

advisor, supervisor, or a knowledgeable colleague. Instruct the recommenders to submit their letters to grstewart@csumona.edu as pdf attachments.

5. Completed applications and letters of recommendation must be received by **December 3, 2012**. They will be evaluated by a committee of gopher tortoise biologists appointed by the Desert Tortoise Council Board of Directors.
6. The research award recipient will be notified of his/her selection by **January 18, 2013** and the award will be presented at the 2013 Desert Tortoise Council Symposium, February 15–17, 2013.

New from PARC

Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC) is pleased to announce that the newest edition of our popular and award-winning series, the PARC Habitat Management Guidelines (HMG), is now available! *Habitat Management Guidelines for Amphibians and Reptiles of the Midwestern United States* book is ~150 pages of full-color, practical, and proactive guidance for improving the compatibility of land management practices with these animals.

•WHAT do the HMGs have to offer?

These guides provide peer-reviewed, recommended management practices for amphibians and reptiles, along with alternatives when the ideal scenario is not possible.

•WHY are the HMGs useful?

They can inform individuals and agencies how to adapt their land management decisions to include herpetofauna, particularly in cases where they are not sure how best to begin. The HMGs are standardized in order to be applicable across regions.

REMINDER: The Southeast, Northeast, and Northwest regional guides are still on sale at 50% off (US \$5.00). This price includes shipping, except to international destinations. See our HMG page (<http://www.parcplace.org/publications/habitat-management-guidelines.html>) for ordering information. All proceeds go to the production and printing of future HMGs and other PARC products such as these, never to operating expenses.

Also, keep checking back for our Southwest HMG—the last in our US-based regional series—currently in progress; it can be pre-ordered at the regular price of US \$10.00 per copy.

MEETINGS

Southern California Association of Professional Herpetologists

The first meeting of SCAPH (Southern California Association of Professional Herpetologists) occurred at the Desert Studies Center (a field station of California State University) in Zzyzx, San Bernardino County, California on 8–9 June 2012. After socializing and some road patrolling on Friday, Saturday was spent on

introductions, short presentations by those who wanted to talk about their research, and a discussion of the future of the group. We thank Bill Presch and others at the Center for their hospitality and Bobby Espinoza for spearheading organization of SCAPH and the trip.

Red Listing Central American Squamates

Reptiles are conspicuously absent from the list of taxa that have been comprehensively assessed worldwide for extinction risk through the IUCN Red Listing process. Unassessed species are frequently overlooked in conservation planning exercises, and often ineligible for international assistance for conservation efforts. Although most North American reptiles have been assessed, there are big gaps for the diverse Latin American fauna. To begin to rectify the situation, a group consisting of NatureServe, Universidad de Costa Rica, Organization for Tropical Studies, IUCN, Fundazoo, CBSG Mesoamerica, and independent scientists co-convened a workshop to complete Red List assessments for Central American squamates. The goal was to review existing and create new Red List assessments for all species of Central American squamates, including threat category assignment, the compilation of supporting data, and the creation of range maps.

The workshop took place 6–10 May 2012, and involved 34 invitees, all either herpetologists with experience studying Central American reptiles in the field or scientists knowledgeable about the IUCN Red List criteria and database who served as facilitators of working groups. Rather than hold the workshop at a hotel conference room or university setting, the organizers chose to bring the participants to the Palo Verde Biological Station, located within Palo Verde National Park in Costa Rica. This tropical

PHOTO BY HILTON OYAMAGUCHI



Back row (L to R): Kris Lappin, Norm Scott, Greg Pauly, Glen Stewart, Jim Archie, Richard Etheridge, Todd Reeder, Brad Shaffer, Rulon Clark, Brad Hollingsworth, Bill Presch. Front row (L to R): Hilton Oyamaguchi, Ken Nagy, Erin Toffelmier, Genevieve Mount, Bobby Espinoza, Marion Preest, Julianne Goldenberg, Amanda Sparkman, Claire Forster, Morgan Hailey, Andrew Gottscho.

dry forest location proved to be an exciting backdrop for a rather intense week of compiling data and assigning Red List criteria.

