

Summary: Paul Crump, Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

Paul Crump of Houston Zoo submitted a proposal “Composition and abundance of the herpetofauna of the Big Thicket National Preserve” that was approved in the ToD Minutes Oct. 10, 2008 for \$3440.92. An additional \$650 was budgeted for in kind lodging. He worked with partners Rachel Rommel and Pete Riger

The objective of his project was to document the composition and abundance of the herpetofauna of the Big Thicket National Preserve. Some excellent work on the region has been done but information from within the preserve’s borders is scant.

The project was completed, reports filed and data shared with NPS by Mona Halvorsen.

Waddle- Not ToD funded

A 2010-11 list of species is in the file but we did not have corresponding data.

Michael Smith- Not ToD Funded

Daniel Leavitt

An IAR Report 2008 is in the file but no information.

Submitted by Mary C. Johnston, Nov. 12, 2020

In 2026 ToD Chair Mary C. Johnston and Intern, Natalia Doiron, reviewed files and records.

In the 2011 Taxa Tally, 58 Herpetofauna were listed under Amphibians. In the June 2012 Taxa Tally, 58 Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians) were listed from 2009-10 data. This was a change in the chart format. 92 were listed as historical as they were identified prior to 2006. The list of 92 species names was not found.

In the 2010 Final Report herpetofauna numbers grew. 64 reptiles were listed and 21 amphibians. The Tally was not updated. For 2026 the new herpetofauna records lists 66 species which includes combined data from Crump and Smith.

Other researchers have conducted studies but they were not ToD related and verification data was not available. A folder in Crump's file contained photographs of a seminar hosted at the FRS.

An interesting related publication from Southwestern Naturalist was in the files from 2013. "Effects of Hurricane Rita at Village Creek State Park, Hardin County, Texas."

Submitted by: ToD Chair, Mary C. Johnston, April 4, 2026