

List of the Amphibian and Reptile species of North Carolina

		M	P	C
Sirenidae: [2]				
__ <i>Siren intermedia</i>	Lesser Siren [S4 G5]			U/C
__ <i>Siren lacertina</i>	Greater Siren [S3 G5] [W].....			U
Cryptobranchidae: [1]				
__ <i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis</i>	Hellbender [S3 G3G4] [SC FSC]	U		
Proteidae: [3]				
__ <i>Necturus lewisi</i>	Neuse River Waterdog [S2 G2] [SC FSC]		R	R
__ <i>Necturus maculosus</i>	Mudpuppy [Common Mudpuppy] [S1 G5] [SC].....	R(L)		
__ <i>Necturus punctatus</i>	Dwarf Waterdog [S5 G5]		R(L)	U/C
Amphiumidae: [1]				
__ <i>Amphiuma means</i>	Two-toed Amphiuma [S4 G5]		R(L)	U/C
Ambystomatidae: [5]				
__ <i>Ambystoma mabeei</i>	Mabee's Salamander [S2 G4] [T].....			R/U
__ <i>Ambystoma maculatum</i>	Spotted Salamander [S5 G5]	C	C	R(L)
__ <i>Ambystoma opacum</i>	Marbled Salamander [S5 G5]	U(L)	C	C
__ <i>Ambystoma talpoideum</i>	Mole Salamander [S2S3 G5] [SC].....	R(L)	R/U	
__ <i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>	Eastern Tiger Salamander [S2 G5] [T].....		R(L)	U(L)
Salamandridae: [1]				
__ <i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>	Eastern Newt [S5 G5]	C/A	C/A	C/A
Plethodontidae: [49]				
__ <i>Aneides aeneus</i>	Green Salamander [S2S3 G3G4] [T FSC]	U(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus aeneus</i>	Seepage Salamander [S3 G3G4] [W FSC]	U(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus auriculatus</i>	# Southern Dusky Salamander [S5 G5]			C/A
__ <i>Desmognathus fuscus</i>	Northern Dusky Salamander [S5 G5]	A	A	C(L)
__ <i>Desmognathus imitator</i>	Imitator Salamander [S3 G3G4]	A(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus imitator pop</i>	Imitator Salamander - Waterrock Knob population [S1? G3G4TNR] [W].....	U(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus monticola</i>	Seal Salamander [S5 G5]	A	C(L)	
__ <i>Desmognathus quadramaculatus</i>	* Common Black-bellied Salamander [Black-bellied Salamander] [S5 G5]	C/A	U(L)	
__ <i>Desmognathus wrighti</i>	* Southern Pygmy Salamander [Pygmy Salamander] [S2S3 G3] [SR FSC]	U		
__ <i>Desmognathus santeetlah</i>	Santeetlah Dusky Salamander [S3S4 G3G4Q] [W].....	C(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus carolinensis</i>	Carolina Mountain Dusky Salamander [S3S4 G4]	C		
__ <i>Desmognathus ocoee</i>	Ocoee Salamander [S4 G5]	U/C		
__ <i>Desmognathus orestes</i>	Blue Ridge Dusky Salamander [S3S4 G4]	C		
__ <i>Desmognathus marmoratus</i>	Shovel-nosed Salamander [S4 G4]	C		
__ <i>Desmognathus folkertsii</i>	Dwarf Black-bellied Salamander [S1 G2] [SC].....	U(L)		
__ <i>Desmognathus organi</i>	Northern Pygmy Salamander [S2 G3] [SR FSC]	U		
__ <i>Desmognathus conanti</i>	Spotted Dusky Salamander [S4 G5]	C(L)		
__ <i>Eurycea junaluska</i>	Junaluska Salamander [S1S2 G3] [T FSC]	U(L)		
__ <i>Eurycea longicauda</i>	Longtail Salamander [Long-tailed Salamander] [S1S2 G5] [SC].....	R/U(L)		
__ <i>Eurycea quadridigitata</i>	* Dwarf Salamander [Florida Dwarf Salamander] [S2 G5] [SC].....			U(L)
__ <i>Eurycea chamberlaini</i>	Chamberlain's Dwarf Salamander [S4 G4] FSC]		U(L)	U
__ <i>Eurycea cirrigera</i>	Southern Two-lined Salamander [S5 G5]	?	C/A	C
__ <i>Eurycea wilderae</i>	Blue Ridge Two-lined Salamander [S5 G5]	C/A		
__ <i>Eurycea sp</i>	Sandhills Salamander [S3 G3?Q] [W].....			U(L)
__ <i>Eurycea guttolineata</i>	Three-lined Salamander [S5 G5]	U	C	C(L)
__ <i>Gyrinophilus porphyriticus</i>	Spring Salamander [S5 G5]	C	C(L)	
__ <i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>	Four-toed Salamander [S3 G5] [SC].....	R(L)	R/U	R(L)
__ <i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	Eastern Red-backed Salamander [Red-backed Salamander] [S5 G5]	U/C	U(L)	R/U(L)
__ <i>Plethodon glutinosus</i>	# Northern Slimy Salamander [SU G5] [W].....	?(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon jordani</i>	Jordan's Salamander [Red-cheeked Salamander] [S3 G4] [W].....	A(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon richmondi</i>	Southern Ravine Salamander [S3 G5] [W].....	U/C(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon serratus</i>	Southern Red-backed Salamander [S4 G5]	C		
__ <i>Plethodon wehrlei</i>	Wehrle's Salamander [S1S2 G4] [T].....	R/U(L)	R/U(L)	
__ <i>Plethodon welleri</i>	Weller's Salamander [S2 G3] [SC FSC]	U(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon yonahlossee</i>	Yonahlossee Salamander [S4 G4]	U/C		
__ <i>Plethodon yonahlossee pop</i>	Crevice Salamander [S2 G4T1T2Q] [SC].....	U(L)	U(L)	
__ <i>Plethodon aureolus</i>	Tellico Salamander [S2? G2G3] [SR].....	U(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon teyahalee</i>	Southern Appalachian Salamander [S4 G4]	U/C		
__ <i>Plethodon ventralis</i>	Southern Zigzag Salamander [S1 G4] [SC].....	R(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon cylindraceus</i>	White-spotted Slimy Salamander [S5 G5]	C	C	C(L)

