## **M** | **BIOLOGICAL STATION**

## Field Guide

Pellston, Michigan, USA Aquatic Life and Shoreline Species in and along Douglas Lake

## Mammals, Amphibians and Reptiles



1. Procyon lotor, \*eziban Common Racoon: Medium-(16-28 in) sized mammal with gray and black fur, dexterous front paws, a black facial mask, and ringed tail.



2. Odocoileus virginianus, \*waawaashkeshi White-tailed Deer: Medium-sized

white-tailed Deer: Medium-sized brown deer with white undersided tail. Males grow antlers between April and November but shed them in early winter. Females are smaller with no antlers. Fawns have white spots for the first several months.



3. Mephitis mephitis, \*zhigaag Striped Skunk: Medium-(20-30 in) sized mammal with distinctive black and white stripes and a large tail. Possess musk-filled scent glands to ward off predators.



4. Neogale vison, \*zhaangwesh American Mink: Small (12-18 in), semi-aquatic mammal. Brown fur, long slender body. Long, bushy, tapering tail.



5. Erethizon dorsatum, \*agaak North American Porcupine: Large (24-36 in), quill-covered rodent, emits a strong musky body odor. They are generally dark brown with white highlights and have a stocky body with small face, short legs and a thick tail.



6. Ondatra zibethicus, \*zhashkonh Muskrat: Medium (8–14 in) semiaquatic rodent with reddish brown fur and a long, slender, scale-covered tail. They may swim underwater for 12–17 minutes.



7. Canis latrans, \*wiisagi-ma'iingan Coyote: Small canine with gray, red, black, and white fur and a large bushy tail. Most characteristic vocalization is a howl by solitary individuals and yipping in a pack.



8. Castor canadensis, \*amik American Beaver: Large (29-35 in) semiaquatic rodent with brown fur and wide, flat, paddle-shaped tail. Signs of beavers include lodges and dams made of sticks and logs, and the presence of chewed-off tree stumps.



13. Diadophis punctatus edwadsii, \*gnebig

Northern Ringneck Snake: Medium (10-24 in) with a bluishblack body and a complete narrow yellow or orange ring around its neck. Venomous, but harmless to humans.



18. Chelydra serpentia, \*mikinaak Common Snapping Turtle: Large turtle (10-20 in) with a compbative disposition, powerful jaws, and a highly mobile neck and head. Weigh 13-50 lbs and can live up to 100 years.



9. Plethodon cinereus, \*Dawgomek Eastern Red-backed Salamander: Small (2-4 in) terrestrial salamander with a black and brown body and reddish orange back. It generally lives in forests under rocks, logs, and other debris.



14. Thanmophis sirtalis, \*wendagnebik Common Garter Snake: Thin, medium-large (22-48 in) snake. Blackish brown with yellow stripes. Venomous, but harmless to humans.



19. Lithobates sylvaticus, \*makkii

**Wood Frog:** Smallish (2–3 in) frog wirh brown, tan, or rust colored skin and a dark eye mask. Often found breeding in woodland vernal pools.



10. Lithobates clamitans, \*nitaagabi-makkii Green Frog: Mid-size (2-4 in) frog with a green head (males have bright yellow throats) and brownish or dark green body. They have prominent seam-like skin folds running down the sides of the back.



15. Nerodia sipedon, \*masdamoonh Common Watersnake: Large (4-5ft) snake may be brown, gray, reddish, or blackish, with dark crossbands on the neck and blotches on the rest of its body. Non-venomous.



20. Vulpes vulpes, \*waagwash Red Fox: Small canine with red coat black legs, and a large bushy tail. Vocalization is wide ranging and often disconcerting.



11. Lithobates pipiens, \*dede Northern Leopard Frog: Large (4 in) frog varying from green to brown in color with large dark circular spots on its back, sides, and legs.

16. Storeria dekayi, \*gnebig

with a lighter center stripe

Non-venomous.

Dekay's Brownsnake: Small

(8-18 in) snake is brown to gray

bordered by small black spots.



12. Anaxyrus americanus, \*bbiigmakii American Toad: Medium-sized (2-3.5 in) toad. Color ranges from yellow to brown to black and may be solid or speckled with a warty skin texture.



17. Chrysemys picta, \*mskwaadenhs Painted Turtle: Medium (5-10 in) turtle with a dark smooth top shell. Skin is olive to black with red, orange, or yellow stripes on its extremities.