

**SPECIES IDENTIFICATION SHEETS**

**REPTILES/AMPHIBIANS**

REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN:

Bog turtle *Glyptemys muhlenbergi*

FEDERAL LIST:

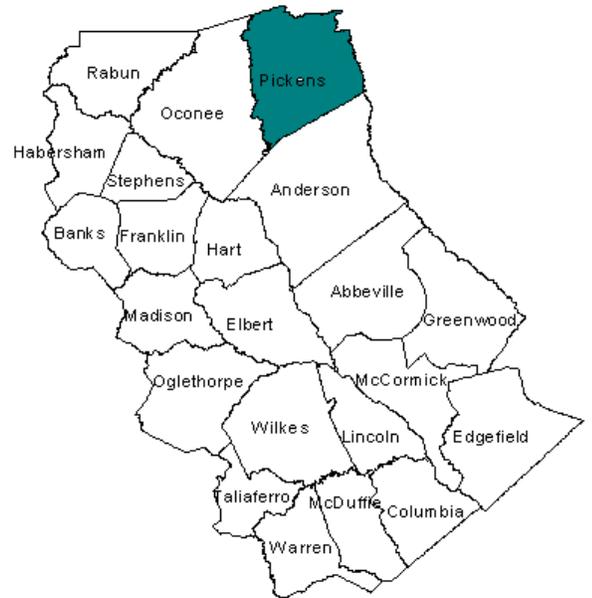
GEORGIA  
Threatened

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Threatened

STATE LIST:

GEORGIA  
Endangered

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Threatened



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This turtle is 3.0-4.5in (7.5-11.5cm) long with a record of 4.5in (11.5cm). Formerly called "Muhlenberg's turtle" it is a small brown turtle. The head patch sometimes is yellow or split in 2 parts. Scutes of the carapace are light brown to mahogany and may have yellowish or reddish centers. On large scutes a light-brown or orange sunburst pattern may be present; it is weakly keeled and rough or smooth depending on age. The plastron is brownish-black with varying amounts of yellow along the midline; hingeless, with 12 scutes. The male has a concave plastron and thick tail, with anal opening beyond the margin of the carapace. This turtle reaches sexual maturity in 5-7 years. Mating takes place during the first warm days of spring with nesting in June. It lays a single clutch of 1-6 (typically 3-4) elliptical, flexible- shelled eggs, averaging 1.1in (2.8cm) in length in a 2in (5cm) nest cavity. Hatchlings emerge in August and September after incubating 6-9 weeks. At hatching the young are about 1in (2.5cm) in length. The color patches may be few or (rarely) lacking entirely on the young. In some cases it may be necessary to examine head and neck for several yellow or orange spots. In the male the horny portion of both jaws is almost completely covered with dark pigment. This turtle is very secretive. Active from April to mid-

October, it searches out a wide variety of prey, including tadpoles, slugs, snails, worms, and insects. In spring it often basks in full sunlight atop grassy tussocks.

**GENERAL HABITAT:** Habitat includes sphagnum bogs, swamps, spring seepages, and clear, slow-moving meadow streams with muddy bottoms are preferred. It also inhabits wet cow pastures and slow-moving, narrow, shallow rivulets. During hot periods the turtle buries itself in mud or vegetative debris, exposing only a small portion of its shell to the sun. Winter is spent buried deep in mud flooded by subterranean waters. Man's propensity for draining and reclaiming the habitat of this species has contributed to its disappearance in many areas.

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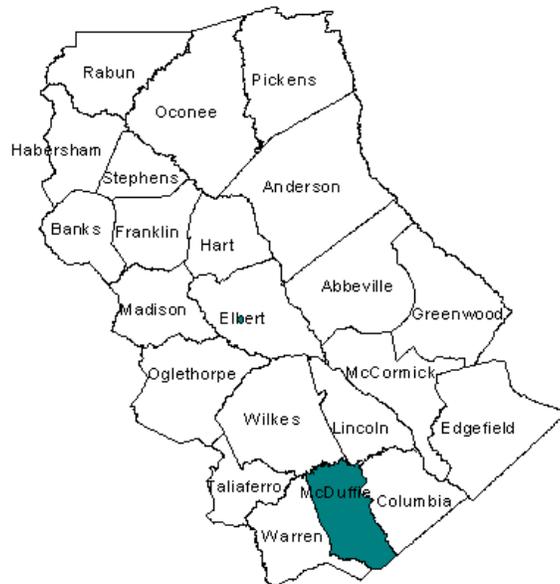
REPTILE

Southern Hognose Snake

*Heterodon simus*

FEDERAL LIST:  
None

STATE LIST:  
Georgia Threatened



**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Heavy bodied snake; 12-24 inches; upturned snout; is distinguished from Eastern hognose by coloration on underside of tail. The coloration on the underside of the tail on the southern hognose is similar to the rest of the belly.

**GENERAL HABITAT:** Typically, coastal plain or sandhills physiographic region; found in sandy fields and open woodlands.

REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN:

Southern Coal Skink *Eumeces anthracinus pluvialis*

FEDERAL LIST:

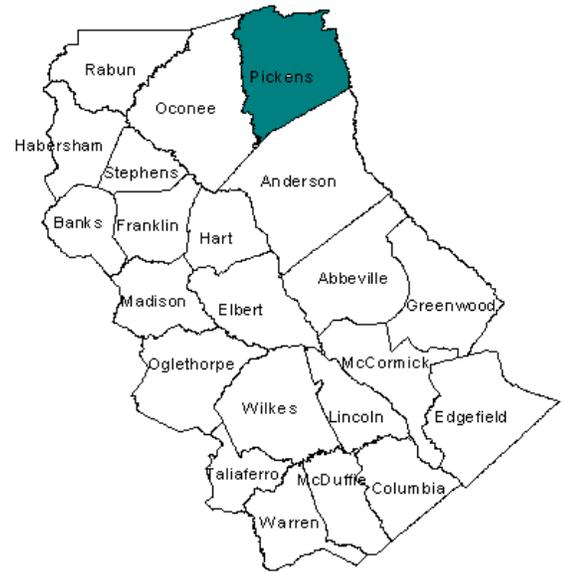
GEORGIA  
Unlisted

STATE LIST:

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Unlisted

GEORGIA  
Unlisted

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Threatened



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The Coal Skink is 5-7in (13-17.8cm) in length with a maximum of 2.75in (7cm) head-body length. This is a 4-lined skink, but with the light stripes extending onto the tail. The broad dark lateral stripe is 4-4.5 scales wide and there are no light lines on top of the head. The dorsolateral light stripe is on the edges of the 3rd and 4th scale rows, counting from midline of back. One postmental scale is present. The sides of the head of the male are reddish during spring breeding season, at least in some parts of the range. The Coal Skink mates in the spring or early summer, laying a clutch of 8 or 9 eggs in four to five weeks. The young of one subspecies is plain black; the other subspecies young are patterned like the adults. Young are about 1.9in (5cm) at hatching.

The Southern Coal Skink as a subspecies has posterior supralabials with light centers and dark edges, producing a spotted appearance. There are 26 or more rows of scales around the middle of the body. Sometimes the black-colored young have faint suggestions of light stripes or whitish labial spots or both; snout and lips may be reddish and the tail is blue.

GENERAL HABITAT: The more humid portions of wooded hillsides with abundant leaf litter or loose stones are favorite habitats. This skink's habitat may also include areas around springs and rocky bluffs

overlooking creek valleys. If pursued, they will not hesitate to take refuge in shallow water, going to the bottom and hiding under stones or debris. They live in isolated colonies in Georgia and Alabama. The southern Coal Skink intergrades with the Northern Coal Skink in parts of the Southeast. Humans are destroying or altering their habitat.

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REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN:

Green Salamander *Aneides aeneus*

FEDERAL LIST:

GEORGIA  
Unlisted

STATE LIST:

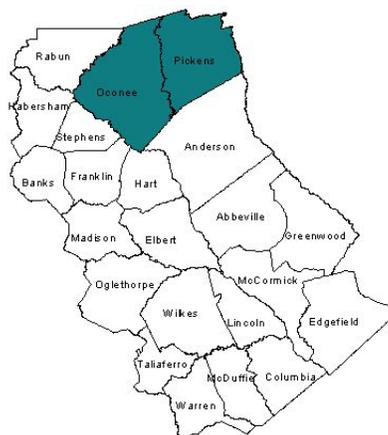
SOUTH CAROLINA  
Unlisted

GEORGIA  
Rare

SOUTH CAROLINA  
Unlisted



R.D. Bartlett



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This flattened salamander is dark in color with green or yellow lichen-like markings on the back; toes are square at tip.

GENERAL HABITAT: Found in moist rock crevices; however, recent information suggests that they may frequent hardwood tree canopies.

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REPTILE/AMPHIBIAN:

Webster's Salamander *Plethodon websteri*



FEDERAL LIST:

GEORGIA Unlisted  
SOUTH CAROLINA Unlisted

STATE LIST:

GEORGIA Unlisted  
SOUTH CAROLINA Endangered

← 2 cm →



**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** This species is a small, brown salamander with a light red/orange stripe running down its back. It was believed to be part of the widespread zig-zag salamander species, until it was reclassified, in 1979, due to information obtained from biochemical techniques. It is currently classified as a unique species, separate but related to the zig-zag salamander. Courtship and mating probably occur between January and March, with eggs being laid in June or July. Eggs hatch in August or September. Adults are known to feed on termites from October through May.

**GENERAL HABITAT:** Webster's salamander has been found to inhabit approximately 20 sites, in McCormick and Edgefield counties, South Carolina. Its preferred habitat consists of streams that are underlain by rock in moist, rich hardwood forests. This salamander is usually found under fallen trees and rocks. During the drier summer months, it retreats underground into cracks and fissures of the underlying rocks.

One site at which the species is found is the Stevens Creek Natural Area, a Heritage Preserve of the South Carolina Heritage Trust Program. Habitat loss, due to clear-cutting, is apparently the primary threat to the species' continued existence. Protection of the population in Stevens Creek, and possibly some additional sites, should assure the survival of the Webster's salamander in South Carolina.

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