



# Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note, for report to be accepted into NHESP database, all required fields including signature field on page 3 must be completed**

IN MAKING THIS OBSERVATION FORM AVAILABLE FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC, THE NHESP DOES NOT AUTHORIZE OR CONDONE ENTRY ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHOUT THE OWNER'S KNOWLEDGE AND PERMISSION. THE UNLAWFUL TRESPASS ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY MAY SUBJECT A TRESPASSER TO THE CRIMINAL OR CIVIL SANCTIONS AVAILABLE UNDER THE LAW. FOR THESE REASONS, THE NHESP STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE PERMISSION OF THE LANDOWNER BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO ENTERING PRIVATE PROPERTY TO COLLECT INFORMATION FOR THIS FORM. IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PERSON COLLECTING INFORMATION FOR THIS FORM TO ENSURE THAT THEIR ACTIVITIES COMPLY WITH THE LAW.

## NHESP ANIMAL OBSERVATION FORM

**\*Required Fields** (additional information may be requested during NHESP review of observation report)

### Survey Information

**\*SPECIES NAME** (scientific name preferred): \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Date(s) and time(s) of observation(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of area surveyed/time spent surveying area:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Species Identification

**\*Description of the diagnostic characteristics upon which the ID was based** (including how distinguished from similar species): \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Photographs taken (Y / N)?** If yes, please submit a clear photo/slide/or electronic digital image of the animal showing diagnostic features. On image, please indicate your name, the date, location, and species.

**\*Was a specimen taken and curated for deposition in a biological research collection (Y / N)?** If yes, please indicate the institution or personal collection where the specimen will be deposited: \_\_\_\_\_

### Location Information

**\*Town:** \_\_\_\_\_ **County:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Waterbody:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Describe how to get to the site of the observation using obvious permanent landmarks such as a road intersection (measuring to at least the nearest 1/10 mile):** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please attach a copy of the appropriate section of a USGS topo map, aerial photograph, or similar map** (i.e. Google Earth map, GIS map, etc.), **and carefully mark the specific site where you observed this rare species.**

**Site Coordinates (if available):** System used (circle one): UTM Lat-Long Mass. State Plane Datum: \_\_\_\_\_

Source of coordinates (circle one): GPS Google Earth other GIS system (please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

Coordinates at original observation location

If GPS, accuracy of GPS unit at the time the coordinates were taken:

Obs #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Obs #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Obs #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit field forms, appropriate maps with specific location clearly marked, and all supporting documentation to:  
Data Manager, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Rt. 135, Westborough, MA 01581

Population Information

**\*Number of individuals observed.** If known, age/life stage, and sex (please describe how age and sex were determined):

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**Evidence (if any) of breeding activity at this site** (e.g. eggs, nests, carrying food to young, copulation, juveniles present):

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**Behavioral notes** (e.g. crossing road, basking):

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**Have you observed this species at this site in previous years (Y / N)? If yes, please give details:**

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Site Information

**Description of habitat at site where the animal was observed** (e.g. forest, open field). If possible, please list dominant vegetation, size of habitat patch, information on the physical environment (e.g. vegetation structure, substrate type, hydrology, slope), and information on local land use and alterations to ecological processes (e.g. damming, logging, rip-rapping of stream):

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**Associated species at this site:**

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**Observed or potential threats to the species or its habitat at this site** (e.g. land clearing, invasive species)? If yes, describe:

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**Landowner's name and address, if known:**

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**Additional comments:**

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Observer Information and Certification

\*Observed at original location by (please sign below): \_\_\_\_\_

\*Observer's Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address (if available): \_\_\_\_\_ \*Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations/Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

\*List names of other observers (and qualifications): \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify under pains and penalties of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

\*Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**(The person who observed the species must sign here)**

Additional Data Submission Information

**If the organism's species identification was made by someone other than the observer listed above, please provide contact information for person who identified the organism:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations/Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**If form filled out by someone other than the observer listed above, please provide contact information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations/Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS OBSERVATION ASSOCIATED WITH A NHESP REVIEW FILE? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Don't Know \_\_\_

If "Yes" please list NHESP file/tracking #: \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS OBSERVATION ASSOCIATED WITH A COLLECTION PERMIT? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Don't Know \_\_\_

If "Yes" please list Collection Permit #: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for contributing to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program database.  
Your efforts are valuable and appreciated.