Plethodontidae: [cont.]

		M	P	C
__ <i>Plethodon montanus</i>	Northern Gray-cheeked Salamander [S5 G4]	A		
__ <i>Plethodon metcalfi</i>	Southern Gray-cheeked Salamander [S5 G4]	A		
__ <i>Plethodon amplus</i>	Blue Ridge Gray-cheeked Salamander [S2 G2] [SR FSC]	C(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon meridianus</i>	South Mountain Gray-cheeked Salamander [S2 G2] [SR FSC]		C(L)	
__ <i>Plethodon shermani</i>	Red-legged Salamander [S3S4 G3] [W].....	C(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon cheoah</i>	Cheoah Bald Salamander [S1S2 G1G2] [SR FSC]	C?(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon chatahoochee</i>	Chatahoochee Slimy Salamander [S1? G2G3] [SR].....	R?(L)		
__ <i>Plethodon chlorobryonis</i>	Atlantic Coast Slimy Salamander [S5 G5]			C
__ <i>Pseudotriton montanus</i>	Mud Salamander [S5 G5]	U(L)	C	C
__ <i>Pseudotriton ruber</i>	Red Salamander [S5 G5]	C	C	U(L)
__ <i>Stereochilus marginatus</i>	Many-lined Salamander [S4 G5]			U/C

Pelobatidae: [1]

__ <i>Scaphiopus holbrookii</i>	Eastern Spadefoot [S5 G5]	R(L)	R/U(L)	C
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Bufo