The workshop began with an introduction to Palo Verde and the project, followed by a thorough review of Red List criteria and the sometimes non-intuitive terms used in the Red List documentation. The remaining 4.5 days were spent in small working groups, arranged geographically, reviewing the assessments for each species. The groups began by focusing on single-country endemics and gradually coalesced to address bi-national and regional species. A separate group worked all week on widespread species in Central America. Thanks to heroic efforts, several late nights, and the lure of certain sugar cane-derived beverages as rewards at the end of each day, the assembled scientists succeeded in working through 468 currently recognized species of squamates native to Central America.

The formal IUCN process requires external review (in fact herpetologists with knowledge of Central American species who did not attend can expect to be contacted shortly to contribute in this regard), so the workshop results are preliminary. Nevertheless, there is a strong indication that nearly a fifth of the Central American squamate species are threatened with extinction. Many of these are endemic northern Central American lizards and snakes restricted to isolated cloud forests that are rapidly being destroyed by the advancing agricultural frontier. In many cases, personnel at designated protected areas simply do not have the wherewithal to hold the line against this onslaught of habitat destruction. Another observation made while looking around the room of assembled scientists is the paucity of female herpetologists working on the Central American reptile fauna. The field needs to diversify and actively attract women, especially Central American natives, to contribute to the considerable task of discovering, describing, and learning about the natural history and population status of these fascinating animals.

Why the focus on squamates and not all reptiles? IUCN specialist groups for freshwater turtles, sea turtles, and crocodiles have already assessed species in their purview. For the squamates, the viper, iguanid lizard, and anoline lizard specialist groups have made varying levels of progress at assessing species they cover, but none was complete for Central American species. The remaining lizards and snakes, making up the bulk of the reptiles, are not covered by an existing specialist group.

The workshop coincided with the first rains of the rainy season at Palo Verde. Afternoon downpours brought out toads, many of which had been inactive underground for months, frogs, as well as snakes eager to dine on the batrachians. The assembled regiment of herpetologists, some sacrificing measurable quantities of blood in the effort, succeeded in recording 24 reptile and 13 amphibian species during field forays organized around the margins of the meeting. Although the snake diversity and abundance was impressive, an emergence one evening of *Rhinophrynus dorsalis*, at the southern edge of its range in Palo Verde, stole the show for many.

Now that the workshop is concluded, the facilitators will upload the assessments to IUCN's central database, tie up any remaining loose ends on the accounts, and digitize the corrected range maps. The IUCN snake and lizard red list authority will then obtain two external reviews for each species account. After adjusting the accounts in accordance with the reviews and final quality control, they will be published on the IUCN Red List website. GIS files for the range maps will be available for download on the same site. A summary manuscript of the results is also planned for submission to a scientific journal. Similar workshops



FIG. 1. Participants at the Central American Squamate Red List Workshop, held 6–10 May 2012 at Palo Verde National Park, Costa Rica. Standing (left to right): Phil Bowles, Erick Ballesterro, Joseph Vargas, Quetzal Dwyer, Ileana Luque, Joe Townsend, Guido Saborío, Jerry Johnson, Mahmood Sasa, Javier Sunyer, Bill Lamar, César Jaramillo, Yolanda Matamoros, Roberto Ibáñez, Marcelo Tognelli, Bruce Young, Randall Arguedas, Geoff Hammerson, Louis Porras, José Hernández. Kneeling (left to right): Abel Batista, Larry Wilson, Fabián Bonilla, Gerardo Chaves, Daniel Ariano, Víctor Acosta, Jorge Rodríguez, Kirsten Nicholson, Oscar Flores, Alejandro Solórzano, Gunther Köhler. Not shown: Manuel Acevedo, Federico Bolaños, Neil Cox, Adrián García.



FIG. 2. This *Leptophis mexicanus*, assessed as Least Concern, was one of 24 reptiles recorded by participants when not in their working groups.

PHOTO BY PHIL BOWLES

are planned for 2013–2014 to work through assessments of the Caribbean and South American squamates.

The success of the workshop is due in equal parts to the convening organizations and the scientists (including some who were not able to attend but sent observations and distribution maps nonetheless) who so cheerfully contributed their knowledge, experience, and sweat to the project. Each organization contributed financially to the event, as did a National Science Foundation grant to NatureServe (DEB-1136586). The Palo Verde

Field Station was an ideal site for the event, combining comfortable facilities, delicious food, and interesting natural history observations right outside the meeting room doors (and sometimes even inside the doors). These contributions will help set the stage for stepped up efforts to conserve the remarkably

diverse and sometimes critically threatened squamate fauna of Central America.

