

## FIELD HERPETOLOGY PROJECT IDEAS

*You do not need to use any of the below suggestions if you come up with your own project idea. These are just things that I thought of quickly that could be accomplishable projects in the given [short] timeframe.*

- Herp survey of a given area (design pamphlet/or checklist)
  - Fenton/UConn Forest
  - Moss Sanctuary
  - Wolf Rock
  - HEEP Nature Trail
- Descriptive study of salamander nesting ecology
  - Hemidactylium*, *Desmognathus*, *Plethodon cinereus*
  - nesting site description, # eggs, parental attendance, nest tenacity, physical parameters (water temp, air temp, pH, turbidity)
- Comparison of pond vs. stream fauna
  - of adults
  - of larvae
- Comparison of woodland herps vs. stream/bog herps
  - adaptations for habitat
- Frog/toad call surveys
  - nightly call surveys (species calling, call location, number calling, air/water temperature, habitat description, weather conditions)
- Under-log microecology (salamanders vs. centipedes vs. millipedes vs. snakes)
  - cohabitation vs. competitive exclusion
- Under-rock microecology (salamanders vs. crayfish vs. large macro-invertebrates)
- Color variation of wood frogs at particular sites
- Redback vs. leadback salamanders
  - proportion of each per site
  - site differences, if any
  - microhabitat differences
- Larval amphibian ecology
  - sympatric (co-occurring tadpole/salamander larvae species)
- Staging of spotted salamander eggs
  - many different developmental stages in vernal pool in H.E.E.P Trail
- ~~Bait preference of turtles in hoop traps~~
- ~~Ectoparasites on aquatic turtles~~
  - ~~leeches (consult with Anna Phillips)~~
  - ~~ticks~~