__ <i>Anaxyrus americanus</i> [<i>Bufo americanus</i>].....	American Toad [S5 G5]	C	C	U(L)
__ <i>Anaxyrus fowleri</i> [<i>Bufo fowleri</i>].....	Fowler's Toad [S5 G5]	C/A	A	C/A
__ <i>Anaxyrus quercicus</i> [<i>Bufo quercicus</i>].....	Oak Toad [S3 G5] [SR].....			U
__ <i>Anaxyrus terrestris</i> [<i>Bufo terrestris</i>].....	Southern Toad [S5 G5]			A

Hylidae: [16]

__ <i>Acris crepitans</i>	Northern Cricket Frog [Eastern Cricket Frog] [S5 G5]	U	A	C(L)
__ <i>Acris gryllus</i>	Southern Cricket Frog [S5 G5]			C/A
__ <i>Hyla andersonii</i>	Pine Barrens Treefrog [S3 G4] [SR].....			R/U
__ <i>Hyla chrysoscelis</i>	Cope's Gray Treefrog [S5 G5]	C	C/A	C/A
__ <i>Hyla cinerea</i>	Green Treefrog [S5 G5]		U(L)	C/A
__ <i>Hyla femoralis</i>	Pine Woods Treefrog [S5 G5]		U(L)	C
__ <i>Hyla gratiosa</i>	Barking Treefrog [S4 G5]		R(L)	U/C
__ <i>Hyla squirella</i>	Squirrel Treefrog [S5 G5]		U(L)	C/A
__ <i>Hyla versicolor</i>	* Common Gray Treefrog [Gray Treefrog] [S2S3 G5] [SC].....	?(L)	R(L)	
__ <i>Pseudacris brachyphona</i>	Mountain Chorus Frog [S2 G5] [SC].....	R/U(L)		
__ <i>Pseudacris brimleyi</i>	Brimley's Chorus Frog [S4 G5]			U/C
__ <i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>	Spring Peeper [S5 G5]	C/A	C/A	C/A
__ <i>Pseudacris feriarum</i>	Upland Chorus Frog [S5 G5]	U(L)	C/A	C(L)
__ <i>Pseudacris nigrita</i>	Southern Chorus Frog [S2 G5] [SR].....			R/U
__ <i>Pseudacris ocularis</i>	Little Grass Frog [S5 G5]			C
__ <i>Pseudacris ornata</i>	Ornate Chorus Frog [S1S2 G5] [E].....			R

Microhylidae: [1]

__ <i>Gastrophryne carolinensis</i>	Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad [S5 G5]		U/C	C
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Ranidae: [10]

__ <i>Rana capito</i> [<i>Lithobates capito</i>].....	Gopher Frog [Carolina Gopher Frog] [S1 G3] [E FSC]			R
__ <i>Rana catesbeiana</i> [<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>].....	American Bullfrog [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Rana clamitans</i> [<i>Lithobates clamitans</i>].....	Green Frog [S5 G5]	C	C/A	C/A
__ <i>Rana heckscheri</i> [<i>Lithobates heckscheri</i>].....	River Frog [SH G5] [E].....			H(L)
__ <i>Rana kauffeldi</i> [<i>Lithobates kauffeldi</i>].....	+ Atlantic Coast Leopard Frog [Kauffeld's Leopard Frog] [SU GNR] [W].....			U?
__ <i>Rana palustris</i> [<i>Lithobates palustris</i>].....	Pickerel Frog [S5 G5]	U/C	U/C	U
__ <i>Rana sphenocephala</i> [<i>Lithobates sphenocephalus</i>].....	Southern Leopard Frog [S5 G5]		A	A
__ <i>Rana sylvatica</i> [<i>Lithobates sylvaticus</i>].....	Wood Frog [S5 G5]	C		R(L)
__ <i>Rana sylvaticus</i> pop. [<i>Lithobates sylvaticus</i> pop.].....	Wood Frog - Coastal Plain population [S1 G5TNR] [SR].....			R(L)
__ <i>Rana virgatipes</i> [<i>Lithobates virgatipes</i>].....	Carpenter Frog [S4 G4]			U/C

