

**Central Carolina
Amphibian and Reptile
Initiative
- CCARI -**
www.ccari.org

The primary goal of CCARI is to facilitate and coordinate amphibian and reptile conservation and education in the central Carolina region.



Mike Dorcas (Davidson College, Department of Biology – Davidson Herpetology Lab) and Don Serif (Mecklenburg County – Division of Natural Resources) have partnered to develop and implement this research and monitoring initiative.



**CENTRAL CAROLINA
AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE
INITIATIVE**

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OBJECTIVES OF CCARI:

1. Increase public awareness and involvement in the conservation of amphibians and reptiles and their associated habitats.
2. Develop partnerships and increase communication and cooperation among all persons and groups interested or involved in herpetofaunal research and conservation within the central Carolina region.

3. Share data from regional studies with the national PARC (www.parcplace.org) database.



4. For the central Carolina region: Determine and map current and historical amphibian and reptile diversity and distribution. Determine current species status, species distribution, relative abundance and habitat requirements.

5. Act as a central Carolina regional resource for herpetological information while endeavoring to insure the protection of sensitive species and habitat data.



CCARI's focus region is a 12-county area in the Piedmont of central North and South Carolina. Herpetological research in this region has traditionally been limited in comparison with research conducted in the mountains, sandhills, and Coastal Plain of the Carolinas. Additionally, the need for conservation in this region is increasingly vital as habitat is being heavily impacted by increasing development and urbanization throughout the greater Charlotte region.



CCARI's focus area includes counties in the Catawba River Basin south of Lake Hickory and north of Lake Wateree and counties in the eastern Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin from High Rocks Lake south to the state line, just below Blewett Falls Lake.

CCARI Projects in Progress:

- ? Current species distribution data collection and GIS mapping.
- ? Drift fence and coverboard array monitoring studies at several locations in the CCARI region.
- ? Semi-aquatic turtle monitoring.
- ? Eastern Box Turtle mark-recapture and radiotelemetric study.
- ? Partnership with local industries to implement coverboard surveys.
- ? Comparisons of historical and current diversity in Iredell and Mecklenburg counties.
- ? Wetland conservation in the CCARI region.

Get Involved!



We invite everyone to get involved in CCARI. The more people and organizations that get involved, the more comprehensive and effective we will

be in preserving the animals we care about.

CCARI is meant to be a true partnership that will be of benefit to everyone involved, but most importantly, it will benefit the animals we care about.

Check out the CCARI Web site at www.ccari.org