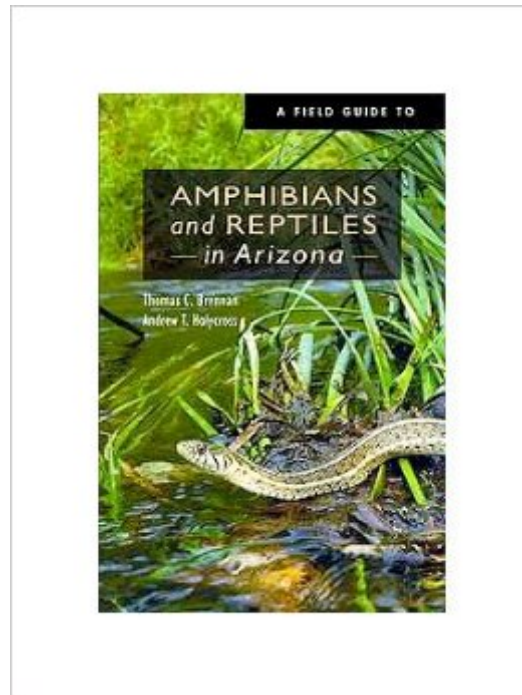


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# A Field Guide To Amphibians And Reptiles In Arizona



## Synopsis

This beautifully illustrated full-color guide is a collaborative effort between the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona State University, and Mesa Community College. The book provides concise information on all 141 species of amphibians and reptiles found in Arizona. Species accounts include high quality color photographs, compendious natural history information, detailed range maps, custom illustrations, line drawings, and call outs to key identification characteristics. This guide is a practical tool for both frequent wildlife watchers and the occasional visitor to the Arizona outdoors. Paperback. 150 pages (fully illustrated).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Long awaited, long overdue, and lives up to expectations. A Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona is a paperback, a bit large for pockets but okay for backpacks and many camera bags. This is a basic field guide, NOT an exhaustive review, so buy it to find and identify the animals. Colour photos that range from okay to really nice, and all are useful. Decent price and a must have book for anyone seriously interested in the herpetofauna of the United States. Arizona does have, acre for acre, more reptilian species than any other state, so you get a lot of reptiles in this small volume. If you are considering a purchase, just go ahead and order. You will almost certainly not regret owning A Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles in Arizona.

I bought this book on the first day of my most recent trip to Arizona. Although I was already armed to

the teeth with various other field guides, a glance through this then-brand new guide and the price were enough to get me to buy it. And I'm glad I did. Given the slimness of this guide, the authors manage to cover most of the necessities of any good field guide, with basic but very good info regarding natural history, biotic regions, habitats, etc. The color photos are excellent, with diagnostic characteristics for each species indicated with arrows, and range maps located on the facing pages of the plates ( we like this ), along with text on identification and habits. This guide also has two things that I, personally, always love in a field guide - a good glossary and a check-list in the back. Not necessities, but I always love 'em. I have only two minor complaints - first, that the range maps don't delineate between sub-species, and second, that there are no photos of ventral scales for the snakes and lizards, though these are described in the text where the authors find it helpful. Given the limited space available, it's understandable why ventral scale photos were omitted. This guide is compact enough to take in the field, but as is usually the case, is best used in tandem with other field guides. I recommend *The Peterson Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians*, by Robert Stebbins, ( still THE herp guide for western herps!), and *Snakes of North America - Western Region*, by Bartlett and Tennant. If only every state had a guide like this. A great guide for beginners and seasoned veterans. Highly recommended!

We live in the desert, and constantly refer to our field guides both for our own use and to teach our grandchildren about their wonderful environment. This is a top-notch guide from Arizona Game and Fish, in cooperation with ASU, MCC and PARC. The layout is great, there is a good glossary, and index is by both common and scientific name. My one complaint/suggestion is that the Sonoran Desert Toad should be tagged as VENOMOUS. While it will not kill you or me, I know several people who have lost four-legged friends (and/or racked up four-digit vet bills) to these critters. Personally, we toss them into a bucket when they come out at night and transport them to a wash in the nearest uninhabited area come morning.

Best herp field guide for Arizona out there! I've got a copy in each vehicle and for the office. Somehow they keep disappearing and I just keep replacing them! I am anxious to see any updated version they might publish. J. Schudda

Basics: 2006, softcover, 150 pages, 132 species, 194 color photos, 15 habitat photos, range maps This is a nicely done photo guide covering all the reptiles and amphibians of Arizona. The specimens in the photograph have been digitally removed from their backgrounds and placed onto

a blank white page. These photos are of very good color, quality, and size. Each species is typically shown with just one photo; although some receive two photos where there is distinct differences in age, subspecies, or to show the ventral coloration of some of the earless lizards. Another 20+ black-and-white illustrations are included to show unique scale designs on the head of the *Crotalus* or on the sides of various lizards. Extra effort went into the range maps to show detail. This detail makes it obvious as to where the various mountain sky-islands, rivers, or arid desert habitats are located for the niche-specific species. Each page reviews 2-4 species with text that is mostly dedicated to identification and field marks. Brief, but descriptive text is also given for the habitats and behavior. This book will help the herpetologist identify most of the species encountered in Arizona. I say "most" because the great variation in the whiptails is one of the weaknesses of this book. Only one of the 11 species has more than one photo. There can be notable differences with the extent or boldness of the spotting and striping of this group, affected by age, range, and individual variation. None of this variation is shown in the book and is only briefly noted in the text. Overall, this is very good book and should be added to your library. I've listed several related books below... 1) *The National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Reptiles and Amphibians* 2) *Amphibians and Reptiles of Maricopa County, AZ* by Brennan/Holycross 3) *A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians* by Stebbins 4) *Handbook of Lizards of the US and Canada* by Smith

This is everything a regional field guide should be. It has great pictures, clear diagrams, and excellent information. It's also the perfect size. Not too big to fit in a day pack. I highly recommend this book.

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First Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians Reptiles and Amphibians (A Golden Guide from St. Martin's Press) Eye of Newt and Toe of Frog, Adder's Fork and Lizard's Leg: The Lore and Mythology of Amphibians and Reptiles Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia Smithsonian Handbooks: Reptiles and Amphibians (Smithsonian Handbooks) Herpetology, Fourth Edition: An Introductory Biology of Amphibians and Reptiles Reptiles & Amphibians Dot-to-Dot (Connect the Dots & Color) Relaxing Reptiles & Amphibians: Adult Coloring Book (Wild Color) (Volume 1) Miles and Miles of Reptiles: All About Reptiles (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library) Arizona Real Estate License Exam Prep: All-in-One Review and Testing to Pass Arizona's Pearson Vue Real Estate Exam Field Guide to the Snakes and Other Reptiles of Southern Africa

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