TESTUDINES — TURTLES

CHRYSEMYS PICTA MARGINATA (Midland Painted Turtle)

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PELODISCUS SINENSIS (Chinese Softshell Turtle)

The specimens reported here were found and captured in small bodies of water near densely inhabited neighborhoods in Belém City. Brazil (1.366°S, 48.392°W; datum WGS 84). Two hatchlings (about 20 mm carapace length) were found by children in a sandy place next to an artificial lake in February 2010 (MPEG 1214). One year later, three similarly-sized young animals were caught at the same locality. An adult male was caught in a hole near the same lake in November 2010 (MPEG 1215). In April 2011 an adult female was found nearly 1 km downstream from the first locality (MPEG 1216). This individual laid five small spherical eggs in the water 9 May 2011 and three more eggs on 31 May 2011. After 60 days of incubation, none of the eggs showed any sign of embryonic development. It seems probable that there is a feral population of unknown size established in the area.

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PSEUDEMYS CONCINNA (River Cooter)

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TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA (Pond Slider)
USA: NEVADA: WASHOE Co.: Reno, Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Peavine Pond (39.54606°N, 119.83107°W; NAD83). 3 June 2006. Photographed by Fredric F. Petersen. Verified by Jens Vindum. CAS-HPV 74 photo voucher. First record for Nevada. Trachemys scripta has been introduced widely in the western USA through the pet trade (Rhodin et al. 2010. Chelon. Res. Monogr. No. 5: 000.85-000.164). The species is known from many sites in the Central Valley of California (Thomson et al. 2010 Chelon. Conserv. Biol. 9:297–302, and references therein), with the closest previous record (Thomson et al., op. cit.) being approximately 166 km WSW of this first Nevada record.

Pond Sliders appear to be common in urban ponds and lakes in Reno and Sparks, Nevada (additional localities are documented by CAS-HPV 72, 73, and 75. An individual photographed on 19 June 2011 (CAS-HPV 72) with mud covering the hind limbs, tail, and rear edge of the carapace, suggesting it had been digging a nest provides circumstantial evidence of breeding in the area. Reports of this species (without vouchers) also exist for Clark County in southern Nevada (FFP, pers. obs.).

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TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA ELEGANS (Red-eared Slider)

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SQUAMATA — LIZARDS

ACANTHODACTYLUS MICROPHOLIS (Persian Fringe-toed Lizard)
IRAN: BUSHEHR PROVINCE: 20 km SE of Khoormouj, near Naseri village (28.489644°N, 51.473191°E), 10 m elev. Kamran Kamali, Behzad Zadhoosh, and Shahrizad Malekzadeh. 22 February 2013. Iranian Herpetological Institute (IHI0014: one adult female; IHI0015: one adult male). Verified by Steven C. Anderson. This is the first record of this species from Bushehr Province. Individuals were found along low hills on sandy riverbeds with scattered bushes and in narrow canyons on stream beds covered with small bushes and grass. The specimens fit the diagnosis and color pattern in Anderson (1999. The Lizards of Iran. SSAR Contrib. Herpetol., Ithaca, New York. 442 pp.). The nearest reported locality is 480 km E of the record noted here (27.016667°N, 55.716667°E), 109 km W
of Bandar-e-Abbas to Kerman road along road to Bandare-e-Lengeh, 0–50 m elev (MMMT [Muz-e-Melli-ye Tarik-eh Tabi], Tehran) 813; Anderson 1989:205–206). This is the first record from Bushehr Province and for the southwestern part of Iran.

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Found inside of storage shed at Eddy Creek Parking Area, Playalinda Beach, Canaveral National Seashore. In January 2013, two additional lizards were seen at this locality. One specimen was photographed, captured, preserved, and stored with the National Park Service.

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HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS (Mediterranean Gecko). USA: TEXAS: CHAMBERS CO.: Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge (29.61377°N, 94.53398°W; WGS 84; elev. 2 m), on an exterior bathroom wall near the entrance to the refuge. 27 July 2012. William L. and Limei T. Farr. Verified by Carl J. Franklin. UTADC 7639. First county record (Dixon 2013. Amphibians and Reptiles of Texas. Texas A&M University Press, College Station. 447 pp.). This record fills a gap in county records from east Texas for this invasive species. Hemidactylus turcicus was also observed in abundance (ca. 10–20 individuals on each date) and photographed in situ at this same locality, and on other small adjacent buildings including the visitor’s center and a kiosk on the evenings of 13 July 2012, 24 Aug 2012, and 28 Sept 2012. This appears to be a well-established population.

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LEPOSOMA PUK, BRAZIL: BAHIA: MUNICIPALITY OF AMARGOSA: Timbó Farm (13.11058°S, 93.6673°W; datum WGS 84), 800 m elev.