BARNES HOLE NATURE PRESERVE: MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by the Management Plan Subcommittee of the Town's Nature Preserve Committee

George Larsen, Terry Ganley, Zachary Cohen, Gene Makl,
Ed Porco, Bill Lundin, Heather Anderson, Rameshwar Das

Date: April 2004

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Introduction
- Name and Ownership
- Location and Size
- History
- Reasons for Nature Preserve Designation

II. Description of Site

III. Management Goals and Issues

IV. Access

V. Permitted Uses

VI. Restrictions

VII. Maintenance

VIII. Recommended Improvements

APPENDIX

Article I. Aerial Map

Article II. Suffolk County Tax Map

Article III. Hydrology

Article IV. Description/List of Flora and Fauna

I. INTRODUCTION

Name and Ownership
Barnes Hole, SCTM # 300-103-7-9, 103-6-35, 103-6-33.4 and 103-9-25.

Location and Size
The Barnes Hole Nature Preserve is comprised of four parcels and located in the Springs section of East Hampton Town; sizes are as follows:

SCTM #300-103-7-9	.5 acres
103-6-35	.5 acres
103-6-22.4	6.6 acres
103-9-25	1.2 acres

History
The acquisition of these parcels by the Town spanned 15 years: # 103-7-9 (.5 ac) was acquired on October 2, 1987 from Frank and Sheila Schuck with municipal funding; #103-6-22.4 (6.6 ac), purchased in 1995 from Chapel Hill Associates with municipal funding; #103-9- 25 (1.2 ac), bought on August 17, 1999 from Arthur and Alice Feinen with municipal funding; and on February 21, 2002, parcel # 103-6-35 (.5 ac) was purchased from Vincent and Rose Curto with small lot funds.

Reason for Nature Preserve Designation
Per East Hampton Town Code § 182-10 as follows:

A. It serves as habitat for endangered, threatened, special concern or rare species as listed in New York State Environmental Conservation Law § 11-0535 or the New York State Natural Heritage Program.
B. It contains habitat or significant concentrations or populations of breeding, feeding or resting wildlife.
D. It contains outstanding examples of natural communities as identified by the New York Natural Heritage Program of the East Hampton Natural Resources or Planning Department.
G. It provides an essential buffer to lands in the Nature Preserve or to other town, County, state or federal parkland or open space.

II. DESCRIPTION OF SITE

The habitat of Barnes Hole Nature Preserve is marshy in spots and more upland in others. The topography, hydrology, geology and soils are summarized in **Appendix/Article III.** Key features include a vector control ditch, which goes across Barnes Hole Road into the Nature Conservancy property and another ditch that goes across Quality Road from parcel # 103-6-22.4. Standing water was found on parcel # 103-9-25.

III. MANAGEMENT GOALS

It is recommended that the Barnes Hole Nature Preserve be included in the **"The Town of East Hampton General Management Plan for Nature Preserves".**

The small .05-acre parcel # 103-6-35 needs to have identifying signage installed.

IV. ACCESS

Access to all four parcels is from Barnes Hole Road. SCTM #'s 103-6-22.4 and 103-9-25 also have access from Robins Way; # 103-6-22.4 has access from Quality Road; #'s 103-6-35 and 103-7-9 also have access from Chapel Lane.

No changes in access roads are recommended.

V. PERMITTED USES

According to Town of East Hampton General Management Plan for Nature Preserves.

VI. RESTRICTIONS

According to Town of East Hampton General Management Plan for Nature Preserves.