—Bruce E. Young, NatureServe, 4600 N. Fairfax Dr., Floor 7, Arlington, Virginia 22203, USA

Meetings Calendar

Meeting announcement information should be sent directly to the Editor (HerpReview@gmail.com) well in advance of the event.

4–6 October 2012—34th Annual Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting, Bainbridge, Georgia, USA. Information: www.gophertortoisecouncil.org/events.php

24–27 October 2012—Southwest Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (SW PARC) annual meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. Information: www.swparc.org/meetings.html

2–4 November 2012—Kansas Herpetological Society 39th annual meeting, Sternberg Museum of Natural History, Fort Hayes State University, Fort Hays, Kansas, USA. Information: <http://cnah.org/khs/AnnualMeetingInfo.html>

6–9 November 2012—XII Reunión Nacional de Herpetología, Sociedad Herpetológica Mexicana, Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico. Information: <http://www.sociedadherpetologicamexicana.org/noticias/index.php>

20–23 May 2013—World Crocodile Conference, 22nd Working Meeting of the Crocodile Specialist Group IUCN-SSC, Colombo, Sri Lanka. Information: www.csgrsri Lanka.com

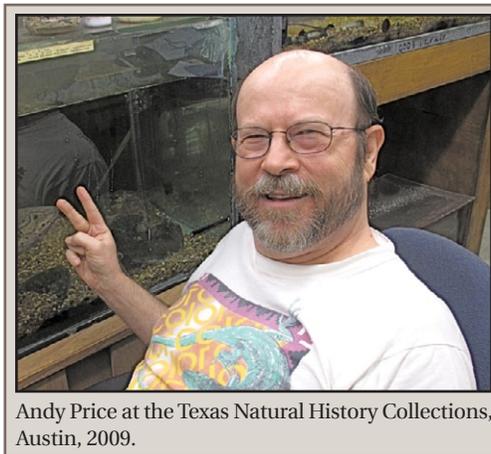
OBITUARIES

Herpetological Review, 2012, 43(3), 370–375.
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In Memoriam: Andrew Hoyt Price (1951–2012), with Reflections from Colleagues and Friends

On 16 January 2012, herpetology lost one of its most dedicated and active professionals. Andrew Hoyt Price, age 60, succumbed to a long and courageous battle with multiple myeloma. He was born on 12 May 1951 in Brussels, Belgium, to his parents, C. Hoyt of Arkansas (USA) and Rosemary Price of England. Andy's father was a U.S. diplomat, so he grew up mostly abroad in Belgium, Vietnam, and Switzerland, with rotations in and out of Washington, D.C. He is survived by two brothers, Carl Price of Chandler, Arizona, and Roger Price of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Andy's son, Alexander Hoyt Price, lives with his wife and Andy's two grandsons in Lovington, New Mexico.

Andy's development as a biologist began with his Bachelor of Science in biology degree from the University of Miami in 1973. During 1973–1974, he spent a year in the sections of Mammalogy and Amphibians and Reptiles at the Carnegie Museum of



Andy Price at the Texas Natural History Collections, Austin, 2009.

Natural History in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His job was to conduct vertebrate faunal surveys of the Allegheny County Regional Park System. At Carnegie, Andy found a life-long friend and mentor in C. J. (Jack) McCoy, curator of the herpetology section.

Although his academic interest was initially with mammals, Andy's childhood fascination with reptiles soon took over. Like many herpetologists, his interest for reptiles started at a young age. "When we cousins were playing together at our grandparents' farm, and someone yelled, 'Snake!' we all ran. The rest of us toward the house, Andy toward the snake." (From the eulogy by his cousin, Rev. Robert Price).

After Carnegie, Andy spent the following three years at New Mexico State University (NMSU) working on scent glands in *Lampropeltis getula splendida* for his Master of Science degree under his advisor, the late Joe LaPointe (Price 1978; Price and LaPointe 1981). He remained at NMSU and completed his Ph.D., focusing on competition and parthenogenesis in whiptail lizards (*Cnemidophorus*, now *Aspidoscelis*; Price 1986a, Price 1992, Price et al. 1993). After graduating, he worked as a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management from 1980 to 1981. There he conducted herp, bird, mammal, and vegetation surveys of the Jornada Resource Area, Socorro District, New Mexico, as well as general surveys in other areas. In late 1981, he worked with the New Mexico Natural Heritage

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