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Amphibian Migrations and Road Crossings Project

Virtual Volunteer Training

February 28, 2023, 5:00-6:30pm

00:00:01.810 --> 00:00:05.241

All right. Hello, everyone. Welcome to the Amphibian

00:00:05.241 --> 00:00:08.867

Migrations and Road Crossings Project Virtual Volunteer

00:00:08.867 --> 00:00:09.450

Training.

00:00:10.300 --> 00:00:13.408

I'm going to get into some housekeeping before we begin. My

00:00:13.408 --> 00:00:16.050

name is Emma Clements. I am the project assistant.

00:00:20.560 --> 00:00:24.336

Uh, so you can adjust the speaker settings at the top menu

00:00:24.336 --> 00:00:28.304

under audio and video. Um, but remember phone is recommended.

00:00:28.304 --> 00:00:31.824

If you have any technical difficulties, please use the

00:00:31.824 --> 00:00:34.000

chat box and not the Q&A box.

00:00:40.190 --> 00:00:44.345

Send questions to us through the Q&A box. We won't be viewing

00:00:44.345 --> 00:00:48.249
the chat box as much to look for
questions, so definitely use

00:00:48.249 --> 00:00:49.320
that Q&A box.

00:00:53.300 --> 00:00:56.656
And reminder, you will not be
able to see other attendees

00:00:56.656 --> 00:01:00.359
names. If you write something in
chat box, it will go to me and

00:01:00.359 --> 00:01:03.830
Laura. If you don't see the
Q&A box, click on the three

00:01:03.830 --> 00:01:07.534
white dots in the lower corner
right hand corner to expand your

00:01:07.534 --> 00:01:09.270
options and you should see it.

00:01:12.460 --> 00:01:14.520
Alright, I'm going to hand it
off to Laura now.

00:01:16.330 --> 00:01:20.411
Great. Thank you, Emma, and
thanks everybody for joining us

00:01:20.411 --> 00:01:21.840
this snowy afternoon.

00:01:23.360 --> 00:01:26.896
My name is Laura Heady, and I am
the conservation and land use

00:01:26.896 --> 00:01:30.546

program coordinator with DEC's
Hudson River estuary program and

00:01:30.546 --> 00:01:34.025
Cornell University's Department
of Natural Resources and the

00:01:34.025 --> 00:01:37.276
Environment. And I'll be
Co-instructing with Emma today.

00:01:37.276 --> 00:01:40.926
And we're really happy that so
many of you signed up. Hopefully

00:01:40.926 --> 00:01:44.177
you're all joining us. I can't
tell how many people have

00:01:44.177 --> 00:01:47.542
actually joined the Webex, but
also hello to anybody who's

00:01:47.542 --> 00:01:49.710
viewing this as a recording
later on.

00:01:50.750 --> 00:01:54.726
So, if you read the information
we shared about the training in

00:01:54.726 --> 00:01:58.703
the e-mail that you should have
received unless you registered

00:01:58.703 --> 00:02:02.806
late today, you know that today
is really an abridged version of

00:02:02.806 --> 00:02:06.404
what our in-person trainings
are. And so, we hope that in

00:02:06.404 --> 00:02:09.938

combination with the YouTube training modules and other

00:02:09.938 --> 00:02:13.536
online resources, tonight's session will help you gain a

00:02:13.536 --> 00:02:17.513
better understanding of how to volunteer and hopefully you all

00:02:17.513 --> 00:02:20.480
did your homework and listened to the modules

00:02:20.550 --> 00:02:22.260
One and five on YouTube.

00:02:24.360 --> 00:02:27.180
OK, so let's get started.

00:02:29.120 --> 00:02:32.884
This project, the amphibian migrations and Rd. Crossings

00:02:32.884 --> 00:02:37.044
project which will be referring to as AM&RC, supports the work

00:02:37.044 --> 00:02:41.006
of the Hudson River Estuary program, which focuses not only

00:02:41.006 --> 00:02:44.902
on the on the Hudson River estuary or the title portion of

00:02:44.902 --> 00:02:48.600
the river, but also the surrounding watershed, which is

00:02:48.600 --> 00:02:52.826
shown in green on the map. And that watershed area includes the

00:02:52.826 --> 00:02:57.053
lands and the water bodies that
drain into the estuary and keep

00:02:57.053 --> 00:02:58.769
the ecosystem functioning.

00:02:58.870 --> 00:03:02.666
And that includes forests and
wetlands, which we'll be talking

00:03:02.666 --> 00:03:03.390
about today.

00:03:04.520 --> 00:03:08.180
The Hudson River estuary program
is a non-regulatory program

00:03:08.180 --> 00:03:11.960
within New York State Department
of Environmental Conservation

00:03:11.960 --> 00:03:15.320
and we work in regions three
parts of four and parts of

00:03:15.320 --> 00:03:19.040
region 2 which is down in New
York City. Our work is outlined

00:03:19.040 --> 00:03:22.700
in a 5 year Action agenda with
strategies and targets to help

00:03:22.700 --> 00:03:26.540
us achieve key benefits and you
can read more about that on the

00:03:26.540 --> 00:03:28.040
DEC website if you'd like.

00:03:30.150 --> 00:03:33.924
At the estuary program, I lead

our conservation and land use

00:03:33.924 --> 00:03:37.327
team, which works with
municipalities, land trusts and

00:03:37.327 --> 00:03:40.792
other partners throughout the
watershed to help protect

00:03:40.792 --> 00:03:44.442
important natural areas through
planning, not through land

00:03:44.442 --> 00:03:47.907
acquisition, but through
planning so you can learn more

00:03:47.907 --> 00:03:51.929
about biodiversity, conservation
planning and resources that are

00:03:51.929 --> 00:03:55.765
available to help communities in
the watershed on our Cornell

00:03:55.765 --> 00:03:59.539
website, which hopefully Emma
can add that link to the chat.

00:04:01.660 --> 00:04:05.746
But the MRC project is one way
that our conservation land use

00:04:05.746 --> 00:04:08.976
team is working to raise
awareness about habitat

00:04:08.976 --> 00:04:12.535
conservation. The project
focuses specifically on one

00:04:12.535 --> 00:04:16.555
group of amphibian species that

live in the forest, and they

00:04:16.555 --> 00:04:20.246
migrate to woodland pools for
breeding in early spring,

00:04:20.246 --> 00:04:24.333
sometimes late winter, and then
they return to the forest for

00:04:24.333 --> 00:04:28.419
the rest of the year. And many
of these migrating salamanders

00:04:28.419 --> 00:04:30.990
and frogs, of course, encounter
roads.

00:04:32.200 --> 00:04:35.682
On their way moving from one
part of their habitat complex to

00:04:35.682 --> 00:04:38.771
the other and the resulting
mortality on roads, is one

00:04:38.771 --> 00:04:42.309
reason why many of these species
throughout their range in the

00:04:42.309 --> 00:04:44.500
northeast are of conservation
concern.

00:04:46.030 --> 00:04:50.381
So, before we go any further, I
just wanted to take a moment to

00:04:50.381 --> 00:04:54.387
make sure everyone understands
what makes an amphibian an

00:04:54.387 --> 00:04:58.531

amphibian as opposed to, say, reptile. So first, amphibians

00:04:58.531 --> 00:05:02.744
are ectothermic, relying on external heat sources to control

00:05:02.744 --> 00:05:07.165
their body temperature, and so they're very much susceptible to

00:05:07.165 --> 00:05:09.030
the conditions around them.

00:05:09.710 --> 00:05:14.150
They also must remain in moist environments.

00:05:14.930 --> 00:05:15.540
Umm.

00:05:16.340 --> 00:05:19.351
Their skin is porous and permeable and it's a really

00:05:19.351 --> 00:05:22.532
important oxygen and water exchange. And so, it's really

00:05:22.532 --> 00:05:25.771
important that they stay moist and that's something that

00:05:25.771 --> 00:05:29.236
relates to why they migrate on rainy nights and why we don't

00:05:29.236 --> 00:05:32.531
want to handle them too much because we want to make sure

00:05:32.531 --> 00:05:34.350
that their skin never dries out.

00:05:36.010 --> 00:05:40.523
Oh, there we go. Also, they live
on land and water. And just to

00:05:40.523 --> 00:05:44.754
jump ahead, this idea of the
word amphibian relates to this

00:05:44.754 --> 00:05:48.915
root. Meaning it lives in
both kinds of habitat, both

00:05:48.915 --> 00:05:53.075
water habitats or aquatic
habitats as well as terrestrial,

00:05:53.075 --> 00:05:57.730
and most of them return to water
to breed. The redback salamander

00:05:57.730 --> 00:06:02.243
is an exception to that here in
New York. And they have fragile

00:06:02.243 --> 00:06:05.840
eggs like in this photo. It's
basically, an embryo

00:06:05.910 --> 00:06:10.782
surrounded by a jelly envelope
and so that aquatic habitat is

00:06:10.782 --> 00:06:13.140
what helps protect these eggs.

00:06:16.390 --> 00:06:20.131
So, I know some of you have come
to our trainings before and this

00:06:20.131 --> 00:06:23.929
is all going to be a review, but
there's many new folks here this

00:06:23.929 --> 00:06:26.980

evening, so we want to go through our project goals.

00:06:28.430 --> 00:06:33.541
The Amphibian Migration Rd. crossing project started back in

00:06:33.541 --> 00:06:38.259
2009, and if you listen to training module #1 on YouTube, I

00:06:38.259 --> 00:06:43.134
talked about the challenges that amphibians face globally and

00:06:43.134 --> 00:06:47.931
here in the Northeast, including things like climate change,

00:06:47.931 --> 00:06:52.649
disease, pollution of their habitats, but also habitat loss

00:06:52.649 --> 00:06:57.525
and habitat fragmentation and Rd. mortality and so to address

00:06:57.525 --> 00:06:58.390
the issues

00:06:58.460 --> 00:07:02.732
related to habitat and Rd. mortality, we started this

00:07:02.732 --> 00:07:07.796
project back in 2009, as well as to raise awareness about these

00:07:07.796 --> 00:07:12.702
habitats, about Hudson Valley biodiversity and to help people

00:07:12.702 --> 00:07:17.371
understand the impact of our

land use decisions on habitat

00:07:17.371 --> 00:07:18.400
connectivity.

00:07:19.110 --> 00:07:22.896
Right. So, if we put a road in
the wrong place or, you know, in

00:07:22.896 --> 00:07:26.383
the midst of habitat, these
amphibians are vulnerable. We

00:07:26.383 --> 00:07:29.989
also wanted to engage volunteers
to cover this really large

00:07:29.989 --> 00:07:33.596
geographic area to help us
locate Rd. crossings where these

00:07:33.596 --> 00:07:37.022
migrating amphibians are
encountering roads as they move

00:07:37.022 --> 00:07:40.688
from vernal pools to forests to
help reduce Rd. mortality of

00:07:40.688 --> 00:07:44.415
these migrating amphibians and
also, to use those data to help

00:07:44.415 --> 00:07:46.820
us identify conservation
opportunities.

00:07:47.920 --> 00:07:51.219
Of course, we also want to
provide a rewarding volunteer

00:07:51.219 --> 00:07:54.751
experience and connect people to
an aspect of nature that is

00:07:54.751 --> 00:07:58.051
pretty elusive. It's a really
amazing part of our Hudson

00:07:58.051 --> 00:08:01.409
Valley biodiversity, but it's
one that's often really not

00:08:01.409 --> 00:08:05.056
observed or witnessed, so this
is a really great chance to see

00:08:05.056 --> 00:08:08.703
all these different amphibians.
We also hope the experience of

00:08:08.703 --> 00:08:12.177
being part of this project and
learning about this group of

00:08:12.177 --> 00:08:15.592
amphibians and their habitat
needs will help support local

00:08:15.592 --> 00:08:18.140
conservation initiatives that
are proposed.

00:08:18.210 --> 00:08:21.621
Whether it be a local wetland
law that includes vernal pool

00:08:21.621 --> 00:08:24.862
protection or an open space plan
that prioritizes large,

00:08:24.862 --> 00:08:28.388
unfragmented forests. And we
also want to create a foundation

00:08:28.388 --> 00:08:31.970
for using the data to ask more
questions. And I'm excited that

00:08:31.970 --> 00:08:35.382
in the last year, we've been
collaborating with a colleague

00:08:35.382 --> 00:08:38.793
at Cornell and colleagues at the
New York National Heritage

00:08:38.793 --> 00:08:42.148
Program to learn about some of
the ways we can potentially

00:08:42.148 --> 00:08:43.570
analyze and use our data.

00:08:44.910 --> 00:08:48.695
So, I wanted to share just a
little bit of the progress we've

00:08:48.695 --> 00:08:52.419
made since the project started
in 2009. We've had over 1000

00:08:52.419 --> 00:08:55.957
participants and when I say
that, that's not in a single

00:08:55.957 --> 00:08:58.812
year and many of these
participants have only

00:08:58.812 --> 00:09:02.659
participated once, but it's a
good number of people that have

00:09:02.659 --> 00:09:06.445
been exposed to the project and
we hope to see more and more

00:09:06.445 --> 00:09:09.797
repeat volunteers. We've had
over 1200 surveys in the

00:09:09.797 --> 00:09:13.582
watershed, more than 55,000
amphibians counted, 70% of which

00:09:13.582 --> 00:09:14.700
were live over 32.

00:09:14.770 --> 00:09:18.380
1000 and PHIBIANS have been
assisted across roads and 20

00:09:18.380 --> 00:09:20.090
species have been observed.

00:09:22.650 --> 00:09:25.836
So, as I mentioned, we haven't
finally working with

00:09:25.836 --> 00:09:29.523
collaborators to analyze the
volunteer data and see how it

00:09:29.523 --> 00:09:33.022
might inform conservation
actions. I don't have time to

00:09:33.022 --> 00:09:36.958
get into all of that work today,
but I was thinking perhaps we

00:09:36.958 --> 00:09:40.770
could offer a webinar sometime
in the future specifically on

00:09:40.770 --> 00:09:44.894
that work and the analysis which
some of which is still underway.

00:09:44.894 --> 00:09:48.768
But in the meantime, I wanted to
share a breakdown of all the

00:09:48.768 --> 00:09:52.330
species that have been counted

by volunteers since 2009.

00:09:53.650 --> 00:09:54.330

So.

00:09:55.250 --> 00:09:58.110

I just want to see. There we go,
you know?

00:09:59.130 --> 00:10:02.294

Given the diversity of
amphibians we have here in the

00:10:02.294 --> 00:10:05.986

Hudson Valley, these data are
helping confirm that our surveys

00:10:05.986 --> 00:10:09.502

are successfully capturing our
focus species, which are the

00:10:09.502 --> 00:10:13.018

vernal pool breeders, which I
put green arrows next to like

00:10:13.018 --> 00:10:16.534

wood frog spotted salamander and
the Jefferson blue spotted

00:10:16.534 --> 00:10:19.816

salamander complex. We also are
interested in four-toed

00:10:19.816 --> 00:10:23.332

salamander, which is a species
of conservation concern that

00:10:23.332 --> 00:10:26.614

we'll use vernal pools for
breeding. They're associated

00:10:26.614 --> 00:10:29.309

with sphagnum Moss. Sometimes
they might use.

00:10:29.380 --> 00:10:32.681
More of a swampy area, but
they're also associated with the

00:10:32.681 --> 00:10:35.982
vernal pool species. And so, it's
exciting to see that these

00:10:35.982 --> 00:10:39.503
target species are being seen by
our volunteers. So, we're going

00:10:39.503 --> 00:10:42.859
out at the right time. And I
just wanted to point out to you

00:10:42.859 --> 00:10:46.325
as volunteers that might be new
to the project. There's really

00:10:46.325 --> 00:10:49.571
just a small group of about 8
species that are encountered

00:10:49.571 --> 00:10:52.817
most frequently, which we
encourage you to learn. They are

00:10:52.817 --> 00:10:55.788
listed on page 7 of the
Volunteer Handbook. If you're

00:10:55.788 --> 00:10:58.704
following along with your
handbook this evening, the

00:10:58.704 --> 00:10:59.200
handbook.

00:10:59.570 --> 00:11:03.003
If you didn't read, the e-mail
we sent out in advance of

00:11:03.003 --> 00:11:06.978
tonight is available for viewing
or downloading from the website,

00:11:06.978 --> 00:11:09.990
and Emma has put in the link.
Great thanks, Emma.

00:11:11.980 --> 00:11:12.930
So.

00:11:14.720 --> 00:11:19.605
Actually, I'll just take him.
Yeah. OK. So, before I move too

00:11:19.605 --> 00:11:23.210
much into the next part of the
presentation.