VII. MAINTENANCE

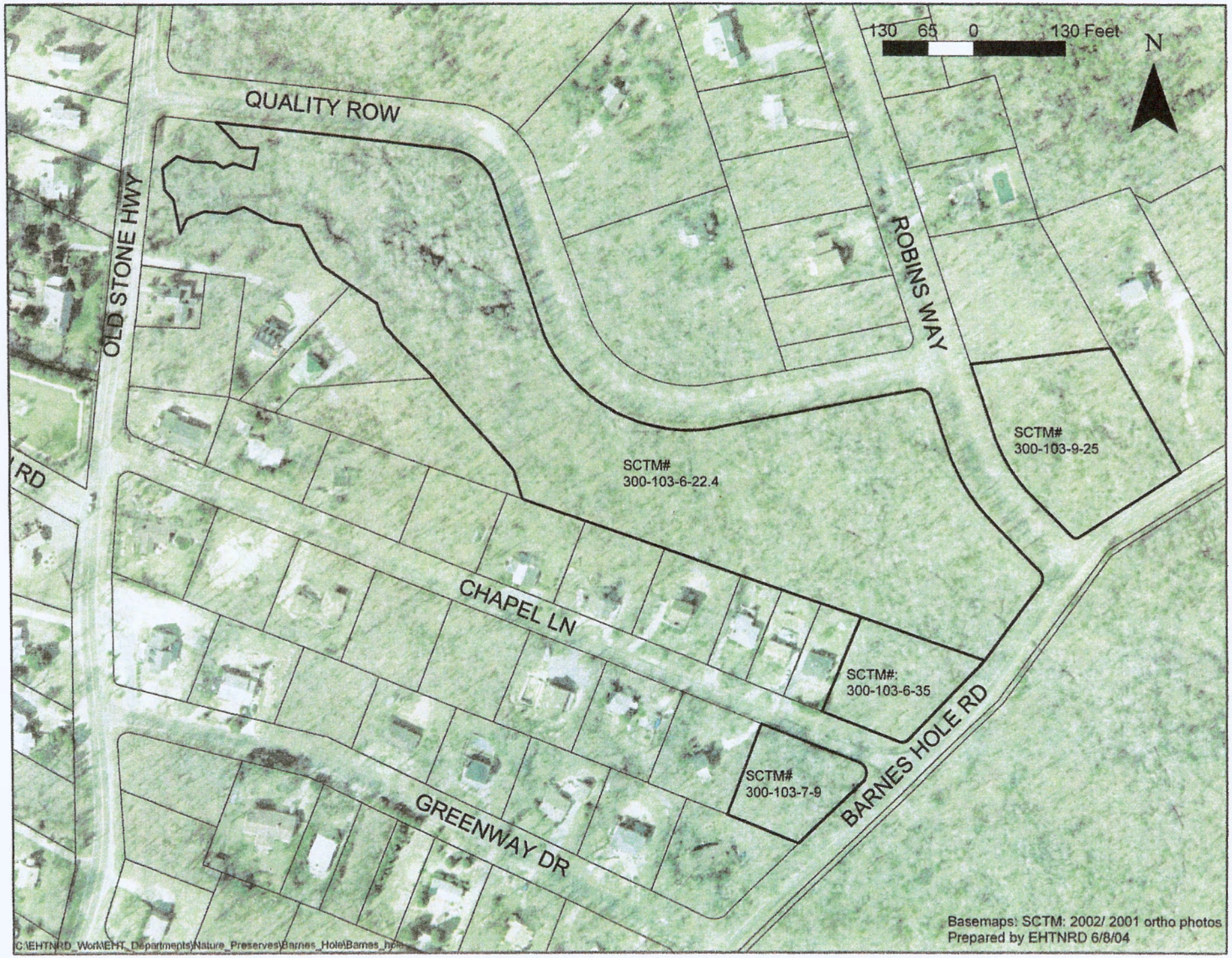
This will continue to be provided by the East Hampton Town Natural Resources Department.

