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New County Records from Grundy County, Tennessee on the Mid-Cumberland Plateau of Southern Tennessee, USA

The southeastern United States is known for its high herpetofaunal diversity, which can be partly explained by high habitat diversity (Bailey et al. 2006). However, there are still many areas within the southeast that are not well studied, with little scientific documentation of species composition. One such area is the mid-Cumberland Plateau, in particular Grundy Co., Tennessee. Previous documentations for the area can be found in Anderson and Tilley (2003), Fontanella et al. (2008), Miller and Niemiller (2007), Miller et al. (2005) and Williams (1988). However, most of these reports dealt with a single species. Miller et al. (2005) provided the most extensive documentation of species composition in and around Grundy Co..

We implemented a research project addressing herpetofaunal response to oak-regenerating silviculture treatments in

2009–2010. We detected a total of 33 species and 11 are declared new county records. All records were deposited as photographic vouchers in Austin Peay State University (APSU) David H. Snyder Museum of Zoology. All verified by Arthur F. Scott. Along with verification by A. Scott, all specimens were referenced for accuracy by checking Redmond and Scott (1996) and Scott and Redmond (2008). Nomenclature and standard English names follow those used in Crother (2008). Locality coordinates are in decimal degrees in NAD83 UTM zone 16N.

TESTUDINES – TURTLES

CHELYDRA SERPENTINA SERPENTINA (Eastern Snapping Turtle). GRUNDY Co.: Burrow Cove. 5 September 2010. APSU 19073. Found crossing logging road (35.2351°N, 85.5037°W).

TERRAPENE CAROLINA CAROLINA (Eastern Box Turtle). GRUNDY Co.: Burrow Cove. 2 August 2009. APSU 18991. Found in oak/hickory forest (35.2323°N 85.5039°W).

ANURA – FROGS

SCAPHIOPUS HOLBROOKII (Eastern Spadefoot). GRUNDY Co.: Burrow Cove. 7 August 2009. APSU 19001. Caught in pitfall trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2219°N, 85.5050°W).

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SCINCELLA LATERALIS (Little Brown Skink). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 8 June 2010. APSU 19075. Caught in a pitfall trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2218°N, 85.5050°W).

SQUAMATA - SNAKES

AGKISTRODON CONTORTRIX (Copperhead). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 9 August 2009. APSU 18992. Caught in a funnel trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2255°N, 85.5109°W).

COLUBER CONSTRICTOR (North American Racer). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 14 June 2009. APSU 18999. Caught in funnel trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2232°N, 85.5048°W).

CROTALUS HORRIDUS (Timber Rattlesnake). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 10 August 2009. APSU 18993. Caught in funnel trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2347°N, 85.5042°W).

HETERODON PLATIRHINOS (Eastern Hog-nosed Snake). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 11 June 2009. APSU 19000. Caught in funnel trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2349°N, 85.5040°W).

LAMPROPELTIS GETULA NIGRA (Eastern Black Kingsnake). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 21 July 2010. APSU 19072. Caught in funnel trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2230°N, 85.5052°W).

STORERIA OCCIPITOMACULATA OCCIPITOMACULATA (Northern Red-bellied Snake). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 8 September 2009. APSU 19001. Caught in a pitfall trap in oak/hickory forest (35.2219°N, 85.5051°W).

VIRGINIA VALERIAE (Smooth Earthsnake). GRUNDY CO.: Burrow Cove. 7 September 2009. APSU 19003. Caught in a pitfall trap in Oak/Hickory Forest (35.2224°N, 85.5038°W).

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