00:11:24.650 --> 00:11:27.806
I'm not gonna have a chance to
really talk about what will the

00:11:27.806 --> 00:11:30.963
pools are and hopefully you all
did your homework and you know

00:11:30.963 --> 00:11:34.170
so, Emma if you have that survey
ready, we wanted to get a sense

00:11:34.170 --> 00:11:37.177
from all of you if you could
share from what you learned in

00:11:37.177 --> 00:11:38.330
the YouTube module.

00:11:39.500 --> 00:11:42.916
Just to share a word or phrase
that describes vernal pools and

00:11:42.916 --> 00:11:46.006

we'll see how you all do and
we'll get to view this as a

00:11:46.006 --> 00:11:48.230
word cloud if everything works
correctly.

00:11:49.520 --> 00:11:50.601
Yeah, go ahead. If you should
have a box that popped up, go

00:11:50.601 --> 00:11:51.555
ahead and enter a word.
*Participants were using the

00:11:51.555 --> 00:11:52.637
Slido app for this part of the
training. They were asked to

00:11:52.637 --> 00:11:53.610
submit a word or phrase that
described vernal pools.

00:11:54.370 --> 00:11:54.980
Um.

00:11:58.770 --> 00:12:00.030
Are you able to see it, Laura?

00:12:00.960 --> 00:12:05.065
I am seeing. I can enter. I just
entered. Oh, there we go. Now

00:12:05.065 --> 00:12:06.630
once I enter, I can see.

00:12:08.050 --> 00:12:11.325
Everybody's responses that are
coming in, so I'm seeing great

00:12:11.325 --> 00:12:14.390
things, small and isolated.

That's a good characteristic.

00:12:16.420 --> 00:12:20.352
They're wetland. Yes, there are
temporary wetland. That's right.

00:12:20.352 --> 00:12:23.740
Small depression in the forest
holding water, right, on

00:12:23.740 --> 00:12:27.310
temporary spring pool. Woodsy.
Yeah, because, right, we're

00:12:27.310 --> 00:12:31.182
talking about vernal pools that
are in the forest, which is why

66733447-6e42-4add-99cd-35859b6e658c-4
00:12:31.182 --> 00:12:34.752
we sometimes call the woodland
pools fleeting. I love that

66733447-6e42-4add-99cd-35859b6e658c-5
00:12:34.752 --> 00:12:38.080
transient, right, because
they're temporary, right. So

00:12:38.080 --> 00:12:39.229
they're filling up.

00:12:40.800 --> 00:12:47.283
From spring rains, from snow
melt if we have snow sometimes

00:12:47.283 --> 00:12:48.580
from rising.

00:12:50.120 --> 00:12:54.700
Groundwater table, but they are
temporary and they dry up in.

00:12:55.760 --> 00:12:59.288
Summer, and I'm happy to see

somebody wrote no fish because

00:12:59.288 --> 00:13:03.111
that's one of the key pieces of
this is that because they dry up

00:13:03.111 --> 00:13:06.875
at the end of the OR during the
summer on it in a typical year,

00:13:06.875 --> 00:13:10.580
they dry up. It means fish can't
survive there smaller than an

00:13:10.580 --> 00:13:13.873
acre. Somebody really did their
homework. Yeah, they're

00:13:13.873 --> 00:13:17.578
typically smaller than an acre
or two acres. This is great. So

00:13:17.578 --> 00:13:21.460
I see that you did your homework
and for those of you who didn't,

00:13:21.460 --> 00:13:24.989
I recommend you to, you know
just look at our materials and

00:13:24.989 --> 00:13:25.930
and look at the.

00:13:26.050 --> 00:13:29.020
To YouTube module on this.

00:13:29.690 --> 00:13:33.452
And I'll just share on the slide
that I have up right now. Ohh,

00:13:33.452 --> 00:13:36.862
magical. I'm sorry, I'm just
seeing your words coming up.

00:13:36.862 --> 00:13:40.566

Yes, they are magical and I am really thrilled that so many of

00:13:40.566 --> 00:13:44.153

you are joining us to share the magic tonight. So this slide

00:13:44.153 --> 00:13:47.739

that I have up is kind of a montage of different vernal pool

00:13:47.739 --> 00:13:51.443

images from different times of year, just to give you a sense.

00:13:51.443 --> 00:13:54.912

And this was, it should have been in the presentation that

00:13:54.912 --> 00:13:58.616

you saw on YouTube, maybe not, but in any case it gives you an

00:13:58.616 --> 00:13:59.910

idea that they really.

00:13:59.990 --> 00:14:03.544

And very in the way they appear in terms of the amount of

00:14:03.544 --> 00:14:07.588

vegetation in them, the kinds of kind of micro habitats like fall

00:14:07.588 --> 00:14:11.448

and logs that are in them. But again, temporary small isolated

00:14:11.448 --> 00:14:15.125

basins of water, they're drying the summer, they're free of

00:14:15.125 --> 00:14:18.556
fish. And therefore the key
piece they provide critical

00:14:18.556 --> 00:14:22.355
habitat for breeding amphibians.
So let's talk about breeding

00:14:22.355 --> 00:14:23.030
amphibians.

00:14:24.940 --> 00:14:29.583
So when do vernal pool breeding
amphibians migrate? So umm,

00:14:29.583 --> 00:14:34.536
right now we would expect wood
frogs and even spring peepers to

00:14:34.536 --> 00:14:39.489
be in this frozen state for the
winter. And species of the mole

00:14:39.489 --> 00:14:43.977
salamander family like spotted
and Jefferson blue spotted

00:14:43.977 --> 00:14:48.776
salamanders are down in animal
Burrows underground. Hopefully

00:14:48.776 --> 00:14:53.496
they're below the frost line,
although this year from what I

00:14:53.496 --> 00:14:54.890
learned yesterday.

00:14:54.960 --> 00:14:58.576
From talking to an excavator to
find out here in the mid Hudson

00:14:58.576 --> 00:15:01.966
Valley, he observed the ground
never froze. And I know that

00:15:01.966 --> 00:15:05.244
might not be true in higher
elevation places, like in the

00:15:05.244 --> 00:15:08.238
Catskills or the Rensler
Plateau, for example. But I

00:15:08.238 --> 00:15:11.798
don't think the ground really
ever froze here, at least in the

00:15:11.798 --> 00:15:15.245
mid and lower Hudson Valley. So
this year they're probably a

00:15:15.245 --> 00:15:18.409
little bit more comfortable than
in our colder winters.

00:15:19.390 --> 00:15:22.767
But in a typical year, breeding
migrations occur, well,

00:15:22.767 --> 00:15:26.144
generally always breeding
migrations occur on the first

00:15:26.144 --> 00:15:30.064
few rainy nights in late winter,
early spring. We always used to

00:15:30.064 --> 00:15:32.959
say there were spring
migrations, but we do see

00:15:32.959 --> 00:15:36.457
earlier migrations happening
with these very mild winters

00:15:36.457 --> 00:15:40.075
we've been having. So we we say
they happen in late winter,

00:15:40.075 --> 00:15:40.860
early spring.

00:15:41.570 --> 00:15:45.361
And the three conditions that we
look for are that the ground has

00:15:45.361 --> 00:15:48.980
thawed and evening temperatures
are above 40 degrees. So these

00:15:48.980 --> 00:15:52.255
are nighttime migrations and
it's raining. Those are the

00:15:52.255 --> 00:15:55.817
textbook kind of definitions of
a migration night. Of course,

00:15:55.817 --> 00:15:59.436
we've seen migration happen on
nights without rain when it was

00:15:59.436 --> 00:16:03.112
just very humid and misty. But
generally we're looking for rain

00:16:03.112 --> 00:16:06.444
when all those conditions line
up, there can be explosive

00:16:06.444 --> 00:16:09.776
migrations because all of these
amphibians that have been

00:16:09.776 --> 00:16:11.730
hunkered down for the winter
are.

00:16:11.820 --> 00:16:15.518
Ready to breed and they want to
get to those vernal pools to go

00:16:15.518 --> 00:16:19.159
through all of the, you know,
mating and then egg laying. They

00:16:19.159 --> 00:16:22.800
leave and then there's got to be
enough time for their eggs to

00:16:22.800 --> 00:16:26.499
hatch and develop and leave the
pools before they dry up. So as

00:16:26.499 --> 00:16:30.024
soon as those conditions are in
place, they will emerge from

00:16:30.024 --> 00:16:33.607
their winter shelters and move
to pools. And so in the Hudson

00:16:33.607 --> 00:16:37.306
Valley, this is generally been
in March, sometimes early April,

00:16:37.306 --> 00:16:40.889
sometimes late February. I'm
really hoping given the forecast

00:16:40.889 --> 00:16:42.450
for the next, say, 2 weeks.

00:16:42.530 --> 00:16:46.141
We're going to have March
migrations, nothing going crazy

00:16:46.141 --> 00:16:50.127
in February. It really depends
on the conditions each year. And

00:16:50.127 --> 00:16:54.113
thanks to the conservation and
stewardship efforts of state and

00:16:54.113 --> 00:16:58.098
municipal agencies, Land Trust
and land owners, many migrations

00:16:58.098 --> 00:17:01.835
happen safely, like in this
incredible diagram I have on my

00:17:01.835 --> 00:17:05.633
slide that is note not to scale,
where you have all of these

00:17:05.633 --> 00:17:09.370
amphibians moving throughout the
forest to get to the pools

00:17:09.370 --> 00:17:12.920
without ever needing to cross a
road or a long driveway.

00:17:13.010 --> 00:17:16.258
On their way where they're, you
know, susceptible to Rd.

00:17:16.258 --> 00:17:19.678
mortality, they're susceptible
to predators and things like

00:17:19.678 --> 00:17:23.212
that. Research has shown that
even in low traffic areas where

00:17:23.212 --> 00:17:26.517
there aren't a lot of cars, it
can still have significant

00:17:26.517 --> 00:17:29.595
mortality because you can
imagine they're moving very

00:17:29.595 --> 00:17:32.844
slowly and they're very
vulnerable on roads. So the fact

00:17:32.844 --> 00:17:36.434
that many of these amphibians
are moving all at once to get to

00:17:36.434 --> 00:17:40.082
those temporary pools as early
as possible, it means that these

00:17:40.082 --> 00:17:43.502
local populations are all very
vulnerable at the same time.

00:17:43.502 --> 00:17:44.299
It's not like.

00:17:44.370 --> 00:17:47.411
There's a few out one night, a
few out next night for the next

00:17:47.411 --> 00:17:50.163
50 nights, and it's all very
scattered. They're all very

00:17:50.163 --> 00:17:52.240
vulnerable on just a few nights
each year.

00:17:53.080 --> 00:17:57.022
And so that's where the
amphibian migrations and Rd.

00:17:57.022 --> 00:18:01.634
crossings project and volunteers
like yourselves can help. So

00:18:01.634 --> 00:18:04.610
let's talk a little bit next now
about.

00:18:06.960 --> 00:18:09.741

What volunteers do and what the responsibilities of being a

00:18:09.741 --> 00:18:10.390
volunteer are.

00:18:11.380 --> 00:18:14.411
So our volunteers find and document Rd. crossings in the

00:18:14.411 --> 00:18:17.868
Hudson Valley. We're starting to gather more of an understanding

00:18:17.868 --> 00:18:20.846
of where crossings are and aren't. However, we're still

00:18:20.846 --> 00:18:24.090
building that database because again, we don't have a lot of

00:18:24.090 --> 00:18:27.121
repeat volunteers over the years. And so there's a small

00:18:27.121 --> 00:18:30.471
percentage of folks who've been going to the same places where

00:18:30.471 --> 00:18:33.875
we have a growing body of data, but we want to see those repeat

00:18:33.875 --> 00:18:35.790
visits improve over the next years.

00:18:36.450 --> 00:18:40.213
We also want our volunteers to help reduce mortality of

00:18:40.213 --> 00:18:44.380
migrating amphibians, to move

them carefully across the road,

00:18:44.380 --> 00:18:48.278
and then to record information
that helps us document the

00:18:48.278 --> 00:18:52.378
migration, to know what the
conditions were and to know what

00:18:52.378 --> 00:18:54.259
species were being observed.

00:18:55.800 --> 00:18:59.414
And then most importantly, I
saved it for last is really just

00:18:59.414 --> 00:19:03.145
to make sure that you are safe
on the roads. This is our utmost

00:19:03.145 --> 00:19:06.410
important, paramount of
importance piece of of what our

00:19:06.410 --> 00:19:09.500
volunteer needs to do and that's
keep yourself safe.

00:19:10.890 --> 00:19:14.614
So I'm going to go through a
list of responsibilities. These

00:19:14.614 --> 00:19:17.972
are all in your volunteer
handbook, but I just want to

00:19:17.972 --> 00:19:21.392
talk you through some of them.
So first, if you haven't

00:19:21.392 --> 00:19:25.055
already, make sure you sign up
for our project emails. They

00:19:25.055 --> 00:19:28.841
come to you through DC delivers.
And I know there's been some

00:19:28.841 --> 00:19:32.322
reports of confusion on how to
sign up. And so this is a

00:19:32.322 --> 00:19:35.924
screenshot of our web page or
amphibian migrations and Rd.

00:19:35.924 --> 00:19:39.466
crossings page on the CDC
website on this page. So you're

00:19:39.466 --> 00:19:40.260
going to get.

00:19:40.510 --> 00:19:43.915
If you go to the DC website,
you're gonna pop up box inviting

00:19:43.915 --> 00:19:47.375
you to sign up for all different
kinds of DC newsletters. Skip

00:19:47.375 --> 00:19:50.726
that one. Go to the one on our
site where it says sign up to

00:19:50.726 --> 00:19:54.132
receive amphibian migrations and
Rd. crossings alerts. Put in

00:19:54.132 --> 00:19:57.153
your e-mail address there and
hit submit and that will

00:19:57.153 --> 00:20:00.283
subscribe you to receive
newsletters like the screenshot

00:20:00.283 --> 00:20:03.524
you see here. I've only really
send these out during prime

00:20:03.524 --> 00:20:06.820
season to give you a sense of
when migration conditions are

00:20:06.820 --> 00:20:10.006
are impending to let you know
what migration observations

00:20:10.006 --> 00:20:10.829
we've received.

00:20:10.900 --> 00:20:14.438
And volunteers to kind of give
you an update on it this season

00:20:14.438 --> 00:20:17.640
as we go along. And I'll also
share educational training

00:20:17.640 --> 00:20:20.898
opportunities and sometimes
other information relevant to

00:20:20.898 --> 00:20:24.212
the project. One reminder too,
if you have the option when

00:20:24.212 --> 00:20:27.582
you're subscribing, choose the
daily option, not the digest

00:20:27.582 --> 00:20:31.177
option. If you choose the digest
option, it'll come to you like

00:20:31.177 --> 00:20:34.491
all once a week on Sundays, I
think and and then you might

00:20:34.491 --> 00:20:36.569
miss that there's a migration
alert.

00:20:38.010 --> 00:20:41.884
Second, what you're already
doing is to attend a training or

00:20:41.884 --> 00:20:44.680
watch or online volunteer
training modules.

00:20:45.510 --> 00:20:49.033
And again, just to remind you,
in case you didn't get that or

00:20:49.033 --> 00:20:52.557
read the e-mail we sent, there's
five recorded PowerPoints on

00:20:52.557 --> 00:20:55.911
YouTube. They're not like
National Geographic quality, but

00:20:55.911 --> 00:20:59.378
they hopefully get the basic
information across. And I think

00:20:59.378 --> 00:21:02.845
it takes about an hour and a
half to watch them all. But you

00:21:02.845 --> 00:21:06.369
can watch them, you know, one at
a time. We also have lots of

00:21:06.369 --> 00:21:09.552
resources on our website, lots
of hyperlinked different

00:21:09.552 --> 00:21:13.189
resources for you to learn about
different aspects of amphibian

00:21:13.189 --> 00:21:15.520
identification, migrations and
so forth.

00:21:16.740 --> 00:21:20.744
Also, please, even if you're
looking at it while we train

00:21:20.744 --> 00:21:24.404
tonight, please read the
Volunteer handbook cover to

00:21:24.404 --> 00:21:28.892
cover. It's not long and it has
lots of tips and tricks in there

00:21:28.892 --> 00:21:32.827
for having a successful
migration season, and it's only,

00:21:32.827 --> 00:21:34.830
I think, about 10 pages long.

00:21:36.630 --> 00:21:40.392
3rd uh, you need to learn to
identify amphibian species that

00:21:40.392 --> 00:21:44.092
you might encounter during the
migration. The good news is,

00:21:44.092 --> 00:21:48.162
like I said, there's a key group
that we expect you to see during

00:21:48.162 --> 00:21:52.171
the migration. It's nothing like
trying to like, learn warblers,

00:21:52.171 --> 00:21:56.180
for example. If you're a birder,
it's pretty straightforward. So

00:21:56.180 --> 00:21:59.510

we have the module that we encourage you to listen to

00:21:59.510 --> 00:22:03.457
before tonight. That's module 5 that Emma described amphibians.