Alligatoridae: [1]

__ <i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>	American Alligator [S3 G5] [T T (S/A)]			U
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Chelydridae: [1]

__ <i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	* Common Snapping Turtle [Snapping Turtle] [S5 G5]	C	C	C
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Kinosternidae: [4]

__ <i>Kinosternon baurii</i>	Striped Mud Turtle [S3S4 G5] [W].....		R(L)	U
__ <i>Kinosternon subrubrum</i>	Eastern Mud Turtle [S5 G5]		C	C/A

Kinosternidae: [cont.]

		M	P	C
__ <i>Sternotherus minor</i>	Loggerhead Musk Turtle [Stripe-necked Musk Turtle] [S1 G5] [SC].....	R(L)		
__ <i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>	Eastern Musk Turtle [S5 G5]	R/U	C	C/A

Emydidae: [10]

__ <i>Chrysemys picta</i>	* Northern Painted Turtle [Painted Turtle] [S5 G5]	U/C	C/A	C
__ <i>Clemmys guttata</i>	Spotted Turtle [S4 G5]		U(L)	U/C
__ <i>Deirochelys reticularia</i>	Chicken Turtle [S3 G5] [SC].....			R/U
__ <i>Glyptemys mühlenbergii</i>	Bog Turtle [S2 G3] [T T (S/A)]	R	R(L)	
__ <i>Graptemys geographica</i>	Common Map Turtle [Northern Map Turtle] [S1 G5] [SR].....	R(L)		
__ <i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>	Diamondback Terrapin [Diamond-backed Terrapin] [S3 G4] [SC].....			U
__ <i>Pseudemys concinna</i>	River Cooter [S5 G5]		U/C	U/C
__ <i>Pseudemys rubriventris</i>	Northern Red-bellied Cooter [Red-bellied Cooter] [S4 G5] FSC]			U/C(L)
__ <i>Terrapene carolina</i>	Eastern Box Turtle [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Trachemys scripta</i>	Yellow-bellied Slider [Pond Slider] [S5 G5]		C/A	A
__ <i>Trachemys scripta troostii</i>	Cumberland Slider [S1 G5T4] [SC].....	R(L)		

Dermochelidae: [1]

__ <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Sea Turtle [S1B,SUN G2] [E E]			R(L)
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Cheloniidae: [4]

__ <i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Sea Turtle [S3B,S3N G3] [T T]			U(L)
__ <i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Sea Turtle [S1B,SUN G3] [T T]			R(L)
__ <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Sea Turtle [SAB,SUN G3] [E E]			X/R(L)
__ <i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle [S1B,SUN G1] [E E]			R(L)

Trionychidae: [1]

__ <i>Apalone spinifera</i>	Spiny Softshell [S3 G5] [W].....	R(L)	R/U(L)	?
__ <i>Apalone spinifera aspera</i>	Gulf Coast Spiny Softshell [S3 G5T5] [W].....		R/U(L)	?
__ <i>Apalone spinifera spinifera</i>	Eastern Spiny Softshell [S1 G5T5] [SC].....	R(L)		?

Polychrotidae: [2]

__ <i>Anolis carolinensis</i>	Green Anole [S5 G5]	R(L)	U	C
__ <i>Anolis sagrei</i>	+ Brown Anole [SE G5]			R(L)

Gekkonidae: [1]

__ <i>Hemidactylus turcicus</i>	+ Mediterranean Gecko [Mediterranean House Gecko] [SE G5]			R(L)
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Phrynosomatidae: [2]

__ <i>Phrynosoma cornutum</i>	+ Texas Horned Lizard [SE G4G5]			R(L)
__ <i>Sceloporus undulatus</i>	Eastern Fence Lizard [S5 G5]	C	C/A	C

Teiidae: [1]

__ <i>Aspidoscelis sexlineata</i> [<i>Cnemidophorus sexlineatus</i>].....	Six-lined Racerunner [S5 G5]	R/U	U	C/A
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Scincidae: [5]

