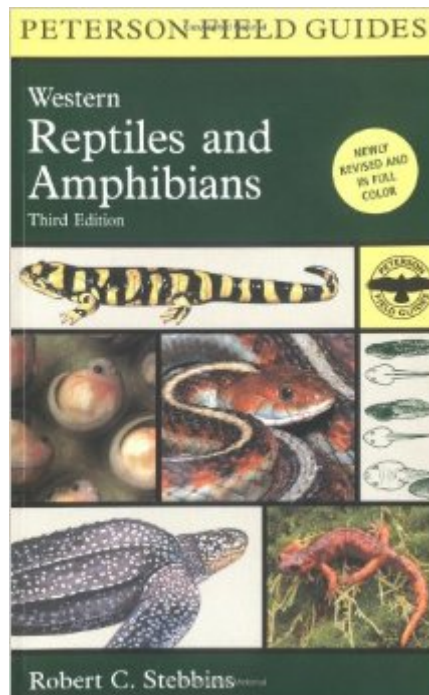


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A Field Guide To Western Reptiles And Amphibians (Peterson Field Guides)



Synopsis

This third edition covers all the species of reptiles and amphibians found in western North America. More than 650 full-color paintings and photographs show key details for making accurate identifications. Up-to-date color range maps give species' distributions. Important information on conservation efforts and survival status rounds out the detailed species descriptions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a kid, I grew up on the first edition of this field guide. When I was an undergraduate, I upgraded to the second edition, and it was a constant companion on several herp-hunting road-trips with my like-minded friends. This is the book that got me into herping, a hobby that I have enjoyed for essentially my entire life, around the world, and today I own more than thirty different herp field guides, collected across North America and five other continents. And at the end of the day, I regard Stebbins's as the best, especially w/r/t its illustrations. The animals are captured with such great form, character and detail, and are optimized for identification. Absolutely top-notch. Without any hesitation, I must say that I love this book. Illustrators of other reptile/amphibian field guides should look to Stebbins's illustrations and follow his example. But ... this third edition is lacking. I find that it has suffered the field-guide-equivalent of feature creep. In striving to be the best, this book has lost sight of "good enough" and strayed into the realm of the impractical. Of course, the new full-color plates are fantastic. And I love that this book completes the final mile, by including plates for those animals that were marginalized in earlier editions with only monochrome plates (or none at all). As

an added bonus, many animals are complemented with color photographs. And hey, the maps are in full color as well. This book is just bursting with color, and that's usually a good thing. But the cost of this ubiquitous color is that every page of the book consists of glossy paper, which is thicker and heavier than regular paper. (And more-economical to print full-color images on.

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