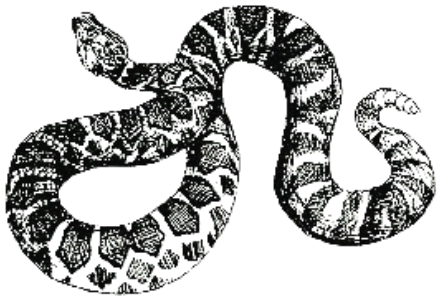
Lava Beds

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lava Beds National Monument

Amphibians and Reptiles of Lava Beds



Step Carefully

Lava Beds National Monument is home to 14 species of reptiles and amphibians. Eight of these are snakes, including the Western rattlesnake. Rattlesnakes may be seen on the surface or under a rock outcrop. They may be found near a cave entrance but seldom go inside. Rocky mountain rubber boas are small, gentle, nonpoisonous snakes that live inside caves. If you are lucky enough to see one, please do not disturb it.

Rattlesnakes are poisonous, but no one has reported being bitten by one at Lava Beds since the area became a monument in 1925. In order to avoid rattlesnakes, use caution when you are hiking, always looking first before you place your hands and feet. If you see a rattlesnake in the campground or in another area where it could be a threat, please notify a ranger.

Amphibians

- ❑ Boreal Toad..... *Bufo boreas*
- ❑ Pacific Treefrog..... *Hyla regilla*

Reptiles

Iquanidae (Fence Lizards)
- ❑ Northern Sagebrush Lizard ..... *Sceloporus graciosus*
- ❑ Great Basin Fence Lizard..... *Sceloporus occidentalis biseriatu*

Anguidae (Glass Lizards)
- ❑ Shasta Alligator Lizard ..... *Gerrhonotus coeruleus shastensis*

Scincidae (Skinks)
- ❑ Western Skink..... *Eumeces skiltonianus*

Boidae (Boas)
- ❑ Rocky Mountain Rubber Boa..... *Charina bottae utahensis*

Colubridae (Colubrids)
- ❑ Western Yellow-bellied Racer ..... *Coluber constrictor mormon*
- ❑ Ringneck Snake..... *Diadophis punctatus*
- ❑ Desert Night Snake ..... *Hypsiglena torquata deserticola*
- ❑ Desert Striped Whipsnake..... *Masticophis taeniatus*
- ❑ Gopher Snake..... *Pituophis melanoleucus*
- ❑ Valley Garter Snake..... *Thamnophis sirtalis fitchi*

Crotalidae (Rattlesnakes)
- ❑ Western Rattlesnake..... *Crotalus viridis*