__ <i>Plestiodon anthracinus</i> [<i>Eumeces anthracinus</i>].....	Coal Skink [S2S3 G5] [SR].....	R/U	X(L)	
__ <i>Plestiodon fasciatus</i> [<i>Eumeces fasciatus</i>].....	Common Five-lined Skink [Five-lined Skink] [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Plestiodon inexpectatus</i> [<i>Eumeces inexpectatus</i>].....	Southeastern Five-lined Skink [S5 G5]	R(L)	U/C	C/A
__ <i>Plestiodon laticeps</i> [<i>Eumeces laticeps</i>].....	Broad-headed Skink [S5 G5]	R	U/C	C
__ <i>Scincella lateralis</i>	Ground Skink [Little Brown Skink] [S5 G5]	R	C	C/A

Anguidae: [3]

__ <i>Ophisaurus attenuatus</i>	Slender Glass Lizard [S2 G5] [SR].....	X/R(L)	R	R
__ <i>Ophisaurus mimicus</i>	Mimic Glass Lizard [S1 G3] [SC FSC]			R(L)
__ <i>Ophisaurus ventralis</i>	Eastern Glass Lizard [S5 G5]		?	U/C

Colubridae: [32]

__ <i>Carphophis amoenus</i>	Eastern Worm Snake [Common Wormsnake] [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Cemophora coccinea</i>	Scarlet Snake [Scarletsnake] [S3 G5] [W].....	X/R(L)	R/U	U
__ <i>Coluber constrictor</i>	Black Racer [North American Racer] [S5 G5]	C	C	C/A
__ <i>Diadophis punctatus</i>	Ring-necked Snake [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Farancia abacura</i>	Mud Snake [Red-bellied Mudsake] [S4 G5]		R(L)	U/C
__ <i>Farancia erythrogramma</i>	Rainbow Snake [S3 G4] [SR].....			R/U
__ <i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>	Eastern Hognose Snake [Eastern Hog-nosed Snake] [S4S5 G5]	R/U	U/C	C
__ <i>Heterodon simus</i>	Southern Hognose Snake [Southern Hog-nosed Snake] [S2 G2] [T FSC]		X	R
__ <i>Lampropeltis calligaster</i>	Mole Kingsnake [Yellow-bellied Kingsnake] [S4 G5]	X	U	U

Colubridae: [cont.]