00:22:03.457 --> 00:22:06.479
We also have our Amphibian identification guide.

00:22:06.600 --> 00:22:10.168
Which we recommend you print out. If you're able to laminate

00:22:10.168 --> 00:22:13.796
it, that's great because you can keep it with you, and it's a

00:22:13.796 --> 00:22:16.780
really handy device to have while you're on out on

00:22:16.780 --> 00:22:20.524
immigration because you can use it to keep your papers dry. You

00:22:20.524 --> 00:22:24.093
can also use it to help you move amphibians like large toads

00:22:24.093 --> 00:22:25.030
across the road.

00:22:26.520 --> 00:22:30.671
We also on the agenda that was sent out with your registration

00:22:30.671 --> 00:22:34.626
confirmation. We listed a few other books that we think are

00:22:34.626 --> 00:22:37.460
great resources which you could

check out.

00:22:38.720 --> 00:22:42.755
OK. So next and really important
is to get yourself prepared. And

00:22:42.755 --> 00:22:46.545
the time to get prepared is now.
I'm so excited that we don't

00:22:46.545 --> 00:22:49.969
have the impending fear of a
February migration. So you

00:22:49.969 --> 00:22:53.454
actually have enough time to
really prep yourself, train

00:22:53.454 --> 00:22:57.367
yourself, learner and phibians.
But let's talk about safety now

00:22:57.367 --> 00:23:01.096
because it's it's like I said,
it's so important. So we need

00:23:01.096 --> 00:23:04.581
you to take responsibility for
your own safety. Take all

00:23:04.581 --> 00:23:06.660
precautions that are
recommended.

00:23:07.800 --> 00:23:11.845
First, where are reflective
vests? Not just an orange vest,

00:23:11.845 --> 00:23:15.554
but something that has
reflective tape tape on it. You

00:23:15.554 --> 00:23:19.936

really need to be seen, and our friend Joe here is demonstrating

00:23:19.936 --> 00:23:23.982
very good practices. He's also wearing a headlamp, which we

00:23:23.982 --> 00:23:28.027
encourage you to wear just because it's one more visual for

00:23:28.027 --> 00:23:32.006
drivers to see you. The headlamp is helpful too for seeing

00:23:32.006 --> 00:23:36.119
amphibians in your hand and maybe writing on your data form,

00:23:36.119 --> 00:23:37.670
but they're really not.

00:23:37.800 --> 00:23:40.641
Bright enough for seeing and illuminating the road, which

00:23:40.641 --> 00:23:43.433
we'll talk about, but the headlamp is really helpful for

00:23:43.433 --> 00:23:46.226
you to be seen. And I also recommend if you're a bike, a

00:23:46.226 --> 00:23:49.116
biker, and you have little blinking biking lights, you can

00:23:49.116 --> 00:23:51.958
put those on the back of your jacket in the front of your

00:23:51.958 --> 00:23:53.330

jacket for added visibility.

00:23:54.070 --> 00:23:58.199

Also prepare for cold and rainy weather. We talk about these

00:23:58.199 --> 00:24:02.397

being warm spring rains, but it's warm for an amphibian. It's

00:24:02.397 --> 00:24:06.392

not warm for us. 40 degrees in the rain standing around is

00:24:06.392 --> 00:24:07.340

pretty chilly.

00:24:08.740 --> 00:24:12.034

So wear layers, avoid cotton. Make sure you know if you have

00:24:12.034 --> 00:24:15.275

rain pants. Raincoat Joe is wearing a brimmed hat, which is

00:24:15.275 --> 00:24:18.516

really helpful for keeping the rain out of your face. And I

00:24:18.516 --> 00:24:21.703

can't emphasize enough the importance of bringing at least

00:24:21.703 --> 00:24:24.890

one other person with you. You know, help a friend you can

00:24:24.890 --> 00:24:28.347

send. You know, a friend's not with you this evening? Send them

00:24:28.347 --> 00:24:31.912

the YouTube links, but encourage friends or family to join you so

00:24:31.912 --> 00:24:35.261
that one of you could be keeping
an eye on the road for cars,

00:24:35.261 --> 00:24:38.069
making sure you're safe. The
other one can be, umm.

00:24:38.510 --> 00:24:41.503
Helping more with the amphibians
and and maybe even a third

00:24:41.503 --> 00:24:44.597
person writing down the data and
you can all be sharing those

00:24:44.597 --> 00:24:47.691
roles throughout the evening and
then again the importance of

00:24:47.691 --> 00:24:48.390
staying alert.

00:24:49.650 --> 00:24:53.646
It's very hard to well, let me
yeah, it's very hard to see cars

00:24:53.646 --> 00:24:57.267
coming through when you know
there's all these vulnerable

00:24:57.267 --> 00:25:01.076
amphibians on the road. Again,
your safety is number one, we

00:25:01.076 --> 00:25:04.947
don't want you flagging down or
interfering with any traffic.

00:25:04.947 --> 00:25:08.881
The fact that you're there is
helping the amphibians more than

00:25:08.881 --> 00:25:12.690
if you weren't there. But we
don't want you blocking traffic

00:25:12.690 --> 00:25:16.374
or flagging down cars. And we do
often run into vehicle or

00:25:16.374 --> 00:25:19.995
drivers that are interested in
what we're doing. And so I

00:25:19.995 --> 00:25:20.620
recommend.

00:25:20.720 --> 00:25:25.109
Bringing the fact sheet we have,
which there's a image of that in

00:25:25.109 --> 00:25:29.299
upper right corner of the slide
keep that's also linked on our

00:25:29.299 --> 00:25:33.556
website. Print out a few copies
of that. You can also print out

00:25:33.556 --> 00:25:37.547
a copy with a new little sign
with the QR code that you can

00:25:37.547 --> 00:25:40.539
tape inside your car windows if
you want to.

00:25:41.250 --> 00:25:45.630
Kind of avoid anyone being
concerned or you know.

00:25:46.330 --> 00:25:49.006
A little bit thinking your
little sketchy for being out on

00:25:49.006 --> 00:25:51.682

the on the road at night, maybe
in front of their house so

00:25:51.682 --> 00:25:54.676
there's a few tools you can have
to kind of help teach people who

00:25:54.676 --> 00:25:56.309
stop and ask you what you're
doing.

00:25:58.730 --> 00:26:02.808
And the other thing I would just
say is don't ever run out in

00:26:02.808 --> 00:26:06.558
front of a car to save an
amphibian. As hard as it is to

00:26:06.558 --> 00:26:10.571
watch it potentially get run
over. You need to keep yourself

00:26:10.571 --> 00:26:10.900
safe.

00:26:12.010 --> 00:26:14.853
There's a checklist on page
three of the handbook that's a

00:26:14.853 --> 00:26:17.648
really good reference for
getting yourself prepared, so I

00:26:17.648 --> 00:26:20.347
won't go through all that
tonight. But you know, things

00:26:20.347 --> 00:26:23.383
like extra batteries for your
headlamps, for your flashlights.

00:26:23.383 --> 00:26:26.419
Make sure everything's charged

up if you're using rechargeable

00:26:26.419 --> 00:26:29.406
batteries. You also can bring
like a clean bucket with you if

00:26:29.406 --> 00:26:32.442
you're in a really busy spot.
But go through that list and and

00:26:32.442 --> 00:26:35.575
of course, I'm and I are always
available to answer questions if

00:26:35.575 --> 00:26:36.250
you have them.

00:26:37.000 --> 00:26:41.071
I also wanted to point out that
if you are interested in joining

00:26:41.071 --> 00:26:45.017
up with the group, part of this
bringing a buddy is that we do

00:26:45.017 --> 00:26:49.026
have a growing number of project
partners that are working with

00:26:49.026 --> 00:26:52.158
us to organize volunteers
locally. And so like in

00:26:52.158 --> 00:26:55.792
Westchester County, T Town, Lake
Reservation, the town of

00:26:55.792 --> 00:26:59.613
Bedford, the town of Pound Ridge
and Ulster County, Wallkill

00:26:59.613 --> 00:27:03.308
Valley Land Trust, down the

Putnam County Hudson Highlands

00:27:03.308 --> 00:27:07.130

Land Trust. Further north we have Columbia Land Conservancy.

00:27:07.200 --> 00:27:11.150

Councillor Plateau Alliance and in Dutchess County, the Sawkill

00:27:11.150 --> 00:27:14.977

watershed community and town of Rhinebeck. Climate smart. I'm

00:27:14.977 --> 00:27:18.433

sorry, I think it's village of Rhinebeck. Climate smart

00:27:18.433 --> 00:27:22.137

community or climate smart task force along with Winky Land

00:27:22.137 --> 00:27:25.778

Trust is helping them this year I believe. So we can share

00:27:25.778 --> 00:27:29.852

contact information for the lead folks there that are helping out

00:27:29.852 --> 00:27:30.470

with this.

00:27:32.290 --> 00:27:35.901

Also, I just wanted to point out with regard to safety, if you're

00:27:35.901 --> 00:27:38.911

thinking about bringing children, a volunteer handbook

00:27:38.911 --> 00:27:41.702

on Page 5 has a list of questions to ask yourself.

00:27:41.702 --> 00:27:44.931

Things like are they good at following directions, do they

00:27:44.931 --> 00:27:48.105

know how to be safe around traffic and listen to you? And

00:27:48.105 --> 00:27:51.388

do they know how to handle amphibians carefully? And if any

00:27:51.388 --> 00:27:54.836

of these questions you know you think about and you answer no,

00:27:54.836 --> 00:27:58.120

then maybe wait till those children are a little bit older.

00:28:00.790 --> 00:28:04.518

So the next on the list of responsibilities is watching the

00:28:04.518 --> 00:28:08.185

weather, checking your e-mail and again being ready. And I

00:28:08.185 --> 00:28:11.976

just wanted to share with you, this is actually a screenshot

00:28:11.976 --> 00:28:15.829

from my phone. I obsessively checked the weather this time of

00:28:15.829 --> 00:28:19.558

year and this was back in mid February and we had that warm

00:28:19.558 --> 00:28:23.348

spell and this, if this was in February, this little weather

00:28:23.348 --> 00:28:27.264
forecast would be exactly what
we're looking for where we have

00:28:27.264 --> 00:28:31.179
the spell of dry weather after
having wintry weather, dry warm

00:28:31.179 --> 00:28:31.489
days.

00:28:31.560 --> 00:28:34.518
Sunshine and if I knew the
ground was thawed, which for

00:28:34.518 --> 00:28:37.636
2023, we know it probably is
already. But if the ground is

00:28:37.636 --> 00:28:41.017
thawed, we get this warm spell
of sunny weather and then all of

00:28:41.017 --> 00:28:44.293
a sudden we get a really warm
day and it rains. That's when I

00:28:44.293 --> 00:28:47.622
would think we could have a big
night of migration. So this is

00:28:47.622 --> 00:28:51.004
the pattern you want to look for
for your local conditions. I'm

00:28:51.004 --> 00:28:54.332
going to be sending out alerts
to the subscription list when I

00:28:54.332 --> 00:28:57.450
think the weather looks right.
But our Hudson Valley is so

00:28:57.450 --> 00:29:00.884
large and depending on where you
live, if you live up on a Ridge

00:29:00.884 --> 00:29:02.099
with a lot of hemlocks.

00:29:02.270 --> 00:29:05.691
Things might be very different
than somebody who lives in, you

00:29:05.691 --> 00:29:08.679
know, the Rondout Valley in
fertile, you know, fertile

00:29:08.679 --> 00:29:12.155
floodplain forest, for example.
So. So I'm going to do the best

00:29:12.155 --> 00:29:15.576
I can to predict what's going on
throughout the Hudson Valley.

00:29:15.576 --> 00:29:19.107
But then if you can look at Your
local weather forecast and look

00:29:19.107 --> 00:29:22.692
for those nights when it's going
to be 40 degrees and raining and

00:29:22.692 --> 00:29:26.222
again, it's not going to be like
40 nights. There's usually just

00:29:26.222 --> 00:29:29.427
a few nights where we get
migration activity. We also like

00:29:29.427 --> 00:29:32.360
using weather.gov that's a
really great website that.

00:29:32.430 --> 00:29:36.110
Has hourly forecast that you can
check OK.

00:29:37.680 --> 00:29:41.003
Need to move along on migration
nights? You need to use care

00:29:41.003 --> 00:29:44.544
when moving amphibian. So let's
talk about their safety now that

00:29:44.544 --> 00:29:48.085
we've covered your safety. When
you get to or you find an Fabian

00:29:48.085 --> 00:29:51.408
crossing because you've been,
you know, searching roads in a

00:29:51.408 --> 00:29:54.949
forested area and you find where
there's crossing activity. Park

00:29:54.949 --> 00:29:58.327
in a safe place away from the
actual processing activity, and

00:29:58.327 --> 00:30:01.432
preferably and not right in
front of somebody's house if

00:30:01.432 --> 00:30:04.810
it's possible to park away from
somebody's house or driveway.

00:30:06.290 --> 00:30:09.734
Do what these folks up in the
upper right are doing is like,

00:30:09.734 --> 00:30:13.235
really illuminate the road. Some
of these amphibians are very

00:30:13.235 --> 00:30:16.624
small and it's dark and it's
raining and the road is shiny.

00:30:16.624 --> 00:30:20.181
It's really hard to miss them,
so keep an eye under foot, scan

00:30:20.181 --> 00:30:20.690
the road.

00:30:21.780 --> 00:30:24.886
If it's possible to keep and you
can stay safe, keep your feet on

00:30:24.886 --> 00:30:27.757
the street, we like to say, as
opposed to on the sides where

00:30:27.757 --> 00:30:30.722
there could be amphibians in the
grass and in the leaves along

00:30:30.722 --> 00:30:33.640
the side of the road where you
might not be able to see them.

00:30:34.840 --> 00:30:37.788
It's very important. Again
getting back to the idea that

00:30:37.788 --> 00:30:40.943
amphibians have this permeable,
sensitive wet skin that your

00:30:40.943 --> 00:30:43.995
hands are clean. So before you
leave your house, wash your

00:30:43.995 --> 00:30:47.254
hands with soap and water, rinse
them well, and then don't put

00:30:47.254 --> 00:30:50.254
anything on your hands. No
lotion, no hand sanitizer. You

00:30:50.254 --> 00:30:53.461
shouldn't need bug repellent
this time of year, but make sure

00:30:53.461 --> 00:30:56.565
your hands are also wet when
you're handling amphibians. If

00:30:56.565 --> 00:30:59.565
you're going to use a bucket,
make sure the buckets clean

00:30:59.565 --> 00:31:02.927
before you leave your house, and
then make sure it gets a little

00:31:02.927 --> 00:31:05.099
rain water in it again. We don't
want to.

00:31:05.450 --> 00:31:07.480
Dry out their skin at all.

00:31:08.960 --> 00:31:12.072
And you move them across the
road too. You want to move them

00:31:12.072 --> 00:31:15.133
in the direction that they were
moving. So you might be out

00:31:15.133 --> 00:31:18.092
where different amphibian
species are moving in different

00:31:18.092 --> 00:31:21.255
directions because some might
have gotten to the pool earlier

00:31:21.255 --> 00:31:24.214
than other species. That or
males have already been there

00:31:24.214 --> 00:31:27.173
and they're leaving and the
females are just arriving, so

00:31:27.173 --> 00:31:29.825
they might be moving in
different directions. Don't

00:31:29.825 --> 00:31:33.142
assume you know better than they
are, just move them in the same

00:31:33.142 --> 00:31:36.305
way they were going. You also
want to remove dead amphibians,

00:31:36.305 --> 00:31:39.060
which is a very hard thing to
do. You can use gloves.

00:31:39.130 --> 00:31:42.631
Can you use an old spatula? But
the idea there is if you're

00:31:42.631 --> 00:31:46.249
repeating your walk on a road
back and forth to cover stretch

00:31:46.249 --> 00:31:49.984
of Rd. you don't want to double
count these individuals because

00:31:49.984 --> 00:31:53.485
that will make the data less
accurate when moving them. You

00:31:53.485 --> 00:31:57.045
want to maintain a gentle but
firm hole. A lot of frogs will

00:31:57.045 --> 00:32:00.546
just hop along if you kind of
give them a little nudge from

00:32:00.546 --> 00:32:04.106
behind. You only have to pick
them up if they're really cold

00:32:04.106 --> 00:32:07.607
and they're barely moving. I
sometimes will scoot them onto

00:32:07.607 --> 00:32:08.950
my amphibian guide and.

