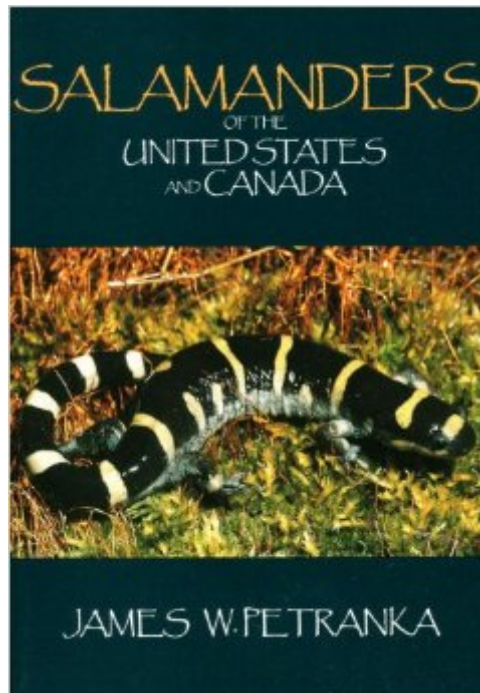


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# Salamanders Of The United States And Canada



## Synopsis

Secretive, nocturnal, and little known, salamanders are often the most abundant vertebrates on the forest floor. This comprehensive volume, the first survey published since 1943, describes the ecology, evolution, biodiversity, behavior, and natural history of 127 recognized species of salamanders found in the United States and Canada, from newts and sirens to waterdogs and hellbenders. Drawing on more than 2,100 research publications, the book includes detailed life history accounts, nearly 500 color and black-and-white photographs, identification keys for larvae as well as adults, and up-to-date distribution maps. James W. Petranka presents a wealth of information on each species: identification, systematics, courtship and breeding, diet and predation, and the ecology of larval and adult stages are all described. He summarizes major patterns of geographic variation within species to emphasize differences between local and regional populations and to provide a realistic view of intraspecific life history diversity. With its comprehensive coverage and extensive references, this volume is an indispensable guide not only for herpetologists but also for teachers, naturalists, conservation biologists, environmental planners, and anyone who needs detailed information on the diverse salamander fauna of the United States and Canada.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is still, sixteen years after its original publishing, the very finest resource of its kind. For each species, there are nine sections for Identification, Systematics and Geographic Variation,

Distribution and Adult Habitat, Breeding and Courtship, Reproductive Strategy, Aquatic Ecology, Predators and Defense, Community Ecology, and Conservation Biology. There is also a range map and one or more black and white photos for each species, as well as at least one color photo of each species in the color plates section. Of course, given the book's age, it has become slightly out-dated. Here are some of the newer things that are not in the book:1. *Urspelerpes brucei*, the Patch-nosed Salamander, an entirely new species and genus of lungless salamander described from Georgia in 2009.2. Several types of newly described slender salamanders, such as *Batrachoseps altasierrae*, *Batrachoseps bramei*, *Batrachoseps diabolicus*, *Batrachoseps gavilanensis*, *Batrachoseps gregarius*, *Batrachoseps incognitus*, *Batrachoseps kawia*, *Batrachoseps luciae*, *Batrachoseps minor*, *Batrachoseps regius*, and *Batrachoseps robustus*. Still others that are now recognized and accepted with full species-level status were not listed as such in the book, though still mentioned.3. *Aneides vagrans*, the Wandering Salamander, which was described from the west coast the same year that this book was published.4. A few Dusky Salamanders, such as *Desmognathus abditus*, *Desmognathus folkertsi*, and *Desmognathus organi*, had not yet been described when the book was published.5. Several Eurycea, such as *Eurycea chamberlaini*, *Eurycea chisholmensis*, *Eurycea naufragia*, *Eurycea tonkawae*, *Eurycea waterlooensis*, and (very recently) *Eurycea subfluvicola*, were described after this book was published.6.

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