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Editor's Remarks

A New Section on Invasive Species

Invasive species are second only to habitat alteration and destruction as a cause of declining biodiversity. Although introductions of amphibians and reptiles to localities where they do not occur naturally often appear to occur without catastrophic consequences, notable exceptions (i.e., Cane Toads throughout the tropics and pythons in Florida) have been documented. However, much of the problem today is in the sheer number of relocated species of amphibians and reptiles. As that number increases, awareness of their impacts and of the need to better understand what species are being moved, where they are going, and how they are getting there, also is growing. One problem is that most existing reports focus on well-established invaders. This omits information on unsuccessful introductions and, because of the time delay before invaders become a nuisance, typically means that the method of arrival can no longer be identified. Since the demise of the journal *Applied Herpetology*, no venue is dedicated to publishing and disseminating such information. Because the obvious conservation implications complement the goals of the IRCF, *Reptiles & Amphibians* will provide a peer-reviewed outlet for information on new human-aided range expansions of amphibians and reptiles, providing crucial data for managers devising methods for preventing or reducing potentially negative impacts. Check the IRCF website in early 2010 for details.

The Editors of *Reptiles & Amphibians*

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The International Reptile Conservation Foundation works to conserve reptiles and amphibians and the natural habitats and ecosystems that support them.

The International Reptile Conservation Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) California corporation.

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SOLICITATIONS

The IRCF encourages contribution of articles, letters to the Editor, news items, and announcements for publication in *REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS*. General articles can deal with any aspect of reptilian or amphibian biology, including conservation, behavior, ecology, physiology, systematics, or husbandry. Submission of photographs to accompany articles is encouraged. Guidelines for submissions and figures are at www.ircf.org/about/submissions. Manuscripts may be submitted via e-mail (send to AJ@IRCF.org). Authors of one page or more of print will receive a free copy of the journal in which their contribution appears, and will receive a PDF file of their article for distribution.

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