VIII. RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS

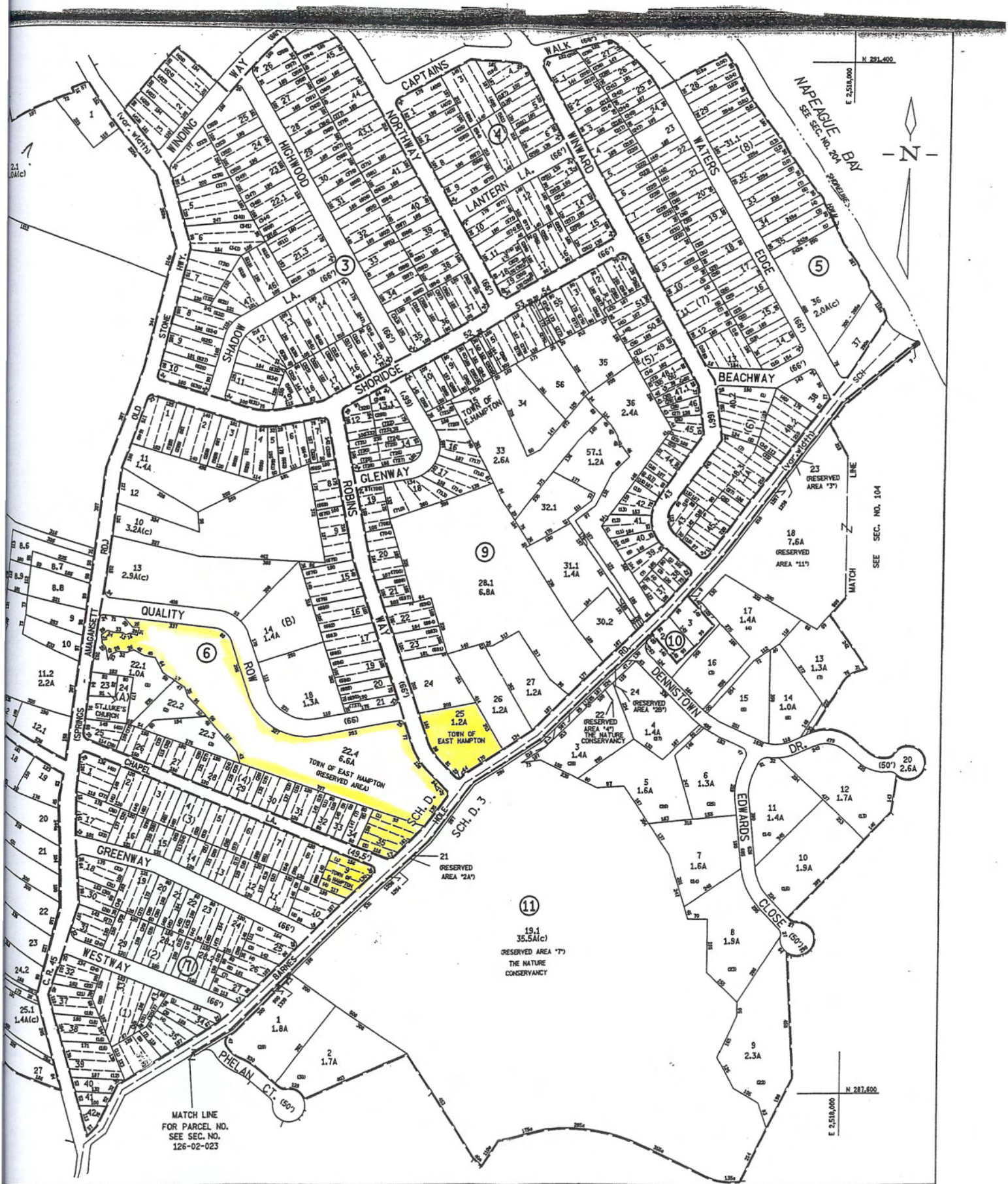
None at this time.

APPENDIX

Barnes Hole Nature Preserve Parcels



Article I.



PROPERTIES DISTRICTS:

NOTICE

MAINTENANCE, ALTERATION, SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF ANY PORTION OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY TAX MAP IS PROHIBITED WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICE AGENCY.

