

## A REPTILE Checklist for Hammocks Beach State Park 26 taxa

Herpetology is the branch of zoology dedicated to the study of amphibians (frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts) and of reptiles (snakes, lizards, turtles, and crocodilians). "Herps" are a diverse and interesting group of animals that are important elements in the fabric of life.

Amphibian is derived from the Greek work "amphibios". "Amphi" meaning 'both' and "bio" meaning 'life' - hence leading a double life. Indeed, most amphibians are aquatic as juveniles and breath with gills. After transformation, the adults usually live on land and most have lungs.

Many amphibians are very sensitive to environmental change. Their diversity and abundance can be an indication of an area's ecological health.

In early spring and during the summer listen for the calls of frogs and toads. Salamanders and newts, however, are silent and can be quiet secretive.

Reptiles, unlike amphibians, have dry skin covered with horny scales. Most, with the exception of snakes and legless lizards, have 4 legs with five clawed digits on each foot. While some amphibians retain gills as adults, all reptiles breathe solely by means of lungs.

Look for these cold-blooded animals on warm to hot sunny days when they bask on rocks, logs and tree trunks. Sixty-seven species have been recorded in North Carolina.

**For more information, contact:  
Hammocks Beach State Park**

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### Notes

## REPTILE CHECKLIST Hammocks Beach State Park



### Seasons:

Spring - March to May  
Summer - June to August  
Fall - September to November  
Winter - December to February

### Web Links

Amphibians and Reptiles of North Carolina State Parks  
<<https://auth1.dpr.ncparks.gov/nrid/public.php>>

### Resources

Snakes of the Southeast  
by Whit Gibbons and Mike Dorcas  
Univ. of Georgia Press  
<<http://www.ugapress.org>>

Amphibians and Reptiles of the Carolinas and Virginia  
by Jeffrey C. Beane, Alvin L. Braswell, Joseph C. Mitchell, and William M. Palmer  
Univ. of North Carolina Press  
<<http://uncpress.unc.edu>>

Reptiles of North Carolina  
by William M. Palmer and Alvin L. Braswell  
Univ. of North Carolina Press  
<<http://uncpress.unc.edu>>



<https://www.ncparks.gov/junior-rangers>

Hammocks Beach State Park, NC		S S F W		S S F W	
<b>26 REPTILE taxa</b>					
<b>CHELONIIDAE: [3]</b>					
___	Loggerhead Sea Turtle .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Caretta caretta</i>				
___	Green Sea Turtle .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>				
___	Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle .....	-	-	x	x
	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>				
<b>DERMOCHELYIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Leatherback Sea Turtle .....	x	-	-	-
	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>				
<b>EMYDIDAE: [4]</b>					
___	Spotted Turtle .....	x	x	x	-
	<i>Clemmys guttata</i>				
___	Diamondback Terrapin .....	x	x	x	-
	<i>Malaclemys terrapin</i>				
___	Eastern Box Turtle .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Terrapene carolina</i>				
___	Yellow-bellied Slider .....	x	-	-	-
	<i>Trachemys scripta scripta</i>				
<b>KINOSTERNIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Eastern Mud Turtle .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Kinosternon subrubrum</i>				
<b>ALLIGATORIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	American Alligator .....	x	x	-	x
	<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>				
<b>ANGUIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Eastern Glass Lizard .....	x	x	x	-
	<i>Ophisaurus ventralis</i>				
<b>ANOLIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Green Anole .....	x	x	x	x
	<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>				
<b>SCINCIDAE: [2]</b>					
___	Ground Skink .....	-	x	-	-
	<i>Scincella lateralis</i>				
<b>COLUBRIDAE: [6]</b>					
___	Eastern Hog-nosed Snake .....	x	-	-	-
	<i>Heterodon platirhinos</i>				
___	Outer Banks Kingsnake .....	-	x	-	-
	<i>Lampropeltis getula sticticeps</i>				
<b>VIPERIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Copperhead .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Agkistrodon contortrix</i>				
<b>COLUBRIDAE: [6]</b>					
___	Northern Black Racer .....	-	x	x	-
	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>				
<b>COLUBRIDAE: [6]</b>					
___	Northern Rough Green Snake .....	x	-	-	-
	<i>Opheodrys aestivus</i>				
___	Eastern Ratsnake .....	x	x	-	-
	<i>Pantherophis alleghaniensis</i>				
___	Corn Snake .....	x	x	x	x
	<i>Pantherophis guttatus</i>				
___	Northern Red-bellied Snake .....	-	-	x	-
	<i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i>				
<b>SCINCIDAE: [2]</b>					
___	Southeastern Five-lined Skink .....	-	x	-	-
	<i>Plestiodon inexpectatus</i>				
___	Broad-headed Skink .....	-	-	-	-
	<i>Plestiodon laticeps</i>				
<b>TEIIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Eastern Six-lined Racerunner .....	-	x	-	-
	<i>Aspidoscelis sexlineatus</i>				
<b>CHELYDRIDAE: [1]</b>					
___	Eastern Snapping Turtle .....	x	x	x	-
	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>				
<b>EMYDIDAE: [4]</b>					
___	Painted Turtle .....	-	x	-	-
	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>				