

# Amphibians and Reptiles



## Amphibians and Reptiles in Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone has a cool, dry climate. Amphibians need moisture to live, so only four known species of amphibians live in the park. The species are boreal toad, chorus frog, spotted frog, and tiger salamander. They are found by the lakes, streams and rivers. Since 1991, researchers from Idaho State University and the park staff have been monitoring amphibians in the park. The western spotted frog and the boreal toad are being seen less.

The cool, dry climate also limits the species of reptiles found in the park. The known species of reptiles that live there are prairie rattlesnake, bull snake, valley garter snake, wandering garter snake, rubber boa, and sagebrush lizard. Desert and box turtles have also been seen in the park.

### What did you learn about the amphibians and reptiles of Yellowstone?

1. How many species of amphibians are known to live in Yellowstone National Park?

There are four known species of amphibians in Yellowstone.

2. How many species of reptiles are known to live in Yellowstone?

Including the turtles, there are eight known species of reptiles in Yellowstone.

3. Which amphibians are being seen less in the park since 1991?

The western spotted frog and the boreal toad are being seen less.