00:32:09.140 --> 00:32:12.394
Use that to help move them along
with my hand on top of the

00:32:12.394 --> 00:32:15.595
guide. Also, salamanders, you
know, they're pretty easy to

00:32:15.595 --> 00:32:18.796
pick up. The larger ones, the
small ones. Again, you might

00:32:18.796 --> 00:32:21.400
want to scoot them onto like a
laminated sheet.

00:32:23.330 --> 00:32:26.233
Because they are especially
certain species, like 4 toed

00:32:26.233 --> 00:32:29.492
salamander, redback salamander,
they really wiggle around a lot

00:32:29.492 --> 00:32:32.599
and they're very tiny, so the
number one thing is don't pick

00:32:32.599 --> 00:32:33.719
them up by their tail.

00:32:35.550 --> 00:32:39.164
Don't pick them up by their
legs. You want to hold their

00:32:39.164 --> 00:32:40.750
bodies gently but firmly.

00:32:42.420 --> 00:32:45.367
And handle them as little as
possible. We're just moving them

00:32:45.367 --> 00:32:48.172
across the road. You shouldn't
be taking them anywhere you

00:32:48.172 --> 00:32:51.025
don't want to handle them and
expose them to your body heat

00:32:51.025 --> 00:32:54.020
and to your whatever you know
you might happen to have on your

00:32:54.020 --> 00:32:56.920
skin. Handle them as little as
possible. Just get them where

00:32:56.920 --> 00:32:59.060
they're going. We're out there
to help them.

00:33:00.310 --> 00:33:03.943
Finally, you want to record your
data and submit your

00:33:03.943 --> 00:33:06.770
observations and so when
collecting data.

00:33:07.680 --> 00:33:10.909
This is all on Volunteer

Handbook page 7. Record your

00:33:10.909 --> 00:33:14.438
data on printed forms. So we
have a data form. It's double

00:33:14.438 --> 00:33:18.206
sided. Bring some extra copies
with you. If you can print them

00:33:18.206 --> 00:33:21.914
out on waterproof paper, that's
great. Otherwise keep them in

00:33:21.914 --> 00:33:23.409
like an enclosed plastic.

00:33:24.980 --> 00:33:25.340
Have.

00:33:26.230 --> 00:33:29.260
The board or keep the plastic
laminated sheets.

00:33:30.820 --> 00:33:34.251
They have mine handy as a as a
visual, but keep that plastic

00:33:34.251 --> 00:33:37.627
sheet, maybe over your data
form. Use a different data form

00:33:37.627 --> 00:33:41.172
for each location that you go
to. So don't you know, visit one

00:33:41.172 --> 00:33:44.716
spot, fill out a data form, then
dry fog miles to new spot and

00:33:44.716 --> 00:33:48.317
continue on that data form. That
makes our database very tricky

00:33:48.317 --> 00:33:48.880
to manage.

00:33:49.860 --> 00:33:52.995
This is really important. We're
not requiring it, but we're

00:33:52.995 --> 00:33:56.130
asking you this year take a
photo of every species that you

00:33:56.130 --> 00:33:59.161
see because we often have
questions and we want to follow

00:33:59.161 --> 00:34:02.296
up and it's really hard to
confirm if you've seen something

00:34:02.296 --> 00:34:05.484
kind of unusual and we want to
follow up. It really helps if

00:34:05.484 --> 00:34:08.933
you have kind of a voucher photo
that will help us vouch that yes

00:34:08.933 --> 00:34:12.225
indeed that's what you saw. So
you don't have to send them all

00:34:12.225 --> 00:34:15.360
to us, but certainly keep them
for, for that survey for

00:34:15.360 --> 00:34:18.443
each night you go and then we
can always follow up. You're

00:34:18.443 --> 00:34:21.526
also welcome to share photos
with us, which Emma will talk

00:34:21.526 --> 00:34:21.839

about.

00:34:22.370 --> 00:34:25.679
You're welcome to continue
assisting amphibians and marking

00:34:25.679 --> 00:34:28.934
down data for as long or as
little as you want. You can go

00:34:28.934 --> 00:34:32.354
out to a site for 30 minutes.
You can go out for three hours.

00:34:32.354 --> 00:34:35.608
It really depends on your
availability, your interests and

00:34:35.608 --> 00:34:39.084
and your willingness and comfort
and being out in the rain and

00:34:39.084 --> 00:34:39.360
cold.

00:34:41.070 --> 00:34:44.403
Before you know, it's really
easy to kind of go out and focus

00:34:44.403 --> 00:34:47.790
on the amphibians. But remember
it's you have to mark down the

00:34:47.790 --> 00:34:51.069
temperature and the times that
you start and end the traffic

00:34:51.069 --> 00:34:54.617
levels that you see and also the
distance of Rd. you surveyed. So

00:34:54.617 --> 00:34:57.950
be sure you remember to do that
while you're out on the road.

00:34:57.950 --> 00:35:01.176

And don't think like, oh, I'll
take care of the rest of the

00:35:01.176 --> 00:35:04.509

data form when I get home. Those
you need to figure out while

00:35:04.509 --> 00:35:07.789

you're out there. And then use
caution when driving from the

00:35:07.789 --> 00:35:11.068

site, check that there's no
amphibians under your car, under

00:35:11.068 --> 00:35:11.659

your tires.

00:35:12.180 --> 00:35:15.672

You know, try to hopefully you
parked away from where that high

00:35:15.672 --> 00:35:19.055

activity is, you know, drive
away from the site carefully and

00:35:19.055 --> 00:35:22.274

if possible try to take roads
that they're not going to be

00:35:22.274 --> 00:35:24.730

encountering other migration
activity areas.

00:35:25.690 --> 00:35:27.929

We want you to submit your data
even if you don't see

00:35:27.929 --> 00:35:30.460

amphibians, because that is
data, even though it might feel.

00:35:32.750 --> 00:35:35.815
Anticlimactic to you. It's
really helpful to us to know

00:35:35.815 --> 00:35:38.880
when you go out and you don't
see anything, it helps us

00:35:38.880 --> 00:35:41.891
understand the season start in
season end. It helps us

00:35:41.891 --> 00:35:44.956
understand where actual kind of
important areas are for

00:35:44.956 --> 00:35:48.460
migration on roads versus less
important areas and so forth. So

00:35:48.460 --> 00:35:51.908
this is the data form. The other
reminder I will make before I

00:35:51.908 --> 00:35:55.248
wrap up is read it as part of
your prep. Don't be reading it

00:35:55.248 --> 00:35:58.532
for the first time when you're
out on your migration night.

00:35:58.532 --> 00:36:01.926
Read through it. Remember what
you're going to be asked to do

00:36:01.926 --> 00:36:03.239
so that you're prepared.

00:36:03.330 --> 00:36:06.631
To answer all fields while
you're out, and this is really

00:36:06.631 --> 00:36:10.388
just the place you're collecting
your information so you can then

00:36:10.388 --> 00:36:13.747
upload it into our online
platform, which Emma is going to

00:36:13.747 --> 00:36:14.260
describe.

00:36:15.010 --> 00:36:15.630
So.

00:36:16.680 --> 00:36:20.637
Emma, I'm 5 minutes over. I'm
sorry. No, that's OK. So I'm

00:36:20.637 --> 00:36:23.790
going to stop sharing. No, I'm
not. Yes, I am.

00:36:25.310 --> 00:36:32.832
Alright and I am going and I
will bring up the online data

00:36:32.832 --> 00:36:33.470
form.

00:36:34.160 --> 00:36:38.030
Let's make sure that this all
looks good, right?

00:36:38.780 --> 00:36:39.580
OK.

00:36:40.370 --> 00:36:41.100
And stop.

00:36:42.320 --> 00:36:46.259
Video alright, awesome. So yeah.
Hey everyone, I'm going to be

00:36:46.259 --> 00:36:50.199
walking you through our online
data forum. It's important that

00:36:50.199 --> 00:36:53.825
our volunteers know how to
correctly enter data online to

00:36:53.825 --> 00:36:57.765
reduce the amount of follow up
we need to do, but also to keep

00:36:57.765 --> 00:37:01.267
our data as accurate as
possible, right? I want to give

00:37:01.267 --> 00:37:05.144
a big thank you to the natural
heritage program. We work with

00:37:05.144 --> 00:37:09.208
them to update our data form for
2023, which was super exciting.

00:37:09.208 --> 00:37:11.709
We're still working on the final
edits.

00:37:12.230 --> 00:37:16.283
Um, so this is the beta data
form, but it should remind or

00:37:16.283 --> 00:37:20.474
remain quite similar to the one
that I'm demoing today. This

00:37:20.474 --> 00:37:24.459
data form was created using an
ESRI product called ArcGIS

00:37:24.459 --> 00:37:28.170
Survey 123. We hope our
volunteers use this to submit

00:37:28.170 --> 00:37:32.361
data. But as Laura mentioned,
when you're out on migration

00:37:32.361 --> 00:37:36.415
night, you should have the paper
data form handy to record

00:37:36.415 --> 00:37:40.812
observations either printed out
or have it up on your phone and

00:37:40.812 --> 00:37:42.530
then come home and submit

00:37:42.600 --> 00:37:46.653
your observations using the
online data form. And lastly, we

00:37:46.653 --> 00:37:50.506
recommend using a desktop or
laptop and a browser such as

00:37:50.506 --> 00:37:54.560
Chrome or Microsoft Edge. I
don't think Internet Explorer is

00:37:54.560 --> 00:37:58.347
a browser anymore, but just in
case folks are using that

00:37:58.347 --> 00:38:02.400
survey, 123 will not work on
that browser. So let's get into

00:38:02.400 --> 00:38:02.599
it.

00:38:04.860 --> 00:38:08.186
The first section is date and
time, which is pretty

00:38:08.186 --> 00:38:12.024
self-explanatory. We have a new
feature this year that will

00:38:12.024 --> 00:38:15.926
actually disable folks from
entering dates in the future and

00:38:15.926 --> 00:38:19.573
entering times during the
daytime. So I can show you how

00:38:19.573 --> 00:38:23.155
that works right now. See
automatically so it says that

00:38:23.155 --> 00:38:26.866
surveys cannot be in the future
or have a negative survey

00:38:26.866 --> 00:38:30.768
duration, and I'll show you what
it looks like if I put in a

00:38:30.768 --> 00:38:31.280
daytime.

00:38:33.030 --> 00:38:35.898
It comes up right here. Please
check your start time. It seems

00:38:35.898 --> 00:38:37.310
to occur during daylight hours.

00:38:38.130 --> 00:38:42.100
I'm going to change that back
and then down here it actually,

00:38:42.100 --> 00:38:45.750
um, you can see how many hours
that I was out surveying.

00:38:47.710 --> 00:38:51.352
The next section is temperature

information, which is also

00:38:51.352 --> 00:38:55.365
pretty self-explanatory. But we
do have another new feature this

00:38:55.365 --> 00:38:59.378
year that pops up if you enter a
temperature that is out outside

00:38:59.378 --> 00:39:03.268
of the normal range. And you can
see down here the temperature

00:39:03.268 --> 00:39:07.158
validation key. So let's say I
accidentally put in 70 degrees,

00:39:07.158 --> 00:39:10.985
which is pretty odd for that
time of year, right? Or for this

00:39:10.985 --> 00:39:14.752
time of year, and you can see
that emoji pops up saying, you

00:39:14.752 --> 00:39:17.159
know, maybe you should check
that out.

00:39:18.260 --> 00:39:21.998
So I'm going to put that back to
44, which is pretty normal for

00:39:21.998 --> 00:39:23.050
this time of year.

00:39:25.960 --> 00:39:29.860
The next section is weather and
traffic information. So you

00:39:29.860 --> 00:39:34.021
know, it's good to kind of jot
this down before you head out on

00:39:34.021 --> 00:39:38.052
immigration night. Specifically
the weather conditions in the

00:39:38.052 --> 00:39:42.148
past 24 hours. You know, just
because it's fresh in your mind,

00:39:42.148 --> 00:39:45.659
right? So I've gone ahead and
already filled out this

00:39:45.659 --> 00:39:48.910
information. Once again, pretty
self-explanatory.

00:39:51.020 --> 00:39:54.270
Here and I did want to say that
if you.

00:39:56.060 --> 00:39:56.750
Click.

00:39:58.400 --> 00:40:02.445
You know, if you click inside of
this box, any of these inside

00:40:02.445 --> 00:40:06.427
any of the checkboxes, in order
to get out of it, you have to

00:40:06.427 --> 00:40:10.408
Click to the side and just kind
of a a note. And you know, it

00:40:10.408 --> 00:40:14.518
might seem kind of daunting it
for us, especially if you're not

00:40:14.518 --> 00:40:18.564
someone that you know goes on,
you know, uses computers a lot.

00:40:18.564 --> 00:40:22.417

But it gets easy over time, I promise, and I'm going to hit

00:40:22.417 --> 00:40:23.829
into the next section.

00:40:25.270 --> 00:40:29.276
Uh, which is crossing location information, so we're going to

00:40:29.276 --> 00:40:33.218
ask you some information. The county is the first one, so we

00:40:33.218 --> 00:40:37.289
only list counties we focus on. But if you are submitting data

00:40:37.289 --> 00:40:41.490
from outside of our focus area, you can choose the other option.

00:40:41.490 --> 00:40:44.139
Here, I'm going to choose Ulster County.

00:40:46.830 --> 00:40:50.437
There we go. And then the drop down for town, village or city.

00:40:50.437 --> 00:40:53.643
It should only show the municipalities that are in your

00:40:53.643 --> 00:40:57.251
county. You know you don't. If you're unsure, you can leave it

00:40:57.251 --> 00:41:00.801
blank. We realize that it can be sometimes hard to know which

00:41:00.801 --> 00:41:04.466
Muni you were in geographically

without using GIS. So you know,

00:41:04.466 --> 00:41:07.100
feel free to enter it. I'll put
in new pults.

00:41:08.550 --> 00:41:12.311
Road name nearest crossroad.
Have you surveyed this road

00:41:12.311 --> 00:41:16.337
before? And then approximate
length of the road stretch that

00:41:16.337 --> 00:41:20.561
you surveyed in miles. We have a
pop up now that asks if you're

00:41:20.561 --> 00:41:24.454
sure about the data entry
because we were getting a lot of

00:41:24.454 --> 00:41:28.282
links and feet and we ended up
following up with a lot of

00:41:28.282 --> 00:41:32.242
volunteers to confirm these
distances. So I'll show you how

00:41:32.242 --> 00:41:36.532
that looks. So it says that this
link seems a bit extreme, which

00:41:36.532 --> 00:41:39.369
makes sense. 4000 miles is a lot
of miles.

00:41:39.700 --> 00:41:43.300
So let me change that back to
one mile and then you can add

00:41:43.300 --> 00:41:46.300
any additional comments on the

crossing location.

00:41:49.690 --> 00:41:53.929

Next is the map that we are asking you to put a pin in a

00:41:53.929 --> 00:41:58.391

location on your survey Rd. location. I'm not going to read

00:41:58.391 --> 00:42:02.408

through all of these instructions, but please do that

00:42:02.408 --> 00:42:06.573

when you are using this for the first time. It's really

00:42:06.573 --> 00:42:11.407

important but I will go over how this works. So first I am going

00:42:11.407 --> 00:42:15.944

to show you on the side of this map. If you hover over these

00:42:15.944 --> 00:42:19.440

little buttons here it tells you what it does.

00:42:19.510 --> 00:42:23.781

So zoom in, zoom in, zoom out default map view which just

00:42:23.781 --> 00:42:27.685

takes you to this view. The default map view find my

00:42:27.685 --> 00:42:32.546

location. So if you do have your location enabled on your device,

00:42:32.546 --> 00:42:36.965

you can actually click that and

it'll zoom right in to your

00:42:36.965 --> 00:42:41.310
location. I'm not going to do
that for obvious reasons and

00:42:41.310 --> 00:42:46.098
this one is a good one. This is
how you enlarge the map, which I

00:42:46.098 --> 00:42:50.370
prefer. And lastly you can
change the way your map looks.

00:42:50.440 --> 00:42:54.934
And we recommend that you use
these straits map or the open

00:42:54.934 --> 00:42:59.429
street map just because it's
very detailed and you can zoom

00:42:59.429 --> 00:43:03.775
in really close and see the
buildings that are around and

00:43:03.775 --> 00:43:08.195
see other features such as, you
know, ponds and rivers and

00:43:08.195 --> 00:43:12.840
everything. So it's great. So I
am going to put in new pults.

00:43:13.850 --> 00:43:18.100
And just for the sake of time,
you know, I'm just going to

00:43:18.100 --> 00:43:20.910
choose a random, uh, Rd. here
and and.

