

100,000 Crossings & Counting

Celebrating a Salamander Crossing Brigade Milestone

by Brett Amy Thelen, Science Director & Nate Marchessault, Staff Ecologist

Since 2007, the Harris Center has trained and coordinated more than **2,500 Crossing Brigade volunteers**, who have patrolled for amphibians on **175 nights**, collectively providing safe passage for more than **100,000 individual frogs and salamanders** in the greater Monadnock Region alone. Our volunteers have also identified nearly **200 amphibian-crossing hotspots** in **75 towns**.



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CONSERVATION SUCCESSES



LAND PROTECTION In 2008, the Keene Conservation Commission protected land abutting one of our crossing sites because of its importance as amphibian habitat.

ROAD CLOSURES A decade later, the Harris Center began working with the City of Keene to close two crossing sites to vehicles on migration nights — the only “Big Night detours” in the Granite State.

UNDERPASSES Now, the Harris Center, City of Keene, and NH Fish and Game are planning New Hampshire’s very first amphibian tunnels.



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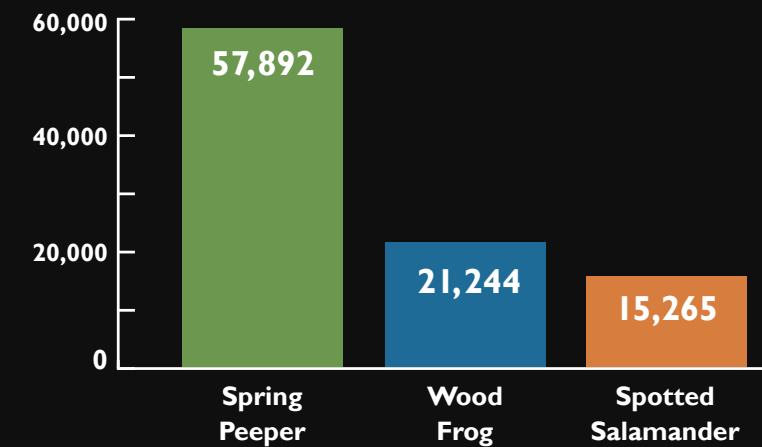
NON-AMPHIBIAN SPECIES Commonly Seen on Crossing Nights

-  **WOODCOCK** (spring courtship display at dusk)
-  **RED-BELLIED SNAKES** (hunting for slugs on rainy nights)
-  **BARRED OWLS** (hunting for amphibians)



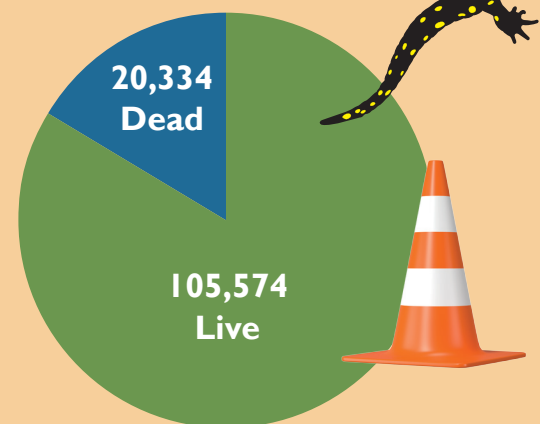
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MOST COMMON SPECIES & Number Rescued Since 2007



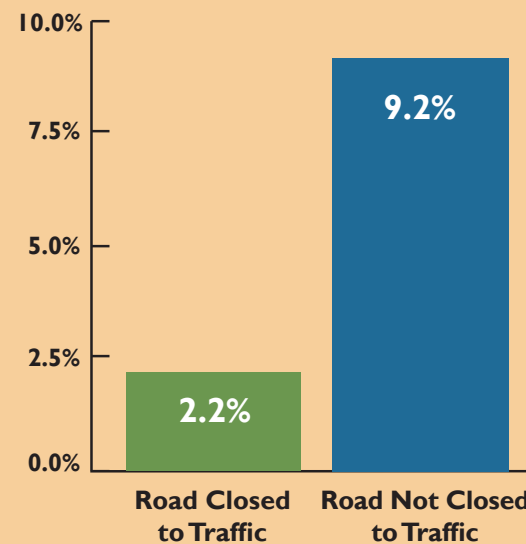
TOTAL AMPHIBIANS Counted by Crossing Brigade Volunteers Since 2007

125,908



EFFECTIVENESS OF N. Lincoln Street Closures

Amphibian Mortality Rates



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Average number of migration nights per year



10

Total number of amphibian species recorded



16

FUN FACTS

Spotted salamanders can **LIVE FOR 20 YEARS** or more.

Wood frogs, spring peepers, and gray tree frogs survive the winter by **FREEZING SOLID!** Their heartbeat and breathing stop entirely, and they simply wait in suspended animation for spring to arrive.



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The **SPOTS ON SPOTTED SALAMANDERS** are unique — like human fingerprints. Through a special research project, we track these patterns at select crossings and have identified nearly 40 individual salamanders that have been moved to safety on more than one occasion.



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