		M	P	C
__ <i>Lampropeltis elapsoides</i>	Scarlet Kingsnake [S3 G5] [W].....	X	R	U
__ <i>Lampropeltis getula</i>	Eastern Kingsnake [S4 G5]	R/U	U	C
__ <i>Lampropeltis getula pop.</i>	+ Eastern Kingsnake - Outer Banks population [S2 G5T2Q] [SC].....			U(L)
__ <i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>	Eastern Milk Snake [Milksnake] [S3 G5] [W].....	U	R(L)	
__ <i>Coluber flagellum</i> [<i>Masticophis flagellum</i>].....	Coachwhip [Eastern Coachwhip] [S3 G5] [SR].....		X	U
__ <i>Nerodia erythrogaster</i>	Red-bellied Water Snake [Plain-bellied Watersnake] [S5 G5]		U/C(L)	C
__ <i>Nerodia fasciata</i>	Banded Water Snake [Southern Watersnake] [S5 G5]			C
__ <i>Nerodia sipedon</i>	Northern Water Snake [Common Watersnake] [S5 G5]	C/A	C/A	U/C
__ <i>Nerodia sipedon williamengelsi</i>	Carolina Water Snake [S3 G5T3] [SC].....			U(L)
__ <i>Nerodia taxispilota</i>	Brown Water Snake [Brown Watersnake] [S5 G5]		R(L)	U/C
__ <i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>	Rough Green Snake [Rough Greensnake] [S5 G5]	U	U/C	C
__ <i>Pantherophis alleghaniensis</i> [<i>Elaphe obsoleta</i>].....	Rat Snake [Eastern Ratsnake] [S5 G5]	C/A	C/A	C/A
__ <i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>	Corn Snake [Red Cornsnake] [S5 G5]	R/U	U	U/C
__ <i>Pituophis melanoleucus</i>	* Northern Pine Snake [Eastern Pinesnake*] [S2 G4] [T].....	X	X	R/U(L)
__ <i>Liodytes rigida</i> [<i>Regina rigida</i>].....	Glossy Crayfish Snake [S2S3 G5] [SR].....			R/U
__ <i>Liodytes pygaea</i> [<i>Seminatrix pygaea</i>].....	Black Swamp Snake [Black Swampsnake] [S2 G5] [SC].....			R/U
__ <i>Regina septemvittata</i>	Queen Snake [Queensnake] [S4 G5]	U/C	U	R(L)
__ <i>Rhadinaea flavilata</i>	Pine Woods Snake [Pine Woods Littersnake] [S3 G4] [W].....			U
__ <i>Storeria dekayi</i>	Brown Snake [Dekay's Brownsnake] [S5 G5]	U/C	C	C
__ <i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i>	Red-bellied Snake [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Tantilla coronata</i>	Southeastern Crowned Snake [S4 G5]	R(L)	U	U/C
__ <i>Thamnophis sauritus</i>	Eastern Ribbon Snake [Eastern Ribbonsnake] [S4 G5]	R	R/U	U/C
__ <i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	Eastern Garter Snake [Common Gartersnake] [S5 G5]	C/A	C	C
__ <i>Virginia striatula</i>	Rough Earth Snake [Rough Earthsnake] [S5 G5]		U	U/C
__ <i>Virginia valeriae</i>	Smooth Earth Snake [Smooth Earthsnake] [S3 G5] [W].....	R	U	R/U

Elapidae: [1]

__ <i>Micrurus fulvius</i>	Eastern Coral Snake [Harlequin Coralsnake] [S1 G5] [E].....			X/R(L)
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Viperidae: [5]

__ <i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>	Copperhead [S5 G5]	C	C	C
__ <i>Agkistrodon piscivorus</i>	Cottonmouth [S5 G5]		R(L)	C
__ <i>Crotalus adamanteus</i>	Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake [Eastern Diamond-backed Rattlesnake] [S1 G4] [E FSC]			X/R(L)
__ <i>Crotalus horridus</i>	Timber Rattlesnake [S3 G4] [SC].....	U	R	U
__ <i>Sistrurus miliarius</i>	Pygmy Rattlesnake [Pigmy Rattlesnake] [S3 G5] [SC].....		X/R(L)	U

List of the Amphibians and Reptiles of North Carolina

This is a listing of the 167 amphibian and reptile species that have been documented to occur, or presumed to occur, in the state. Alternate scientific and common names are given in brackets. Listed after a species' common name is its State Rank and its Global Rank in the first set of brackets, and its State Status and U.S. Status (if it has such statuses) in the second set of brackets. The N.C. Natural Heritage Program (NC NHP) provides the State Ranks, and NatureServe assigns the Global Ranks. State Status of E, T, or SC is assigned by the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, whereas the NC NHP provides the SR and W categories. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assigns the U.S. Status categories. To the right of a species is its approximate Abundance Level in the three physiographic provinces (M = Mountains, P = Piedmont, and C = Coastal Plain), based primarily on the references listed below.