00:43:22.090 --> 00:43:26.980
The way that I'm navigating, the

way that I'm dragging this map

00:43:26.980 --> 00:43:31.717
around is that I'm holding the
left mouse button, I'm holding

00:43:31.717 --> 00:43:36.607
down on it, which is allowing me
to navigate and move around on

00:43:36.607 --> 00:43:41.573
this map. But I want to zoom in
close, right? So let's say North

00:43:41.573 --> 00:43:46.387
Ohioville Rd. Let's say this was
the road that I surveyed. I'm

00:43:46.387 --> 00:43:50.895
going to say that I surveyed
from here over to here and my

00:43:50.895 --> 00:43:52.500
approximate midpoint.

00:43:52.630 --> 00:43:56.996
Is here. And the way that I did
that was that I just clicked the

00:43:56.996 --> 00:44:01.027
left mouse button. So dragging
I'm holding down on the left

00:44:01.027 --> 00:44:05.327
button and in order to place the
pin I'm just clicking the left

00:44:05.327 --> 00:44:09.156
mouse button and I'm just going
to zoom out to make sure

00:44:09.156 --> 00:44:13.388
everything was good. I feel good
with that. I'm going to click

00:44:13.388 --> 00:44:17.822
this big X in the corner to exit
out and and I just want to point

00:44:17.822 --> 00:44:22.189
out too that this delete button
here, it's OK if you click that.

00:44:22.189 --> 00:44:23.600
Basically it'll just.

00:44:23.670 --> 00:44:28.184
Get you back to the default view
and you just have to redo it. So

00:44:28.184 --> 00:44:32.561
don't worry if you do that, you
just have to redo your point or

00:44:32.561 --> 00:44:37.007
your pinpoint. I'm going to exit
out. You don't do anything else

00:44:37.007 --> 00:44:40.974
with that map. And then you this
year we actually have an

00:44:40.974 --> 00:44:45.147
experimental feature we we're
going to ask you to also enter

00:44:45.147 --> 00:44:49.251
your survey star and endpoint.
So it's the same thing, same

00:44:49.251 --> 00:44:53.150
map. Once again, I'm going to
enlarge or expand the map.

00:44:54.070 --> 00:44:58.074
I did this ahead of time, but
make sure that your map is in

00:44:58.074 --> 00:45:02.412
the same, you know, view as the
first map. So open street map. I

00:45:02.412 --> 00:45:06.150
like this map the most and it
defaults to your midpoint

00:45:06.150 --> 00:45:10.422
automatically. So you can go to
your midpoint and say, you know

00:45:10.422 --> 00:45:14.360
what, I surveyed this whole
stretch and it's asking me for

00:45:14.360 --> 00:45:18.698
this, the start point first. So
I'm going to move this pinpoint.

00:45:18.698 --> 00:45:20.099
I'm going to zoom in.

00:45:22.260 --> 00:45:26.602
Make sure it's a little bit more
on the road. Zoom out and I feel

00:45:26.602 --> 00:45:27.590
good with that.

00:45:28.510 --> 00:45:31.740
And then select the endpoint of
your survey.

00:45:32.780 --> 00:45:36.267
It defaulted to the start
points, so I'm going to head to

00:45:36.267 --> 00:45:37.530
the end of this road.

00:45:38.650 --> 00:45:40.990
And I'm going to change where
that pinpoint is.

00:45:42.360 --> 00:45:45.682
And I feel good about that. But
once again, this is this is an

00:45:45.682 --> 00:45:49.109
experimental new feature, so if
you don't feel comfortable doing

00:45:49.109 --> 00:45:52.273
that, you do not need to do
that. Um, yeah, let's head into

00:45:52.273 --> 00:45:53.170
the next section.

00:45:54.180 --> 00:45:58.207
Which is contact information.
When it's your first time

00:45:58.207 --> 00:46:02.667
submitting data for the season,
please choose yes. So is this

00:46:02.667 --> 00:46:07.342
your first time submitting data
for the 2023 migration season if

00:46:07.342 --> 00:46:11.801
you hit no, we don't ask you as
much when it comes to contact

00:46:11.801 --> 00:46:16.117
information, but we really want
to make sure we capture you

00:46:16.117 --> 00:46:20.288
know, your phone number and
additional information like a

00:46:20.288 --> 00:46:24.820
mailing address. So yeah, the
rest is pretty self-explanatory.

00:46:25.200 --> 00:46:31.099

Name, last name. You don't need to worry about the volunteer ID

00:46:31.099 --> 00:46:35.340

for now, so you would just enter 999 for now.

00:46:36.080 --> 00:46:40.512

E-mail, street address, town, City, State, ZIP code and then

00:46:40.512 --> 00:46:44.871

total number of volunteers in Group and then names of other

00:46:44.871 --> 00:46:49.667

volunteers in Group. Now this is really important because we like

00:46:49.667 --> 00:46:53.881

to keep accurate counts of volunteers in our database. So

00:46:53.881 --> 00:46:58.604

make sure to enter the first and last names of the volunteers in

00:46:58.604 --> 00:47:02.818

your group and e-mail if you can. And also note that I've

00:47:02.818 --> 00:47:05.869

capitalized both the first and last name.

00:47:06.010 --> 00:47:10.030

And separated the e-mail with a comma. So extra points if you do

00:47:10.030 --> 00:47:13.926

this, it's OK if you don't but it does make it a lot easier on

00:47:13.926 --> 00:47:17.761
my end. And you know, let's say
you enter 6 volunteers in the

00:47:17.761 --> 00:47:21.782
group and you only List 2. Just
know that I will be following up

00:47:21.782 --> 00:47:25.369
with you, the person who
submitted the data. Just because

00:47:25.369 --> 00:47:29.080
like I said, we want to keep
accurate numbers of volunteers

00:47:29.080 --> 00:47:32.977
in our database, I will change
that back to three and then the

00:47:32.977 --> 00:47:35.079
rest are pretty
self-explanatory.

00:47:36.000 --> 00:47:39.348
I will breeze on through but
make sure you read those when

00:47:39.348 --> 00:47:40.710
you are submitting data.

00:47:41.660 --> 00:47:45.110
All right. Now we're into the
amphibian information. So as

00:47:45.110 --> 00:47:48.502
Laura mentioned, if you didn't
see anything, please still

00:47:48.502 --> 00:47:52.245
submit your data form. No data
is still good data to us. So I'm

00:47:52.245 --> 00:47:55.929
going to click yes that I did
see amphibians. And if you click

00:47:55.929 --> 00:47:58.794
this here, our species
identification guide will

00:47:58.794 --> 00:48:02.420
actually pop up in a separate
link or a separate tab. So it's

00:48:02.420 --> 00:48:06.221
kind of nice to have that there
if you want to reference it when
00:48:06.221 --> 00:48:07.450
you're entering data.

00:48:09.140 --> 00:48:13.305
So first you're going to submit
to any salamander observations,

00:48:13.305 --> 00:48:17.405
and this is what it looks like
when those aren't expanded. But

00:48:17.405 --> 00:48:21.570
you will probably only need to
hit hit the first column hitter,

00:48:21.570 --> 00:48:25.605
or only use the first column
hitter, as these are the species

00:48:25.605 --> 00:48:29.119
that are most commonly
encountered during a migration

00:48:29.119 --> 00:48:29.509
night.

00:48:31.220 --> 00:48:34.752
Uh, let's see. So I said that I
saw three live spotted

00:48:34.752 --> 00:48:38.735
salamanders and you know what? I
think I saw a Jefferson blue

00:48:38.735 --> 00:48:42.974
spot at Salamander. So I'm going
to put in one life for that too.

00:48:42.974 --> 00:48:47.085
And you know, just so you know,
underneath every single species

00:48:47.085 --> 00:48:51.260
there is additional information.
It'll take you to a non DC site

00:48:51.260 --> 00:48:55.113
like inaturalist so you can see
more photos and information

00:48:55.113 --> 00:48:56.270
about the species.

00:48:58.160 --> 00:49:01.520
And I feel good about that.
Those are the only species I

00:49:01.520 --> 00:49:04.940
saw, so I'm going to head on
over to the frogs and toads.

00:49:06.270 --> 00:49:09.645
So this is a new feature this
year if you saw a species that

00:49:09.645 --> 00:49:12.910
gets commonly confused with
other species, or is a species

00:49:12.910 --> 00:49:15.788
that is less commonly
encountered. Um, we're asking

00:49:15.788 --> 00:49:18.610
folks to double check your
observations, and Laura

00:49:18.610 --> 00:49:21.875
mentioned before, provide a
photo of the species so we can

00:49:21.875 --> 00:49:24.200
confirm that you correctly
identified it.

00:49:25.430 --> 00:49:29.126
And you know, yeah we are asking
folks to try and take a photo of

00:49:29.126 --> 00:49:32.431
each species you see out on out
on a migration night. This

00:49:32.431 --> 00:49:36.016
doesn't mean you need to take a
photo of each individual animal

00:49:36.016 --> 00:49:39.153
you see or each individual
amphibian you see. Just make

00:49:39.153 --> 00:49:42.794
sure you have at least one photo
of each of the species you saw.

00:49:42.794 --> 00:49:46.435
So and you'll see this a little
bit jumbled right now but like I

00:49:46.435 --> 00:49:49.796
said this is in beta so we're
still finalizing some things.

00:49:49.796 --> 00:49:52.989
But you I did enter that I saw
at Jefferson Blue spotted

00:49:52.989 --> 00:49:55.510
salamander but then looking at
these photos.

00:49:55.580 --> 00:50:00.121
And I'll go over more of this
coming up in in some slides

00:50:00.121 --> 00:50:04.820
coming up, I actually don't know
if I'm so sure that I saw.

00:50:06.230 --> 00:50:09.963
Uh, a Jefferson blue spotted
salamander. So, you know, it

00:50:09.963 --> 00:50:14.018
kind of looks like it's it's in
the leadback phase of this red

00:50:14.018 --> 00:50:18.009
back salamander, but I'm not
entirely sure. So what I'm going

00:50:18.009 --> 00:50:19.939
to do is I'm going to go back.

00:50:21.140 --> 00:50:23.710
And I'm going to change.

00:50:24.410 --> 00:50:25.360
My species.

00:50:27.120 --> 00:50:30.220
Amount for live for the
Jefferson bluespotted.

00:50:30.900 --> 00:50:35.329
And I'm going to go all the way
down because I'm not entirely

00:50:35.329 --> 00:50:39.258
sure if it is redback
salamander. So instead I'm going

00:50:39.258 --> 00:50:43.472
to put that I saw one live
unknown or other salamander and

00:50:43.472 --> 00:50:43.830
then.

00:50:44.930 --> 00:50:49.189
This is a pop up that comes up
if I click unknown or other. So

00:50:49.189 --> 00:50:53.583
we have an area for you to write
comments about it and then also

00:50:53.583 --> 00:50:57.842
to upload a photo. So I would
I'm going to talk more about the

00:50:57.842 --> 00:51:02.034
photo submission in the sections
coming up that yeah we would

00:51:02.034 --> 00:51:03.860
want you to upload a photo.

00:51:05.830 --> 00:51:09.227
Let's move on to the frogs and
toads section. So same situation

00:51:09.227 --> 00:51:12.625
as the salamander entry you're
you're most likely only going to

00:51:12.625 --> 00:51:15.916
need to click on the first hit
or here. And just for the sake

00:51:15.916 --> 00:51:18.040
of time, I will be moving
through this.

00:51:20.520 --> 00:51:23.549

Alright, so you were in
amphibian crossing guard. Now

00:51:23.549 --> 00:51:26.690
woo, we ask you to enter the
approximate number of live

00:51:26.690 --> 00:51:29.663
amphibians that you helped
across the road. This new

00:51:29.663 --> 00:51:33.253
feature we have here to allow or
it sums up the live amphibians

00:51:33.253 --> 00:51:36.899
you saw. So if you helped all of
the amphibians you entered into

00:51:36.899 --> 00:51:40.432
the data form, then you can just
use that total. But let's say

00:51:40.432 --> 00:51:43.630
that two of the spotted
salamanders I saw actually cross

00:51:43.630 --> 00:51:47.220
the road without my help. There
were no there was no danger and

00:51:47.220 --> 00:51:50.809
there were no cars coming. So I
let them do their thing and so.

00:51:50.910 --> 00:51:54.294
I'm going to put 12 um and then
we ask you to indicate the

00:51:54.294 --> 00:51:57.793
general compass direction that
the amphibians were moving in

00:51:57.793 --> 00:52:01.178

and then we're also asking if
you want to upload any other

00:52:01.178 --> 00:52:01.580
photos.

00:52:03.260 --> 00:52:06.792
Amphibians are not. Some folks
actually have sent in some

00:52:06.792 --> 00:52:10.202
really interesting photos of
different insects, snakes,

00:52:10.202 --> 00:52:13.917
different things they see out on
immigration night, which is

00:52:13.917 --> 00:52:17.327
which is pretty great, good
photos and amphibians. It's

00:52:17.327 --> 00:52:21.164
really hard to take good photos
and phibians when it's raining

00:52:21.164 --> 00:52:25.001
and it's dark. So practice if
you can that would be great. But

00:52:25.001 --> 00:52:28.898
obviously we love getting some
good clear photos so that we can

00:52:28.898 --> 00:52:32.309
use in presentations and
publications and volunteers in

00:52:32.309 --> 00:52:33.039
safety gear.

00:52:33.120 --> 00:52:37.139
Course, so make sure your
volunteers are wearing this

00:52:37.139 --> 00:52:41.679
headlands if you have them. We
really love seeing that. So I

00:52:41.679 --> 00:52:46.220
have gone ahead and actually
entered in a photo. Here let me

00:52:46.220 --> 00:52:49.569
just show you how I did that so
it will say.

00:52:51.050 --> 00:52:54.784
How many photos you want to
upload? I just wanna upload one

00:52:54.784 --> 00:52:58.830
photo drop image here or select
image. So if you have the folder

00:52:58.830 --> 00:53:02.813
up you can just drop it on over
and I'll click this and then it

00:53:02.813 --> 00:53:06.672
comes up with some photos. This
is the photo I want. Umm. And

00:53:06.672 --> 00:53:09.660
here is the photo of a very cute
spring peeper.

00:53:11.520 --> 00:53:15.674
And you can change, uh, you can
rename the file. So I have my

00:53:15.674 --> 00:53:19.828
name, I have the date and I have
the county. And then you can

00:53:19.828 --> 00:53:23.781
also add some comments or
questions about the photo if you

00:53:23.781 --> 00:53:26.060
have them underneath every
photo.

00:53:28.090 --> 00:53:32.981
And then last but certainly not
least, very cool exciting new

00:53:32.981 --> 00:53:38.110
feature is that we have a recap
of your data entry. So we really

00:53:38.110 --> 00:53:42.923
want folks to go through this
carefully. Basically, it takes

00:53:42.923 --> 00:53:47.499
you through every section that
you entered and yeah, just

00:53:47.499 --> 00:53:50.340
recaps your data, which is
awesome.

00:53:51.890 --> 00:53:56.121
And you know you can always
never navigate back if you need

00:53:56.121 --> 00:54:00.071
to. If you saw, oh wait a
second, you know the time the

00:54:00.071 --> 00:54:01.270
time was off for.

00:54:02.760 --> 00:54:06.685
I noticed something different or
or different weather conditions.

00:54:06.685 --> 00:54:10.372
You can always just navigate
using the navigation here so you

can just click back, but you would have to navigate all the

00:54:13.941 --> 00:54:15.250
way back to that spot.

00:54:16.560 --> 00:54:23.116
And then that is the end of the survey 123 data form. And now

00:54:23.116 --> 00:54:29.884
I'm going to switch gears into our next section, so let me stop

00:54:29.884 --> 00:54:30.730
sharing.

00:54:34.210 --> 00:54:36.060
And then I can start sharing my.

00:54:37.530 --> 00:54:38.760
The presentation.

00:54:44.950 --> 00:54:45.580
OK.

00:54:48.730 --> 00:54:51.210
All right, so once again, I'm going to stop.

00:54:52.670 --> 00:54:53.440
Video.

00:54:54.460 --> 00:54:59.030
OK. Are we seeing, are we not seeing my slide?

00:55:01.900 --> 00:55:04.360
I don't know if I'm not seeing it.

00:55:05.550 --> 00:55:06.260
OK.

00:55:09.910 --> 00:55:15.066
Neither is. Oh, there we go.
It's coming up now, Perfect.

00:55:15.066 --> 00:55:15.600
Great.

00:55:17.080 --> 00:55:18.310
OK.