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK ©
Real Property Tax Service Agency
County Center Riverhead, N Y 11901
SCALE IN FEET: 200 0 200 400

KEY MAP: 080, 083, NAPEAGUE BAY, 102, 103, 104, 125, 126, 127

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
VILLAGE OF
DISTRICT NO 0300

SECTION NO 103

PROPERTY MAP

BARNES HOLE NATURE PRESERVE - HYDROLOGY

The water table is very high in this preserve, which is situated in the northern watershed of Fresh Pond. Water from the preserve's water table flows through ditches, which converge into one ditch that runs under Barnes Hole Road by way of a culvert. On the south side of this culvert water flows by way of a meandering stream through the subdivision known as the Bell Estate III, all the way down to Fresh Pond. It enters the pond by way of a second culvert under Albert's Landing Road. The watershed boundary for the preserve runs well to the west along Neck Path and north a few hundred hundreds yards north of Quality Row and Robin's Way, beyond water flows to Accabonac Harbor's East Harbor under Louse Point Road at Old Stone Highway. Even in droughty times the preserve land is damp. The alternating wet-damp conditions are ideal for certain fauna and flora, such as the eastern spadefoot toad and the fringed yellow orchis, two species, which are of particular interest to the state's Natural Heritage Office because of their rarity. The vernal spring and/or summer pondings in the preserve's central area also provide breeding habitat for several frog species and the Fowler's toad.

BARNES HOLE NATURE PRESERVE FLORA AND FAUNA

The Barnes Hole nature preserve consists of several parcels which are all part of a freshwater wetlands mosaic. These wetlands comprise the headwaters of the Bell Estate stream, which takes origin on the east side of Old Stone Highway and ultimately empties into Fresh Pond after running under Alberts Landing Road. These wetlands and their upland edges contain swamp forest, small patches of ferny marsh and wetland edge species. A few of the species are listed as state rarities on the New York State Natural Heritage List. The rarest of these species is the yellow fringed orchis, which grows along the edge of Barnes Hole Road. It is also one of the few spots in East Hampton Town where Christmas fern is found.

FLORA

Trees

American Basswood
American Beech
American Holly
Black Cherry
Black Oak
Black Willow
Gray Birch
Mockernut Hickory
Quaking Aspen
Red Maple
Sassafras
Scarlet Oak
Tupelo
White Oak

Shrubs

Highbush Blueberry
Northern Arrowwood
Swamp Azalea
Sweetpepper Bush

Wildflowers

Common Milkweed
Early Goldenrod
Partridge Pea

Ragged Fringed Orchis
Rough-stemmed Goldenrod
Wild-Lily-of-the Valley
Yellow Fringed Orchis

Grasses, Sedges and Rushes

Little Bluestem
Manna Grass
Seorse Sedge
Soft Rush

Ferns

Christmas Fern
Cinnamon Fern
Marsh Fern
Royal Fern

FAUNA

Mammals

Common Mole
Eastern Chipmunk
Eastern Cottontail
Dusky Shrew
Gray Squirrel
Long-tailed Weasel
Meadow Mouse
Muskrat
Norway Rat
Opossum
Raccoon
Red Fox
Short-tailed Shrew
White-footed Mouse
White-tailed Deer

Breeding Birds

Black-capped Chickadee
Blue Jay
Brown-headed Cowbird
Cardinal

Chipping Sparrow
Chuck-will's-widow
Common Crow
Common Grackle
Gray Catbird
House Finch
House Sparrow
Mallard
Mockingbird
Osprey
Red-winged Blackbird
Robin
Song Sparrow
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch

Reptiles

Black Racer
Box Turtle
Diamondback Terrapin
Garter Snake
Milk Snake
Painted Turtle
Ribbon Snake
Snapping Turtle
Spotted Turtle

Amphibians

Bull Frog
Eastern Spadefoot Toad
Fowler's Toad
Gray Tree Frog
Green Frog
Red-backed Salamander
Spotted Salmander
Spring Peeper