State Rank:

S1 = Critically imperiled in the state
S2 = Imperiled in the state
S3 = Rare or uncommon in the state
S4 = Apparently secure in the state
S5 = Demonstrably secure in the state
SH = Of historical occurrence, last record over 30 years ago
SA = Accidental or casual
SE = Exotic, presumed not native to the state
SU = Undetermined - need more information on status and trends
S#B = Breeding abundance (for migratory species)
S#N = Non-breeding abundance (for migratory species)

Global Rank - Global ranks are similar to state ranks except "in the state" is replaced by "globally". Additional global ranks are:
T = global rank of the subspecies/taxon
Q = questionable taxonomic assignment
NR = not yet ranked

State Status:

E = Endangered
T = Threatened
SC = Special Concern
SR = Significantly Rare
W = Watch List

E, T, and SC are legal designations by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission
SR and W are non-legal designations by the NC Natural Heritage Program

U.S. Status:

E = Endangered
T = Threatened
T (S/A) = Threatened due to Similarity of Appearance
FSC = Federal Species of Concern

Abundance Codes:

A = Abundant
C = Common
U = Uncommon
R = Rare
X = Casual; only a few records
(L) = Localized (occurs in less than 20% of the province)
H = Historical occurrence only
? = of uncertain occurrence in the province
Blank = Not recorded in that province

Primary references:

- Beane, J.C., A.L. Braswell, J.C. Mitchell, W.M. Palmer, and J.R. Harrison III. 2010. Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia. Second edition. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.
- Crother, B.I. (ed.). 2012. Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico, With Comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding. SSAR Herpetological Circular 39:1-92.
- Palmer, W.M., and A.L. Braswell. 1995. Reptiles of North Carolina. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.
- Powell, R., R. Conant, and J.T. Collins. 2016. Peterson Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of Eastern and Central North America. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston, Massachusetts.

The scientific names used in this list are from Crother (2012), which will be referred to as the "SSAR [Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles] Checklist" below. The common names are generally those used by Beane et al. (2010), with a few used instead by Crother; in a few cases, the common name is not used by either due to being a name nested within another species' common name (see * below). This list attempts to avoid common names that can cause confusion (e.g., Five-lined Skink and Southeastern Five-lined Skink; Gray Treefrog and Cope's Gray Treefrog). In a few cases, the common name used here is actually that of a subspecies found in NC rather than the full species, as the full species name might be unfamiliar to locals (e.g., the use of Mole Kingsnake [a subspecies name] and not Yellow-bellied Kingsnake [the full species name]).

Species of taxonomic uncertainty in North Carolina

Southern Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus auriculatus*). This species has taxonomic issues. Beane et al. (2010) state: "Recent research indicates that populations traditionally regarded as *D. auriculatus* over most of our area are more genetically similar to *D. fuscus* and *D. carolinensis*. *Desmognathus auriculatus* may not, in fact, occur within our region at all. Animals currently treated as *D. auriculatus* in Virginia and the Carolinas may instead represent several cryptic, undescribed species."

Northern Slimy Salamander (*Plethodon glutinosus*). A range map in Beane et al. (2010) indicates that this species presumably or probably occurs in the extreme northern mountains; it is definitely known from the adjacent Virginia mountains. However, due to recent splits in the "slimy salamander" complex, apparently genetic studies have not been done to determine which species (*P. glutinosus* or *P. cylindraceus*) is/are present in this part of North Carolina.

Species with nested common name issues:

* Common Black-bellied Salamander (*Desmognathus quadramaculatus*). The SSAR Checklist gives the English name as "Black-bellied Salamander"; however, this name violates their own Rule 18, because it is nested or contained within the name of Dwarf Black-bellied Salamander (*D. folkertsi*). This list adds the "Common" to avoid confusion between the two species; this is the English/common name given to the species by NatureServe Explorer.

* Southern Pygmy Salamander (*Desmognathus wrighti*). The SSAR Checklist gives the English name as "Pygmy Salamander"; however, this name violates their own Rule 18, because it is nested or contained within the name of Northern Pygmy Salamander (*D. organi*). This list adds the "Southern" to avoid confusion between the two species; this is the English/common name given to the species by NatureServe Explorer.

* Dwarf Salamander (*Eurycea quadridigitata*). This is a nested name contained wholly within the name of Chamberlain's Dwarf Salamander (*E. chamberlaini*). No reference uses "Chamberlain's Salamander" as a common name, but "Florida Dwarf Salamander" has been used as a common name for *E. quadridigitata*. This list leaves "Dwarf Salamander" as is for now, but it may soon use the name of Florida Dwarf Salamander to avoid confusion and eliminate nested names.