00:55:20.830 --> 00:55:23.974
All right, yeah. So I'm gonna
start off this section with

00:55:23.974 --> 00:55:26.848
reviewing some vernal pool
breeding species that are

00:55:26.848 --> 00:55:30.047
commonly confused with other
species and then pass the mic

00:55:30.047 --> 00:55:33.192
back over to Laura who will
review some of the some other

00:55:33.192 --> 00:55:36.500
commonly asked questions. So if
you watch module five of our

00:55:36.500 --> 00:55:39.862
YouTube training series, you
would have seen that the redback

00:55:39.862 --> 00:55:41.760
salamander can often get
confused.

00:55:44.110 --> 00:55:47.692
With the four-toed salamander and
vice versa. However, the

00:55:47.692 --> 00:55:51.723
leadback phase of the redback

salamander can also get confused

00:55:51.723 --> 00:55:55.626
for a Jefferson blue spotted
salamander complex. So let's go

00:55:55.626 --> 00:55:59.592
over some ways that you can all
feel or that you could use to

00:55:59.592 --> 00:56:03.239
feel more confident in your
identifications. So here are

00:56:03.239 --> 00:56:07.078
some various photos of the Jefferson/blue spotted salamander

00:56:07.078 --> 00:56:10.916
complex. And as I said, the
salamander can be confused with

00:56:10.916 --> 00:56:13.860
the leadback phase of the
redback salamander.

00:56:14.080 --> 00:56:17.727
Due to that grayish base color
with the light flicking along

00:56:17.727 --> 00:56:21.076
the sides. But when you look
over, when I look at these

00:56:21.076 --> 00:56:24.664
photos, you know the first
thing, the first word that comes

00:56:24.664 --> 00:56:28.611
to my mind is robust. Um, that's
not the case. When I think about

00:56:28.611 --> 00:56:32.558
the red back salamander, they're
total body length can be up to 7

00:56:32.558 --> 00:56:36.265

1/2 inches. But even on their smaller size, they're almost at

00:56:36.265 --> 00:56:40.093

the Max size of what award back salamander can grow to be. So I

00:56:40.093 --> 00:56:43.980

would focus on the robust body, the wide head and the long toes.

00:56:44.050 --> 00:56:47.210

Which are shown really well and especially in that middle

00:56:47.210 --> 00:56:50.589

picture right there. Um the toes on a red back salamander are

00:56:50.589 --> 00:56:53.586

very short and stubby where the Jefferson blue spotted

00:56:53.586 --> 00:56:55.930

salamander has like long finger like toes.

00:56:57.270 --> 00:56:58.350

I love these photos.

00:56:59.940 --> 00:57:03.773

Alright, so here is the lead phase of the redback salamander

6f92b8d4-1b62-4f8f-a588-27bf3d7a0065-1

00:57:03.773 --> 00:57:07.254

and you can see that it does have that similar coloration.

00:57:07.254 --> 00:57:10.852

But look at the body shape. Slender definitely comes to mind

00:57:10.852 --> 00:57:14.096
when I think about the red back
salamander. And like I

00:57:14.096 --> 00:57:17.753
mentioned, you know they can
reach up to about four inches in

00:57:17.753 --> 00:57:18.520
total length.

00:57:20.810 --> 00:57:24.801
Here's the redback phase of the
redback salamander. Both of

00:57:24.801 --> 00:57:28.860
these morphs are seen by our
volunteers, so it's good to get

00:57:28.860 --> 00:57:33.051
yourself acquainted with both
colorations. And this coloration

00:57:33.051 --> 00:57:36.977
can be confused with the four
toed salamander, which looks

00:57:36.977 --> 00:57:37.310
like.

00:57:38.540 --> 00:57:43.005
This on the right side is the 4
toed and the left side is the

00:57:43.005 --> 00:57:47.326
red back. Both salamanders are
quite slender and appearance

00:57:47.326 --> 00:57:52.007
they're red back. Salamander has
that very distinct brick red or

00:57:52.007 --> 00:57:53.880

orange stripe on its back.

00:57:55.330 --> 00:57:59.223

The four toed can have a very
summer similar orange

00:57:59.223 --> 00:58:03.715

coloration, but a big giveaway
of a four toed is the belly,

00:58:03.715 --> 00:58:08.283

which is shown in the lower
right hand corner. There the red

00:58:08.283 --> 00:58:13.000

back salamander has what I would
call a salt and pepper belly.

00:58:14.610 --> 00:58:17.837

So if you put like a tablespoon
of soil and a tablespoon of

00:58:17.837 --> 00:58:21.226

paper together and mix it all
together, that's what it kind of

00:58:21.226 --> 00:58:24.668

looks like. And you can see it
on the sides there. And the four

00:58:24.668 --> 00:58:28.057

toad has pretty white belly with
these larger black spots. The

00:58:28.057 --> 00:58:30.908

Four-toed also has a
construction at the base of the

00:58:30.908 --> 00:58:34.082

tail that the redback salamander
doesn't have. The reason for

00:58:34.082 --> 00:58:37.363

this construction is because

unlike other species, they have

00:58:37.363 --> 00:58:40.644
the ability to drop their tail
at will. When it drops their,

00:58:40.644 --> 00:58:43.926
they will actually grow a new
one. And yeah, I think, Laura,

00:58:43.926 --> 00:58:45.540
you saw a tale of one of them.

00:58:45.610 --> 00:58:49.576
Of our four-toed right moving
around I believe that's what you

00:58:49.576 --> 00:58:53.290
saw but that's right I did. And
on the same night, another

00:58:53.290 --> 00:58:57.319
volunteer reported the same that
a tail had been detached. So I

00:58:57.319 --> 00:59:01.033
don't know if it's yeah who
knows what caused it. I didn't

00:59:01.033 --> 00:59:04.370
see it wasn't me. I know that I
only found the tail.

00:59:06.510 --> 00:59:12.590
Yeah, so that's pretty, pretty
interesting. And they also have

00:59:12.590 --> 00:59:18.766
four toes on their hind limbs,
while the redback salamander has

00:59:18.766 --> 00:59:18.960
5.

00:59:20.610 --> 00:59:24.488

Which, you know, this is really hard to do. I would stick with,

00:59:24.488 --> 00:59:28.185

you know, first looking at the color coloration of the belly

00:59:28.185 --> 00:59:32.064

and when it's raining and it's dark outside, you probably don't

00:59:32.064 --> 00:59:35.640

wanna be counting little tiny toes on the back hind limbs.

00:59:37.990 --> 00:59:41.773

Moving on to another commonly confused species, the wood frog.

00:59:41.773 --> 00:59:45.137

And the wood frog is our only vernal pool breeding frog

00:59:45.137 --> 00:59:48.860

species, so it's important to make sure that you can identify

00:59:48.860 --> 00:59:52.224

it. The wood frog can be confused for the spring peeper

00:59:52.224 --> 00:59:56.068

and then sometimes with the Gray tree frog, and then the spring

00:59:56.068 --> 00:59:59.852

peeper can be confused with the Gray tree frog and vice versa,

00:59:59.852 --> 01:00:03.275

but I'll get into that. The first and one of the easiest

01:00:03.275 --> 01:00:07.179
ways to tell if it's a wood frog
is the raccoon mask or the dark

01:00:07.179 --> 01:00:07.659
patches.

01:00:07.760 --> 01:00:11.409
Around the eyes um sometimes
isn't as apparent though. So

01:00:11.409 --> 01:00:15.121
another way to tell if it is a
wood frog is that they have

01:00:15.121 --> 01:00:19.148
these distinct ridges that run
down the back and they also have

01:00:19.148 --> 01:00:22.986
this bright white upper lip
which you can see very well. And

01:00:22.986 --> 01:00:26.635
this photo. This is a great
photo, yeah, and this one too

01:00:26.635 --> 01:00:26.950
even.

01:00:29.610 --> 01:00:33.288
And here is kind of the side by
side of the wood frog, spring

01:00:33.288 --> 01:00:36.907
peeper and Gray tree frog. Um,
you know, you'll see that the

01:00:36.907 --> 01:00:40.704
spring peeper, I mean the spring
peeper is tiny. You know, they

01:00:40.704 --> 01:00:44.442

can get up to 1 1/2 inches long,
but they're much smaller than

01:00:44.442 --> 01:00:48.001
the wood frog. And they have
this very distinctive X on the

01:00:48.001 --> 01:00:51.502
back. They're very common to
see, as you saw on that graph

01:00:51.502 --> 01:00:55.121
that Laura so showed earlier
during immigration, right. They

01:00:55.121 --> 01:00:58.858
have these toe pads. Both the
spring peeper and Gray tree frog

01:00:58.858 --> 01:01:00.519
are the are only tree frogs.

01:01:00.760 --> 01:01:05.045
Um and uh, the Gray tree frog.
Um, between the Gray tree frog

01:01:05.045 --> 01:01:09.469
and the spring peeper you know
the size you know. And between a

01:01:09.469 --> 01:01:13.824
wood frog as well, once again,
spring keeper, a Gray tree frog

01:01:13.824 --> 01:01:17.971
smaller than a wood frog. But
between the spring peeper and

01:01:17.971 --> 01:01:22.464
the Gray tree frog, you know the
Gray tree frog has doesn't have

01:01:22.464 --> 01:01:26.888
that distinctive X on the back.

The spring peeper has they have

01:01:26.888 --> 01:01:30.689
this yellowish groin area and
you know they also have.

01:01:30.760 --> 01:01:34.635
The pads have larger toe pads
than the spring peeper, but

01:01:34.635 --> 01:01:39.045
those are some ways that you can
kind of tell these species apart

01:01:39.045 --> 01:01:43.388
and I believe that is it for my
section. But remember that there

01:01:43.388 --> 01:01:47.129
is a more in depth version of
species identification on

01:01:47.129 --> 01:01:51.406
YouTube and we have our species
identification guide on our web

01:01:51.406 --> 01:01:55.481
page that you can print out and
take with you on immigration

01:01:55.481 --> 01:01:57.619
night. So I will pass it off to.

01:02:03.710 --> 01:02:07.724
Great. Thank you. I was in the
middle of answering questions.

01:02:07.724 --> 01:02:11.804
So many good questions coming
in. I'm just so you know, if you

01:02:11.804 --> 01:02:16.013
ask a question, there's a chance
there's an answer. So if you're

01:02:16.013 --> 01:02:20.092
not monitoring the Q&A box,
make sure you do. But I wanted

01:02:20.092 --> 01:02:24.107
to go over a few commonly asked
questions before I do. I also

01:02:24.107 --> 01:02:28.121
wanted to, I this is the benefit
of being snowed in today and

01:02:28.121 --> 01:02:31.812
being home so I could grab my
props here. So this is the

01:02:31.812 --> 01:02:33.820
laminated identification guide.

01:02:33.900 --> 01:02:38.680
It's 4 sheets and what I do is I
have a.

01:02:39.480 --> 01:02:43.480
Clipboard that has an opening
inside where I can keep my.

01:02:44.690 --> 01:02:48.958
My project fact sheet inside
copies of that extra copies of

01:02:48.958 --> 01:02:53.511
the data form. The data form
is here on my clipboard, but I

01:02:53.511 --> 01:02:57.993
can use the plastic laminated
sheets over it as kind of a rain

01:02:57.993 --> 01:03:02.120
guard if I don't have waterproof
paper for the data form.

01:03:02.780 --> 01:03:07.021
And then if you could imagine
this, Clementine is an American

01:03:07.021 --> 01:03:11.331
toad. I have, you know, a time
scouted the cold, unmoving toad

01:03:11.331 --> 01:03:15.368
onto my plastic sheet and
carried it very carefully across

01:03:15.368 --> 01:03:19.404
the road in that way. So this is
a handy tool not only for

01:03:19.404 --> 01:03:23.646
identification. There's also,
and this is, you know, again on

01:03:23.646 --> 01:03:27.956
our on our website that you can
download. There's also a ruler

01:03:27.956 --> 01:03:31.993
along the bottom that can be
useful in figuring out do you

01:03:31.993 --> 01:03:33.429
have a nice 6/7 inch?

01:03:33.500 --> 01:03:36.368
Jefferson Blue spotted
salamander, do you have a wee

01:03:36.368 --> 01:03:37.620
little 3-inch lead back?

01:03:39.690 --> 01:03:44.890
Salamander, so hopefully that is
a is a helpful resource for you.

01:03:45.610 --> 01:03:50.727
So, some of the questions that we

often receive and that we're

01:03:50.727 --> 01:03:55.597
also receiving in the Q&A
box today is one of which is

01:03:55.597 --> 01:04:00.963
where to survey. And so that's a
whole YouTube module on part 4,

01:04:00.963 --> 01:04:04.430
on our in our YouTube
training series.

01:04:06.320 --> 01:04:09.753
Some of the ways you can look
for I can't. I'm not going to be able to

01:04:09.753 --> 01:04:13.297
repeat that whole. I think it's
a 14 minute module, but there's

01:04:13.297 --> 01:04:16.731
a number of resources available
to you if you don't know of a

01:04:16.731 --> 01:04:17.230
crossing.

01:04:18.950 --> 01:04:23.740
There's using you know, air
photos on like Google Maps,

01:04:23.740 --> 01:04:28.189
Google Earth, looking for
forested areas with small

01:04:28.189 --> 01:04:33.578
wetlands in them. If you are map
savvy, other maps can also be

01:04:33.578 --> 01:04:38.198
revealing in this way. Also,
many municipalities have

01:04:38.198 --> 01:04:43.160
assembled different kinds of
habitat maps or maps of land

01:04:43.160 --> 01:04:47.780
cover and land use that also
might be helpful to you.

01:04:48.850 --> 01:04:52.754
But also looking at iNaturalist
and getting a sense of the

01:04:52.754 --> 01:04:56.858
species that have been observed
in certain locations near you

01:04:56.858 --> 01:05:00.961
might be helpful. Also getting
to know the sound of wood frog

01:05:00.961 --> 01:05:05.197
calls, right? So wood frogs have
this amazing chorus. The males

01:05:05.197 --> 01:05:09.102
sing to the females from the
vernal pools to lower them in

01:05:09.102 --> 01:05:13.470
for breeding and they sound like
quacking ducks. And if you could

01:05:13.470 --> 01:05:17.640
learn that when you do what we
call windshield surveys you can

01:05:17.640 --> 01:05:19.030
listen for the sound.

01:05:19.120 --> 01:05:24.147
Of wood frogs. And that might be
a good way to kind of tip off

01:05:24.147 --> 01:05:29.095
where you might have a pool, but
I recommend you look at that

01:05:29.095 --> 01:05:33.803
YouTube module #4 for more
suggestions. We are. I will say

01:05:33.803 --> 01:05:35.080
that one of the.

01:05:36.100 --> 01:05:39.200
Ways we're trying to use the
data, which we're going to just

01:05:39.200 --> 01:05:42.351
be piloting a little bit with
our partners this year in hopes

01:05:42.351 --> 01:05:44.740
to have a tool ready for
volunteers next year.

01:05:45.420 --> 01:05:50.658
Is basically having taken the
volunteer observations and

01:05:50.658 --> 01:05:56.080
combine that with information we
have on forests and small

01:05:56.080 --> 01:05:58.930
wetlands and Rd. densities and.

01:06:00.010 --> 01:06:04.158
Development and kind of
created a grid across the Hudson

01:06:04.158 --> 01:06:08.574
Valley, with each grid cell kind
of getting a score on whether we

01:06:08.574 --> 01:06:12.589
think it's a good opportunity

area for volunteers to go and

01:06:12.589 --> 01:06:16.805
look for crossings. Because kind
of the combination of the

01:06:16.805 --> 01:06:21.087
volunteer data and the existence
of roads or good habitat might

01:06:21.087 --> 01:06:24.767
help lead us to where there
could be opportunities for

01:06:24.767 --> 01:06:29.050
finding crossings. So we'll be
sharing that, phasing that in as

01:06:29.050 --> 01:06:29.920
we have time.

01:06:30.040 --> 01:06:33.824
I, you know, both Emma and I
didn't preface this presentation

01:06:33.824 --> 01:06:37.548
tonight, by first letting you
know we're not herpetologists. I

01:06:37.548 --> 01:06:41.272
am a biologist. But I studied
mammals for my masters degree.

