

Permit 2023-008

Name:

Ramsey Langford

Department or Organization:

Summit Metro Parks

Email Address:

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Are you requesting renewal of a previously approved permit applicaton?

No

Type of activities at The University of Akron Field Station and Bath Nature Preserve
Research

Title of project or class name and course number:

Spotted Turtle Survey

Date/Dates requested:

6-13-2023 to 6-30-2023

Number of people in group:

3

I am requesting permission to use a Research Area.

Yes

I am requesting permission to use a Sensitive Area.

No

I am requesting permission to use areas outside of the designated Research or Sensitive Areas.

No

I would like to use the Martin Center for Field Studies and Environmental Education for this prop...

No

Will the activity involve destructive sampling/collecting?

No

Which Research Areas?

South Woods

Provide a brief description of (1) your proposed activities, (2) goals, and (3) impacts of your u...

The objective of this research permit is to complete a presence/absence survey for Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*) at the Panzner Wetland Wildlife Preserve. These animals are listed by The Ohio Division of Wildlife as an Ohio "Threatened" species, which means that the survival of this species in Ohio is not in immediate jeopardy, but to which a threat exists. Continued or increased stress will result

in this animal becoming an Ohio Endangered species (close to extirpation from the State). Spotted Turtles are also of major conservation concern in neighboring States and Canada (Endangered in Illinois & Indiana, Threatened in at least 3 other states, and Endangered in Canada).

Presence/absence surveying procedures for spotted turtles follow approved protocols by the Division of Wildlife. These include Visual Encounter Surveys (VES) and turtle trapping.

VES consisted of searching in appropriate habitat, especially during the turtle's most active time, the spring, and consisted of slowly walking through the site looking for tracks or turtles basking in the water. To aid in the search, binoculars are used to scan basking areas (logs, hummocks, tussocks, etc). Polarized sunglasses were also used to observe turtles under the water.

Aquatic traps will also be used to capture turtles at the Panzner Wetland Wildlife Preserve. These traps are specifically designed so they are effective in shallow-water wetlands, where spotted turtles reside. These traps are strategically placed throughout the various wetland areas and in a manner so no harm will come to the animal (through predation or lack of oxygen).

Traps will be checked every day after placement (approximately 24 hours from) from the hours of 12:00pm-6:00pm. Biologists will only be onsite during this window for about 2 hours. We would like to begin as soon as possible before turtle nesting season has ceased for 2023. We are asking for this permit only until June 30th, 2023.

The goals and impacts of this presence/absence survey would be to capture a individual to verify that they are located at the Panzner Wetland Wildlife Preserve. With this, The University of Akron could better protect this threatened species. With every spotted turtle collected the following data will be collected:

Data Collection:

- Latitude and Longitude of the location from a handheld GPS unit
- Date
- Age class (juvenile or adult)
- Sex
- Visible presence of any abnormalities, deformities, or disease processes
- Carapace length
- Plastron length
- Height
- Width
- Mass
- Blood Work

Additionally, each Spotted Turtle captured would be injected with a Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag for permanent identification. A photograph, both dorsal and ventral, of each Spotted Turtle encountered at each site will also be captured.

By checking this box, I agree to the above terms and state that all of the above information is c...
I agree