* Common Gray Treefrog (*Hyla versicolor*). The SSAR Checklist gives the English name as "Gray Treefrog"; however, this name violates their own Rule 18: "The full name of one species or subspecies should not be included in the longer name of a different species or subspecies." This becomes a nested name within a different species -- Cope's Gray Treefrog (*H. chrysoscelis*) and thus creates confusion with the name of "Gray Treefrog". Some references use Common Gray Treefrog, Eastern Gray Treefrog, Northern Gray Treefrog, or Tetraploid Gray Treefrog, for *H. versicolor*. This list uses Common Gray Treefrog as the preferred common name.

* Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). This is the common name used by SSAR, but this is a nested name within Alligator Snapping Turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*), which does not occur in NC. To avoid confusion, we use "Common Snapping Turtle" in this list, which is often used elsewhere, including Beane et al. (2010).

* Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta*). This is the common name used by SSAR, but this is a nested name within Southern Painted Turtle (*C. dorsalis*), which does not occur in NC. To avoid confusion, we use "Northern Painted Turtle", which is often used elsewhere, including by NatureServe Explorer.

* Pine Snake (*Pituophis melanoleucus*). The SSAR Checklist common name of "Pinesnake" is wholly contained within the name of Louisiana Pinesnake (*P. ruthveni*), which was elevated to a full species in the SSAR Checklist. Though there is no confusion of these names in NC, as the latter species is not found in the state, the common name for the former species should be Eastern Pinesnake, which has often been used for the species name. The name "Northern Pine Snake" is the SSAR recommended common name for *P. melanoleucus melanoleucus*, the only subspecies found in NC; we use this common name on our list.

Comments on other species/taxa:

+ Atlantic Coast Leopard Frog (*Lithobates kauffeldi*). This species was described in 2014, and thus it was not included in the SSAR Checklist. Whether this species will be accepted as a good species in the next version of the SSAR Checklist is not known, but it is included on our list. Though the scientific name of the species was published as *Rana kauffeldi*, all eastern North American members of this genus (*Rana*) have been reassigned to the genus *Lithobates* by the SSAR Checklist, and thus our list uses *Lithobates kauffeldi* as the preferred scientific name and *Rana kauffeldi* as the alternate scientific name. Powell et al. (2016) contains an account for the species, with the scientific name as *Lithobates kauffeldi* and the common name as Kauffeld's Leopard Frog.

+ Brown Anole (*Anolis sagrei*). This is a non-native species, with a small population in the extreme southeastern corner of the state. It is native to Cuba and the Bahamas, and it is well established and has negatively impacted the Green Anole in Florida.

+ Mediterranean Gecko (*Hemidactylus turcicus*). This is a non-native species, with a small population in the Wilmington area. It is native to southern Europe, northern Africa, and southwestern Asia, as the common name suggests.

+ Texas Horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*). This is a non-native species, with a small population in the Swansboro area of Onslow County. It is native to the southwestern US and northern Mexico.

+ Eastern Kingsnake -- Outer Banks population (*Lampropeltis getula* pop.). The SSAR Checklist no longer considers *L. getula sticticeps* as a valid taxon. However, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission has this subspecies on its protected species list, with a SC state status. Therefore, our list contains this population due to its state status.

Species reported in North Carolina without documentation:

Northern Two-lined Salamander (*Eurycea bislineata*). The species has been reportedly collected in a northern Piedmont county, but if so, the specimen has not been corroborated or deposited in a museum specimen collection. Otherwise, it ranges south only to north-central Virginia.

Smooth Green Snake (*Opheodrys vernalis*). There is an old specimen of this species from Madison County, but there is a question whether it was really taken in the state. A few old reports in the western part of the state are also open to question. There are no specimens that are conclusively known from the state that would document its place on the state list.