast 5:15-9:30 PM (listed
under pond
Oak/hickory woodlot
2 M
Adults
Jerome Lippert, WRW
At the oak/hickory woods we heard two male spring peepers calling. They will continue to call on cool fall days. There were no other frogs, such as cricket frogs, green frogs or bullfrogs calling from any of the wetland ponds. It is not quiet however as the crickets are numerous.

Acris crepitans 09-24-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95063
Miami Whitewater Park
65°F, sunny 4:30 PM (listed
under pond
Phase 1, newly created section along road
75

Metamorphs

WRW, Whitney Wauligman

At this newly created pond (July), a walk around it revealed about 75 of these cricket frogs. Coloration was highly variable. Mostly green except for the brown head triangle spot, several were of this pattern.

Most were entirely brown, with several being light brown as they sat on light brown dirt. They blended in perfectly. I wasn't aware they could color change to the environment. Other significant sightings were one variegated fritillary, two question marks, a multitude of blooming native wildflowers, hundreds of alfalfa butterflies on them, and a lightning struck bur oak at the oak/hickory woods.

Acris crepitans 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95064

Miami Whitewater Park

65°F, cloudy

6:15-8:45 PM

Howard Creek oxbow pond and bike path

tntc,1

Metamorphs

WRW

After a hard and heavy rain both yesterday and today, the oxbow pond was wet but no water was pooled. With every step in the pond site, numerous cricket frogs would jump away. Over on the bike path near the shelter by Phase 1, a single cricket frog rested on the blacktop.

Pseudacris crucifer 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95065

Miami Whitewater Park

65°F, cloudy

6:15-8:45 PM; 2.5 hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

4

3 M, 1 F

Adults

WRW

Three spring peepers were calling in the vicinity of the Howard Creek oxbow pond. One female was found on the ground on the north shore of the site. These frogs are the only ones that call in the Fall in this area.

Chelydra serpentina 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95066

Miami Whitewater Park

65°F, cloudy

6:15-8:45 PM; 2.5 hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond

WRW

The same site as snapping turtles were previously found again appeared to be churned up by the hibernating turtles. No attempt was made to locate them with a probe.

Rana clamitans 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95067

Miami Whitewater Park

65°F, cloudy

6:15-8:45 PM; 2.5 hrs

Howard Creek oxbow pond and bike path

4

metamorphs

WRW

Two healthy metamorph green frogs were found under debris in the Howard Creek oxbow pond. One adult jumped into Howard Creek as I crossed it. Another metamorph was found run over on the bike path 100 yds east of the Phase 1 pond. This appears to have been a good year for green frog metamorphosis.

Rana catesbeiana 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95068
Miami Whitewater Park
65°F, cloudy 6:15-8:45 PM; 2.5
hrs

Dirt road between bike path and Oxford Road

1
metamorph
WRW

This young bullfrog was found sitting in the mud a far distance from any of the wetlands.

Elaphe obsoleta 10-03-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95069

Miami Whitewater Park
65°F, cloudy and rain
Nursery area
Nest site of hatched eggs
Jerome Lippert

In the mulch pile at the nursery on New Haven Road, a nest of recently hatched (or possibly eaten) eggshells was found. Knowing how black rat snakes like to bury their eggs in mulch piles, and due to the presence of this snake near here on July 6, we surmise this was and will continue to be a black rat snake nest site.

Thamnophis sirtalis 10-04-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95070

Miami Whitewater Park
63°F, cloudy
Nursery area
2

Adult and juvenile
Jerome Lippert

Between the greenhouse and the garage, in the nursery show patch, a very large garter snake and a small juvenile stayed put between 9:30 to 11 AM.

Rana clamitans 10-13-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95071

Miami Whitewater Park
65°F, sunny
Oak/hickory woodlot pond
1

Juvenile
Jerome Lippert

Before placing clay to line small pond here by Phase 1, leaves were brushed aside and a young green frog was found, presumably ready to hibernate.

Rana catesbeiana 10-13-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95072

Miami Whitewater Park
65°F, sunny
Oak/hickory woodlot pond
1

Sub-adult
Jerome Lippert

Before placing clay to line small pond here by Phase 1, leaves were brushed aside and this bullfrog was found, presumably ready to hibernate as it was well buried.

Hyla chrysoscelis 10-15-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95073

Miami Whitewater Park
59°F, sunny. very windy
Oak/hickory woodlot pond
1

2:30-4:00

Metamorph
WRW

Before placing dirt and leaves from the Paddy's Run Road pond site, a young gray tree frog was uncovered. I assume it was ready to hibernate here and must have moved in since the pond was lined with clay last Thursday. This pond bottom from the other pond should 'activate' this pond with fairy shrimp and other pond organisms so that marbled salamander larvae can be added if none appear.

Rana catesbeiana 10-15-95 OH Hamilton MWPWT95074

Miami Whitewater Park

59°F, sunny. very windy

2:30-4:00

Phase 1 wetland by bike path

70+

Juv and adults

WRW

Bullfrog heads were everywhere to be seen at both the Phase 1 pond at the bike path and the pond along the north side of Baughman. About ten recent metamorphs were seen (one photographed) at the Baughman Rd site. This means the pond had enough water present for one year for them to reach metamorphosis. This is the first I've noticed the metamorphs present at this site.

Pseudacris crucifer

10-15-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95075

Miami Whitewater Park

59°F, sunny. very windy

2:30-4:00

Oak/hickory woodlot

1

M

Adult

WRW

Just one male was calling from nearby the pond site.

Acris crepitans

10-15-95 OH Hamilton

MWPWT95076

Miami Whitewater Park

59°F, sunny. very windy

2:30-4:00

Baughman Rd area-Phase 2

40

Adults and metamorphs

WRW

The cricket frogs were all around this pond, particularly at the shallow end and inside the wooded area. Near the dike they could easily be food for the bullfrogs.