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**Amphibians
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Carrizo Plain Natural Area

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Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carrizo Plain Natural Area

This checklist includes 24 species which currently occur within the Carrizo Plain Natural Area. Also included are two species (indicated with a "?") which may occur in the Carrizo Plain Natural Area, but have not yet been verified.

This checklist can best be used with a field guide to amphibians and reptiles that provides identification and natural history information. Species common and scientific names generally follow Laudenslayer and Grenfell (1983).

The Carrizo Plain Natural Area encompasses a variety of habitat types. The major habitat types include Juniper, Mixed Scrubland, Alkali Desert Scrub and Annual Grassland. The habitat classification used in this checklist is generally based on A Guide to Wildlife Habitats of California (Mayer and Laudenslayer 1988) and Preliminary Descriptions of the Terrestrial Natural Communities of California (Holland 1986).

Habitat Types of the Carrizo Plain Natural Area

Juniper (JUN) - Includes Juniper Oak Cismontane Woodland (71430) and Cismontane Juniper Woodland and Scrub (72400).

A dense to open woodland characterized by scattered junipers, oaks, low shrubs, and non-native annual grasses. Higher elevations of the Temblor and Caliente Ranges.

Mixed Scrubland (MSC) - Includes Upper Sonoran Subshrub Scrub (39000).

A low drought tolerant shrubland dominated by ephedra, golden bush and non-native annual grasses. Elkhorn Plain and lower elevations of the Caliente Range.

Alkali Desert Scrub (ASC) - Includes Valley Sink Scrub (36210), Valley Saltbush Scrub (36220) and Interior Coast Range Saltbush Scrub (36320).

A low shrubland dominated by iodine bush or saltbush and non-native annual grasses. From the margins of Soda Lake to the foothills of the Temblor and Caliente Ranges.

Annual Grassland (AGS) - Includes Non-native Grassland (42200).

Non-native annual grassland dominated by bromes, filaree and schismus. Found mainly in the central portion of the Carrizo Plain Natural Area.

Amphibians

Salamanders - ORDER Caudata	Habitat	Occurrence
Lungless Salamanders - Family Plethodontidae		
Black-bellied Slender Salamander <i>Batrachoseps nigriventris</i>	JUN/MSC	C
Frogs and Toads - ORDER Salientia		
Spadefoot Toads - Family Pelobatidae		
Western Spadefoot Toad <i>Scaphiopus hammondi</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	C
True Toads - Family Bufonidae		
Western Toad <i>Bufo boreas</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	C
Treefrogs and Relatives - Family Hylidae		
Pacific Treefrog <i>Pseudacris (Hyla) regilla</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	C

KEY TO CODES

JUN - Juniper

ASC - Alkali Desert Scrub

C - Common in appropriate habitat.

U - Uncommon even in appropriate habitat.

R - Rare, observed only a few times.

? - Possibly occurs.

☆ - State or federally listed species.

MSC - Mixed Scrubland

AGS - Annual Grassland

(71430) - Element Code from Holland 1986.

Literature Cited

Holland, R.F. 1986. Preliminary descriptions of terrestrial natural communities of California. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game. 156 pages.

Laudenslayer, W.F., Jr. and W.E. Grenfell, Jr. 1983. A list of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals of California. Outdoor California 44:5-14.

Mayer, K.E., and W.F. Laudenslayer, Jr., editors. 1988. A guide to wildlife habitats of California. State of California, The Resources Agency, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 166 pages.

Reptiles

Lizards & Snakes - ORDER Squamata	Habitat	Occurrence
Iguanids - Family Iguanidae		
Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard☆ <i>Gambelia sika</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	C
Western Fence Lizard <i>Sceloporus occidentalis</i>	JUN/MSC	C
Side-blotched Lizard <i>Uta stansburiana</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	C
Coast Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma coronatum</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	U
Night Lizards - Family Xantusiidae		
Desert Night Lizard <i>Xantusia vigilis</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC	C
Skinks - Family Scincidae		
Gilbert's Skink <i>Eumeces gilberti</i>	JUN/MSC/AGS	U
Whiptails and Relatives - Family Teiidae		
Western Whiptail <i>Cnemidophorus tigris</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	C
Alligator Lizards and Relatives - Family Anguillidae		
Southern Alligator Lizard <i>Elegia multicarinata</i>	MSC/AGS	U
California Legless Lizards - Family Anniellidae		
California Legless Lizard <i>Anniella pulchra</i>	JUN/MSC	U
Colubrids - Family Colubridae		
Racer <i>Coluber constrictor</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	R
Coachwhip <i>Masticophis flagellum</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	C
California Whipsnake <i>Masticophis lateralis</i>	JUN/MSC	C
Western Patch-nosed Snake <i>Salvadora hexalepis</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	R
Glossy Snake <i>Arizona elegans</i>	MSC/ASC/AGS	U
Gopher Snake <i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	C
Common Kingsnake <i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	U
Long-nosed Snake <i>Rhinocellus lecontei</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	R
Common Garter Snake <i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	JUN/MSC/AGS	R
California Black-headed Snake <i>Tantilla planiceps</i>	JUN/MSC/AGS	?
Southwestern Black-headed Snake <i>Tantilla hobartsmithi</i>	ASC	?
Night Snake <i>Hypsiglena torquata</i>	JUN/MSC	C
Vipers - Family Viperidae		
Western Rattlesnake <i>Crotalus viridis</i>	JUN/MSC/ASC/AGS	C