01:06:41.272 --> 01:06:44.691
And this project really I
started this project 15 years

01:06:44.691 --> 01:06:48.414
ago and it was really because of
seeing how much vernal pool

01:06:48.414 --> 01:06:51.711
habitats are overlooked, how

much they, you know, how

01:06:51.711 --> 01:06:55.496
vulnerable they are because if
you watch module one, you know

01:06:55.496 --> 01:06:59.464
they're really unprotected. And
so, so that's kind of where this

01:06:59.464 --> 01:07:00.379
project really

01:07:00.460 --> 01:07:04.619
Stemmed from, that interest in
conservation planning, wanting

01:07:04.619 --> 01:07:08.846
to reduce mortality, get people
aware of amphibian habitat

01:07:08.846 --> 01:07:13.142
and also leading hopefully to
conserving amphibian habitat and

01:07:13.142 --> 01:07:17.097
learning not to continually
impact habitat by making, you

01:07:17.097 --> 01:07:21.120
know, poor land use decisions
about Rd. placement for

01:07:21.120 --> 01:07:25.347
example. So. So we're not doing
research per se, but what I'm

01:07:25.347 --> 01:07:29.439
hoping is these data that we've
been managing for all these

01:07:29.439 --> 01:07:30.530
years will help

01:07:30.650 --> 01:07:34.166
Form work that can be done by
our research and science

01:07:34.166 --> 01:07:37.938
partners. And also because
unfortunately we don't have the

01:07:37.938 --> 01:07:41.519
both M and I are involved in
many other projects at the

01:07:41.519 --> 01:07:45.675
estuary program. So there's many
things we would love to do with

01:07:45.675 --> 01:07:49.639
this project but are somewhat
limited. But plugging, plugging

01:07:49.639 --> 01:07:53.795
along and really excited to see
some of the new improvements and

01:07:53.795 --> 01:07:57.887
new directions were going. Now
one of the other questions we've

01:07:57.887 --> 01:08:01.020
been asked is how many
volunteers should survey?

01:08:01.090 --> 01:08:04.952
At a single location, and this
is one of the analysis that my

01:08:04.952 --> 01:08:08.316
colleague Elise Edwards at
Cornell helped with. As we

01:08:08.316 --> 01:08:12.428
pulled together and reviewed
all the data last year, we found

01:08:12.428 --> 01:08:16.104
that after five to six hours
volunteer hours of effort, we

01:08:16.104 --> 01:08:20.091
really weren't seeing that any
additional amphibians were being

01:08:20.091 --> 01:08:23.891
observed. Meaning if one person
went out for five hours, you

01:08:23.891 --> 01:08:27.629
know, two people went out for
three hours. That's how we're

01:08:27.629 --> 01:08:31.430
calculating volunteer hours. So
at around 5:00 to six hours.

01:08:31.500 --> 01:08:35.456
It's volunteer hour time. So
like again, that could be three

01:08:35.456 --> 01:08:39.543
people looking for two hours at
a site, one person looking for

01:08:39.543 --> 01:08:43.435
five hours. Kind of the the
returns start to diminish after

01:08:43.435 --> 01:08:47.457
that time in terms of what's
being seen. So five to six hours

01:08:47.457 --> 01:08:48.690
of volunteer hours.

01:08:49.630 --> 01:08:53.696
If you live outside the Hudson
River estuary watershed, many of

01:08:53.696 --> 01:08:57.635

you have been writing about this in the Q&A. So this is a

01:08:57.635 --> 01:09:01.384
project of the Hudson River estuary program. It that's our

01:09:01.384 --> 01:09:05.196
project area, it's our our service area for the program. As

01:09:05.196 --> 01:09:09.008
much as I would love to drop everything else we're doing in

01:09:09.008 --> 01:09:12.566
the Hudson Valley and focus on the whole state for this

01:09:12.566 --> 01:09:16.442
project, I just don't have the capacity. What I can do is if

01:09:16.442 --> 01:09:20.000
you fill in the data form from other parts of New York.

01:09:20.080 --> 01:09:24.087
I don't have any connections to, you know, like the Land Trust

01:09:24.087 --> 01:09:28.286
where you live or the municipal, local government officials where

01:09:28.286 --> 01:09:32.166
you live. But I will share the data that you provide us with

01:09:32.166 --> 01:09:33.629
the DEC Regional office.

01:09:35.270 --> 01:09:39.151
In you know, from where you are.

And so, yes, as I mentioned

01:09:39.151 --> 01:09:42.777
earlier, you know there's
different DC divisions through

01:09:42.777 --> 01:09:46.850
our regions throughout the state
and also our colleagues at the

01:09:46.850 --> 01:09:50.413
New York Natural Heritage
Program who are interested in

01:09:50.413 --> 01:09:53.721
tracking certain species as
well. And certainly our

01:09:53.721 --> 01:09:57.539
colleagues in the Diversity
Wildlife Unit at the DEC too. So

01:09:57.539 --> 01:10:01.484
while I don't have any ability
to organize volunteers or work

01:10:01.484 --> 01:10:04.920
with partners outside the
watershed, I certainly can.

01:10:04.990 --> 01:10:07.850
For the data with people who are
working in those areas.

01:10:09.120 --> 01:10:09.830
Umm.

01:10:10.750 --> 01:10:14.468
Another, oh, there's been a
number of questions too in the

01:10:14.468 --> 01:10:18.187
chat box about how to be a
project partner. So the project

01:10:18.187 --> 01:10:22.032
partners originally kind of
started organically and now it's

01:10:22.032 --> 01:10:25.625
a little bit more formal. And so
if you're interested in

01:10:25.625 --> 01:10:29.218
partnering, learning how to
partner for 2024 because the

01:10:29.218 --> 01:10:31.739
migration is coming too soon to
really.

01:10:33.390 --> 01:10:37.453
Start new partnerships for this
year. We've already had meeting

01:10:37.453 --> 01:10:41.580
and they've already held public
programs, but send out an e-mail

01:10:41.580 --> 01:10:45.199
to we'll we'll share our e-mail
address at the very end.

01:10:46.700 --> 01:10:50.712
But you can send an e-mail to me
through that e-mail address. So

01:10:50.712 --> 01:10:54.602
let me know you're interested.
Becoming a partner. Some of the

01:10:54.602 --> 01:10:58.059
things we expect from our
partners is to really embrace

01:10:58.059 --> 01:11:01.701
what this project is about in
terms of safety and the data

01:11:01.701 --> 01:11:05.344
collection protocols and and
then the partners can help to

01:11:05.344 --> 01:11:08.739
organize volunteers locally
because again, it's a huge

01:11:08.739 --> 01:11:11.888
geographic area. We don't have
those same personal

01:11:11.888 --> 01:11:15.469
relationships that all of you
might have with surrounding

01:11:15.469 --> 01:11:16.210
communities.

01:11:16.640 --> 01:11:20.994
So some of them have now learned
through taking our trainings and

01:11:20.994 --> 01:11:24.754
US sharing materials. They're
now using our PowerPoints,

01:11:24.754 --> 01:11:28.844
they're using some of our hands
on exercises to run trainings

01:11:28.844 --> 01:11:32.803
locally. And other option is to
even start small and have a

01:11:32.803 --> 01:11:36.563
group viewing of the YouTube
modules and some discussion

01:11:36.563 --> 01:11:40.587
about what local knowledge is in
the room, about where there

01:11:40.587 --> 01:11:44.810
might be crossings. Look at some
maps together, for example. We

01:11:44.810 --> 01:11:45.140
also.

01:11:46.760 --> 01:11:50.147
Our volunteers will use their
own e-mail network. So for

01:11:50.147 --> 01:11:54.009
example, if it's a Conservation
Advisory Council, they might use

01:11:54.009 --> 01:11:57.278
their towns Facebook page to
organize and reach out to

01:11:57.278 --> 01:12:00.784
volunteers. If it's a Land
Trust, one of the Land Trust we

01:12:00.784 --> 01:12:04.171
work with has a phone tree.
They've used different phone

01:12:04.171 --> 01:12:07.974
apps to keep in touch with each
other. So there's all different

01:12:07.974 --> 01:12:09.520
ways to approach this and.

01:12:11.020 --> 01:12:14.629
But it really helps me out a lot
if there are project partners

01:12:14.629 --> 01:12:18.238
helping implement the program
locally because we don't have

01:12:18.238 --> 01:12:21.446
enough capacity to train

everywhere in the watershed as

01:12:21.446 --> 01:12:22.649

much as we'd love to.

01:12:23.900 --> 01:12:27.804

Umm, hopefully that answers the questions about partnering. Is

01:12:27.804 --> 01:12:31.770

it OK to handle amphibians? And what about gloves? So there's a

01:12:31.770 --> 01:12:35.613

few things to think about with regard to this question, which

01:12:35.613 --> 01:12:38.836

comes up a lot. The understanding is nitrile gloves

01:12:38.836 --> 01:12:42.740

are OK to wear, you don't want to wear any gloves or powdered,

01:12:42.740 --> 01:12:46.273

and if it makes it more comfortable for you to handle

01:12:46.273 --> 01:12:48.999

amphibians that way, nitrile gloves are OK.

01:12:49.770 --> 01:12:52.856

Um, some frogs and toads do produce irritating toxins. So

01:12:52.856 --> 01:12:56.261

don't be touching your face or your eyes or, you know, reaching

01:12:56.261 --> 01:12:59.241

into a bag of Doritos while you're in the middle of the

01:12:59.241 --> 01:13:02.647
monitoring, because a, it's not
good for you. It's not good for

01:13:02.647 --> 01:13:05.999
the amphibians you're handling.
And then of course you want to

01:13:05.999 --> 01:13:09.298
wash your hands with soap and
water when you get home, right?

01:13:09.298 --> 01:13:12.650
So basically, think about your
hands as being amphibian moving

01:13:12.650 --> 01:13:16.162
tools for the evening. Don't use
them for anything else. And when

01:13:16.162 --> 01:13:19.568
you get home, then you can wash
your hands and then you can eat

01:13:19.568 --> 01:13:20.260
your Doritos.

01:13:20.350 --> 01:13:24.224
And you can touch your face if
there is concern obviously about

01:13:24.224 --> 01:13:27.432
transmittance of disease in
different populations of

01:13:27.432 --> 01:13:31.306
amphibians. If you're going to
be switching sites, for example,

01:13:31.306 --> 01:13:35.180
you know of a crossing and you're
going to go to another one the

01:13:35.180 --> 01:13:38.993
same night that's like 5 miles
away. If you're able to go to a

01:13:38.993 --> 01:13:42.807
gas station and wash your hands,
soap and water, go home, wash

01:13:42.807 --> 01:13:46.620
your hands soap and water before
you visit these two different

01:13:46.620 --> 01:13:48.800
locations, that would be
advisable.

01:13:50.670 --> 01:13:53.746
Let's see. I think that's all
you need to know about that. I

01:13:53.746 --> 01:13:55.260
did want to make a note about.

01:13:57.460 --> 01:14:01.092
Well, going back to the idea
about where to go and you know,

01:14:01.092 --> 01:14:04.606
I know if you look at other
northeastern state and amphibian

01:14:04.606 --> 01:14:08.299
migration crossing programs, of
which there are, you know, in

01:14:08.299 --> 01:14:11.991
Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont,
New Jersey, NJ, if you've been

01:14:11.991 --> 01:14:15.684
watching the news, Beakman Rd.
which has had a known crossing

01:14:15.684 --> 01:14:19.257

on it for years, they actually
can close that. They've been

01:14:19.257 --> 01:14:22.354
closing that for many years
because it's such a big

01:14:22.354 --> 01:14:25.630
migration area and their traffic
was really a problem.

01:14:27.150 --> 01:14:30.945
But these places that other
states that have these have our

01:14:30.945 --> 01:14:34.803
similar program have maps up
with locations where volunteers

01:14:34.803 --> 01:14:38.598
can go. We've been really
cautious about this because

01:14:38.598 --> 01:14:39.990
there's concern about.

01:14:41.360 --> 01:14:45.290
A collection of charismatic
amphibians like yellow spotted,

01:14:45.290 --> 01:14:49.286
you know, salamanders and really
amazing wood frogs that eat

01:14:49.286 --> 01:14:53.085
worms, for example, people
wanting them perhaps for pets,

01:14:53.085 --> 01:14:56.819
so we don't want to advertise
crossing here. There's 100

01:14:56.819 --> 01:15:00.684
spotted salamanders every

migration night, so we try to be

01:15:00.684 --> 01:15:04.353
careful about that. That's
another reason why I like to

01:15:04.353 --> 01:15:08.414
work with project partners who
can kind of maintain some data

01:15:08.414 --> 01:15:11.690
for their area and work with
local volunteers to.

01:15:11.780 --> 01:15:15.807
Go out to those places. But once
we have this grid map available

01:15:15.807 --> 01:15:19.401
from Hudson Valley, we can then
share that so prospective

01:15:19.401 --> 01:15:23.305
volunteers or active volunteers
can look at that as a place to

01:15:23.305 --> 01:15:25.970
maybe guide where they're going
to survey.

01:15:27.750 --> 01:15:31.487
That's about the map I want and
then with regard to social

01:15:31.487 --> 01:15:35.035
media, I would just make that
same caution is not to be

01:15:35.035 --> 01:15:39.152
putting pictures on social media
and saying I'm on such and such

01:15:39.152 --> 01:15:40.610
a road, it's a hotspot.

01:15:41.600 --> 01:15:44.518

Like we say, it's, you know,
somebody really wanted to

01:15:44.518 --> 01:15:47.755

collect amphibians for illegal
pet trade. They'll figure out

01:15:47.755 --> 01:15:51.152

how to do it, but we don't want
to make it easy for them. And I

01:15:51.152 --> 01:15:54.230

also would note if you're
sharing photos on social media.

01:15:55.560 --> 01:15:58.790

Have to admit so whatever.
However many years ago was I

01:15:58.790 --> 01:16:02.136

started an Instagram account
just because of this project

01:16:02.136 --> 01:16:05.713

because I wanted to create a
hashtag. I didn't even know what

01:16:05.713 --> 01:16:09.348

a hashtag was at the time. But
it's amphibian migration HV and

01:16:09.348 --> 01:16:12.579

the idea was that if people are
in real time posting on

01:16:12.579 --> 01:16:16.040

Instagram saying, you know, I'm
in Westchester County, wood

01:16:16.040 --> 01:16:19.386

frogs are on the move, then
maybe people in Putnam County

01:16:19.386 --> 01:16:23.021
are paying attention to that.
Following that hashtag, they can

01:16:23.021 --> 01:16:25.559
see in real time what other
volunteers are.

01:16:25.650 --> 01:16:29.021
Observing. And so it was the
closest way I could imagine to

01:16:29.021 --> 01:16:32.168
connecting volunteers on this
project across this large

01:16:32.168 --> 01:16:35.821
geographic area. Not to mention,
it's really fun just to go into

01:16:35.821 --> 01:16:39.305
Instagram, look up that hashtag,
and see all these incredible

01:16:39.305 --> 01:16:42.733
photos and observations that
volunteers are sharing. And the

01:16:42.733 --> 01:16:45.880
last thing I would just
emphasize, I think Emma brought

01:16:45.880 --> 01:16:49.252
it up earlier too, is that I'm
just asking everybody to not

01:16:49.252 --> 01:16:52.905
really show photos of volunteers
unless they're properly dressed

01:16:52.905 --> 01:16:56.108
for safety, because we don't
want to promote the idea of

01:16:56.108 --> 01:16:57.570
people going out on roads.

01:16:57.640 --> 01:17:01.116
Tonight in the rain to see
biodiversity if they're not

01:17:01.116 --> 01:17:04.908
really prepared and they're not
dressed safely and in a

01:17:04.908 --> 01:17:05.920
reflective vest.

01:17:07.580 --> 01:17:09.450
So I think.

01:17:10.150 --> 01:17:14.287
That is all the frequently asked
questions that we pulled from

01:17:14.287 --> 01:17:18.490
previous trainings and from our
last actual virtual training as

01:17:18.490 --> 01:17:22.234
well. We can maybe see if
there's other questions in the

01:17:22.234 --> 01:17:22.760
Q&A.

01:17:24.640 --> 01:17:27.238
I don't know if you've been
monitoring it, if anything new

01:17:27.238 --> 01:17:29.000
has come in. I tried to answer a
bunch.

01:17:29.920 --> 01:17:30.450
Ohh.

01:17:31.110 --> 01:17:34.660
OK, I know one question I saw
more than once.

01:17:35.850 --> 01:17:36.140
And.

01:17:37.360 --> 01:17:40.689
Oh, good. And there's an easy
question, too. But one question

01:17:40.689 --> 01:17:43.911
that I've seen more than once is
this idea of how to find a

01:17:43.911 --> 01:17:47.187
buddy. And that's really hard
for us. So. So what we hold in

01:17:47.187 --> 01:17:48.100
person trainings.

01:17:49.960 --> 01:17:53.802
That's a chance for people to
meet each other if they're in,

01:17:53.802 --> 01:17:57.833
you know, from the same area. So
this year we were able to hold

01:17:57.833 --> 01:18:01.172
in person trainings in
Rensselaer County and Dutchess

01:18:01.172 --> 01:18:03.440
County and the project partners
in.

01:18:04.820 --> 01:18:06.160
Town Ridge, Bedford.

01:18:07.160 --> 01:18:11.416
Rhinebeck and T Town have
already held their in person

01:18:11.416 --> 01:18:15.440
events, so I don't feel
comfortable sharing the 300

01:18:15.440 --> 01:18:19.697
emails of everybody who
registered for tonight because

01:18:19.697 --> 01:18:22.870
we didn't ask permission in
advance but.

01:18:25.820 --> 01:18:28.912
Well, think about possibilities.
If you have suggestions, feel

01:18:28.912 --> 01:18:30.630
free to send it to us in the
chat.

01:18:31.380 --> 01:18:35.655
Emma, do you have anything to
add on that note? No. And also

01:18:35.655 --> 01:18:39.861
the fact that we. Well, well,
yes, I guess the fact that in

01:18:39.861 --> 01:18:43.996
the follow up e-mail we will be
providing contacts for our

01:18:43.996 --> 01:18:47.852
partners, right. The contact
like e-mail, yeah, great,

01:18:47.852 --> 01:18:51.917
because that is some folks were
asking about that too. So

01:18:51.917 --> 01:18:56.123
depending on where you are, you
can reach out to one of our

01:18:56.123 --> 01:19:00.468
partners and they can help
you out as well. Umm, you know

01:19:00.468 --> 01:19:01.310
what, I can.

01:19:01.380 --> 01:19:02.140
Actually.

01:19:04.370 --> 01:19:05.830
Ohh gosh.

01:19:06.810 --> 01:19:10.925
Or, yeah, if you want to hit
another question or if you want

01:19:10.925 --> 01:19:15.311
me to, if we pull up the last DC
Bulletin, there's a web link we

01:19:15.311 --> 01:19:19.090
could put that in the chat and
that has all the contact

01:19:19.090 --> 01:19:19.899
information.

01:19:22.500 --> 01:19:25.700
Yes, yes, right now.

01:19:26.480 --> 01:19:26.670
Yes.

01:19:27.700 --> 01:19:28.650
Um.

01:19:30.670 --> 01:19:32.330
So I think.

01:19:33.210 --> 01:19:37.073
One of the other, I can tell you
one of the other questions was

01:19:37.073 --> 01:19:38.160
about the modules.

01:19:38.970 --> 01:19:42.040
Right. And we yeah, I can.

01:19:42.790 --> 01:19:46.528
Put the link into the question
is or were there more than

01:19:46.528 --> 01:19:50.524
modules one and five? Yep. And
the answer to that question is

01:19:50.524 --> 01:19:54.263
yes, there's 2-3 and four, and
they're all on the YouTube

01:19:54.263 --> 01:19:55.230
channel, which.

01:19:56.660 --> 01:20:01.335
Emma's going to share and we
can also like add that link to

01:20:01.335 --> 01:20:05.937
the follow up e-mail as well.
Yeah, OK I'm going to. I just, I

01:20:05.937 --> 01:20:10.685
didn't write anything to explain
what. I just put a chat. I mean

01:20:10.685 --> 01:20:15.433
a chat. I just put a link in the
chat. Hopefully if you click on

01:20:15.433 --> 01:20:17.989
that it's that is the link to
the.

01:20:18.910 --> 01:20:21.778
Maybe the last DC delivers

newsletter I sent to our

01:20:21.778 --> 01:20:24.150
subscribers and that has all the
partners.

01:20:25.090 --> 01:20:28.581
Listed with their contact
information and their geographic

01:20:28.581 --> 01:20:32.191
areas that they cover. And I
will just say that those folks,

01:20:32.191 --> 01:20:35.564
some of them are volunteers
themselves and they're doing

01:20:35.564 --> 01:20:39.292
this for their community. And so
be patient and be respectful,

01:20:39.292 --> 01:20:42.961
please. If they have certain
rules, they have to follow that.

01:20:42.961 --> 01:20:46.571
They need to ask you to follow
those as well because they're

01:20:46.571 --> 01:20:49.885
their towns, might have
particular, you know, volunteer

01:20:49.885 --> 01:20:53.495
requirements. Oh, I know what I
Nope, it just went out of my

01:20:53.495 --> 01:20:54.620
head. I'm so sorry.

01:20:54.830 --> 01:20:57.680
Ohh, road closures. That's
right, Rd. closures.

01:20:59.190 --> 01:21:02.958

Right. So I didn't. We have so little time. There's so many

01:21:02.958 --> 01:21:06.663

things I could talk about, but we, you know, when I talked

01:21:06.663 --> 01:21:07.040

about.

01:21:07.860 --> 01:21:11.607

Some of the goals of this project includes taking local

01:21:11.607 --> 01:21:15.757

conservation action. So one of them is if we have enough data

01:21:15.757 --> 01:21:19.773

to be able to justify a road closure, that would be a great

01:21:19.773 --> 01:21:23.722

outcome. I mean, it's not going to solve it, you know, the

01:21:23.722 --> 01:21:27.001

problem of habitat fragmentation. But what we've

01:21:27.001 --> 01:21:31.017

seen is like in the town of Keene in New Hampshire, it took

01:21:31.017 --> 01:21:35.166

ten years of repeated data of repeated surveys of a road till

01:21:35.166 --> 01:21:36.840

they could make the case.

01:21:37.630 --> 01:21:41.672

To their local government officials about closing the road

01:21:41.672 --> 01:21:45.988
and I'll share the anecdote that Brett seal and shared with me

01:21:45.988 --> 01:21:50.167
from New Hampshire. Who runs that that crossing program that

01:21:50.167 --> 01:21:54.347
when they went to approach the town or the City Council, the

01:21:54.347 --> 01:21:58.731
city of Keene about Rd. closure and they the public came out to

01:21:58.731 --> 01:22:02.842
support it. They came to the City Hall wearing their orange

01:22:02.842 --> 01:22:07.021
safety vest. So that visual of all these folks showing up to

01:22:07.021 --> 01:22:07.569
support.

01:22:07.650 --> 01:22:11.508
Uh, the recommendation in orange safety vest really makes me

01:22:11.508 --> 01:22:15.430
happy. But again, this is the reason why having repeat visits

01:22:15.430 --> 01:22:19.479
to some of these high activity crossings will really help build

01:22:19.479 --> 01:22:22.641
the case for making

recommendations about either,

01:22:22.641 --> 01:22:26.437
you know, having a group adopt A
Rd. year after year, maybe

01:22:26.437 --> 01:22:30.359
getting the road closed. And
then, you know, there's all this

01:22:30.359 --> 01:22:34.407
federal infrastructure money for
wildlife passage, and so there

01:22:34.407 --> 01:22:37.950
might be an opportunity down the
road, no pun intended.

01:22:38.040 --> 01:22:41.651
To get an under Rd. passage for
some of these vulnerable and

01:22:41.651 --> 01:22:45.321
amphibians at high crossing areas
and that like there's some of

01:22:45.321 --> 01:22:48.400
those, you know, excuse me, some
of those do exist.

01:22:51.390 --> 01:22:53.830
Let's see. So we're.

01:22:54.560 --> 01:22:59.699
Let's see. Yeah, I guess I'd
reemphasize the idea of if I'm

01:22:59.699 --> 01:23:00.470
going to.

01:23:01.260 --> 01:23:04.840
Put our e-mail address that we
for the project.

01:23:05.870 --> 01:23:09.068

In the chat and if you are interested in becoming a

01:23:09.068 --> 01:23:12.942

partner, you want me to share contact information. If somebody

01:23:12.942 --> 01:23:17.001

asks us about volunteers in your area, there's the e-mail address

01:23:17.001 --> 01:23:17.740

in the chat.

01:23:18.820 --> 01:23:19.610

Umm.

01:23:20.970 --> 01:23:25.666

Somebody asked if the survey 123 was an app or if it's a website.

01:23:25.666 --> 01:23:28.300

It's we're doing it through the web.

01:23:30.530 --> 01:23:33.539

Yeah. So the idea is that you fill out the paper data form on

01:23:33.539 --> 01:23:36.693

when you're out in the field and you go home and you fill it out

01:23:36.693 --> 01:23:39.654

online that night if you feel like you're still sharp enough

01:23:39.654 --> 01:23:42.566

or in the morning when you're drinking your coffee. But the

01:23:42.566 --> 01:23:45.381

idea is, and I'm, I'm sorry if

you if you said this and I

01:23:45.381 --> 01:23:48.244
missed it, but we want to get
the data is in close to real

01:23:48.244 --> 01:23:50.962
time as possible so we can
report that back out and let

01:23:50.962 --> 01:23:52.370
people know what's happening.

01:23:54.220 --> 01:23:55.050
Umm.

01:23:57.530 --> 01:24:01.578
OK, great. Oh, I'm already
answered it. OK. So I think what

01:24:01.578 --> 01:24:05.964
we're going to do, because it's
almost 625, we want to just wrap

01:24:05.964 --> 01:24:10.349
up with a few things is if there
are any questions we didn't get

01:24:10.349 --> 01:24:14.263
to in the Q&A, we will
include those in the follow up

01:24:14.263 --> 01:24:16.220
information that we send out.

01:24:18.490 --> 01:24:23.069
Sound good, Emma? Anything. Yes.
Yeah. Sorry, I'm like I'm still

01:24:23.069 --> 01:24:27.225
trying to see make sure someone,
someone asked about being

01:24:27.225 --> 01:24:31.663

outside of the our focus area,
the Hudson Valley. They're from

01:24:31.663 --> 01:24:36.031
Saratoga, I think. Are they able
to still submit data is what

01:24:36.031 --> 01:24:40.540
they asked in the I think or do
we answer that question? Sorry.

01:24:42.030 --> 01:24:45.262
Questions in case they miss it
too. Yes, you could always send

01:24:45.262 --> 01:24:48.444
it in. I just don't really have
as many network. I don't have

01:24:48.444 --> 01:24:51.010
any next really that's how the
Hudson Valley but.

01:24:53.300 --> 01:24:56.422
But I will share it with folks
at DC I did notice somebody

01:24:56.422 --> 01:24:59.226
asked about the Finger Lakes
area and I I'm actually

01:24:59.226 --> 01:25:02.560
chatting, I don't know what part
of the Finger Lakes. There is

01:25:02.560 --> 01:25:05.312
somebody with the Cornell
Veterinary School that is

01:25:05.312 --> 01:25:08.805
interested in starting a program
up there. I don't know if that's

01:25:08.805 --> 01:25:11.980

if it's because you're part of
the Finger Lakes, but if you

01:25:11.980 --> 01:25:15.261
want information on that, just
e-mail us and I'll just remind

01:25:15.261 --> 01:25:18.436
everybody when you e-mail us, we
meet so many people during

01:25:18.436 --> 01:25:21.664
training season that the more
specific you can be about what

01:25:21.664 --> 01:25:23.570
you're looking for that would
help.

01:25:23.990 --> 01:25:27.967
Currently there's not a partner
in Albany County there. The

01:25:27.967 --> 01:25:32.076
Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy
was involved at one point. You

01:25:32.076 --> 01:25:36.120
might want to reach out to them
if there's interest, but

01:25:36.120 --> 01:25:38.439
there's certainly oh and
Thatcher.

01:25:39.640 --> 01:25:43.348
What, Thatcher State Park? Yes,
friends, friends of Thatcher

01:25:43.348 --> 01:25:47.057
State Park, they used to also
have volunteers go out. So, you

01:25:47.057 --> 01:25:50.765

might also reach out to the folks at Thatcher Nature Center.

01:25:50.765 --> 01:25:54.352
OK, we could do Q&A all night, but let's move on, do a

01:25:54.352 --> 01:25:58.000
little debrief and a wrap up just so that everybody can get

01:25:58.000 --> 01:26:01.465
on with their day and shovel if you need to or drink hot

01:26:01.465 --> 01:26:05.478
chocolate. So some of the things we wanted to debrief. So just as

01:26:05.478 --> 01:26:08.943
a reminder, we talked about a lot of different resources

01:26:08.943 --> 01:26:09.429
tonight.

01:26:09.610 --> 01:26:13.658
Um, you know, things to carry with you in your training when

01:26:13.658 --> 01:26:17.442
you're surveying. You know things to read, other ways to

01:26:17.442 --> 01:26:20.960
explore, vernal pool information. They're all linked

01:26:20.960 --> 01:26:25.141
on our web page, on the DC web page, and the the full training

01:26:25.141 --> 01:26:28.858
presentations on YouTube.

They're available anytime for

01:26:28.858 --> 01:26:29.390
viewing.

01:26:30.530 --> 01:26:33.810
After tonight's training, you're
going to like when you log off,

01:26:33.810 --> 01:26:36.686
you're automatically going to be
redirected to a program

01:26:36.686 --> 01:26:39.866
evaluation. Please, we're going
to try to finish here on time,

01:26:39.866 --> 01:26:42.994
maybe a minute early so that you
can take a moment to fill

01:26:42.994 --> 01:26:45.972
that out. It's short and we
really appreciate feedback. We

01:26:45.972 --> 01:26:49.000
use it every time we renew
the training for

01:26:49.000 --> 01:26:52.230
each year. We take your feedback
to heart and we appreciate it.

01:26:53.460 --> 01:26:56.684
There's a chance that this
little thing's going to pop up.

01:26:56.684 --> 01:27:00.073
Oh, I know it didn't, Emma, but
just in case, can you advance

01:27:00.073 --> 01:27:00.620
the slide?

01:27:01.720 --> 01:27:05.063
That little pop-up might warn
you that you're about to go to a

01:27:05.063 --> 01:27:08.194
different site to fill out the
evaluation, so we hope that

01:27:08.194 --> 01:27:10.370
you'll hit continue and move
through it.

01:27:12.310 --> 01:27:15.866
OK. Also in the next week, we'll
follow up with an e-mail like we

01:27:15.866 --> 01:27:18.830
promised with follow up
information and resources. And

01:27:18.830 --> 01:27:22.063
I'll just reiterate, now is the
best time to get yourselves

01:27:22.063 --> 01:27:25.296
prepared. So take advantage of
the fact that we're not, you

01:27:25.296 --> 01:27:28.691
know, facing imminent migration
in the end of February because

01:27:28.691 --> 01:27:32.139
it's happened in the last couple
of years and it's nice to know

01:27:32.139 --> 01:27:35.480
we're going to be under some
snow for at least a couple weeks

01:27:35.480 --> 01:27:35.750
here.

01:27:37.010 --> 01:27:40.905

Alright, so I always like to end
with a moment to get

01:27:40.905 --> 01:27:44.801
emotional, no. So I wanted to
share this poem with you all.

01:27:44.801 --> 01:27:48.567
It's called Birdfoot's grandpa, and it's by

01:27:48.567 --> 01:27:52.462
Joseph Bruchac and it's about
toads, but you can imagine it

01:27:52.462 --> 01:27:54.799
being about vernal pool
amphibians.

01:27:55.820 --> 01:28:00.390
The old man must have stopped
our car two dozen times to climb

01:28:00.390 --> 01:28:04.888
out and gather into his hands,
the small toads blinded by our

01:28:04.888 --> 01:28:09.459
lights and leaping live drops of
rain. The rain was falling. A

01:28:09.459 --> 01:28:14.102
mist about his white hair and I
kept saying you can't save them

01:28:14.102 --> 01:28:18.164
all except it. Get back in,
we've got places to go. But
01:28:18.164 --> 01:28:22.735
leathery hands full of wet brown
life, knee deep in the summer

01:28:22.735 --> 01:28:25.710
roadside grass. He just smiled
and said.

01:28:25.790 --> 01:28:27.280
They have places to go to.

01:28:28.790 --> 01:28:32.358
So with that, we're so thrilled.
We know that you probably all

01:28:32.358 --> 01:28:35.813
have places to go, but we're
thrilled that you joined us and

01:28:35.813 --> 01:28:39.381
took the time to learn about the
project. And we hope that you

01:28:39.381 --> 01:28:42.950
participate in any way that you
feel comfortable, whether it's

01:28:42.950 --> 01:28:46.405
just experiencing the migration
for your first time, if it's

01:28:46.405 --> 01:28:50.087
collecting data, if it's helping
shepherd them safely across the

01:28:50.087 --> 01:28:53.598
road. We look forward to hearing
from you and kind of sharing

01:28:53.598 --> 01:28:57.167
your experience virtually with
photos and so forth and just be

01:28:57.167 --> 01:28:58.810
safe. Please keep yourselves

01:28:58.910 --> 01:29:02.400
safe, thank you so much. Thank
you.

01:29:03.800 --> 01:29:07.462

And we'll send the recording out
as well. Yes, yes. So let's stop

01:29:07.462 --> 01:29:10.515
the recording. And again,
everybody have a good night.

01:29:10.515 --> 01:29:11.070
Thank you.