



2011 Year of the Turtle

Although turtles have persisted through many tumultuous periods of Earth's history, from glaciations to continental shifts, they are now at the top of the list of species disappearing from the planet: 47.6% of turtle species are identified as Threatened worldwide. To raise awareness for the plight of turtles and tortoises, **Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC)** and their collaborators, including the US Forest Service, have designated 2011 as the Year of the Turtle. As National Co-chair of PARC, PNW scientist **Dede Olson** is closely involved with this campaign, with planning starting last summer, 2010. Through outreach efforts to researchers, educators, natural resource managers, and the public, the Year of the Turtle efforts aim to increase US national involvement in local-to-national turtle issues. International outreach is extending Year of the Turtle to a broader range of participants worldwide.

For more information: www.yearoftheturtle.org

US Forest Service PNW Contributions:

2011 State of the Turtle (Olson and Kiester 2010) highlights the current threats to turtles and tortoises, and the need for conservation, research and education.

USA Turtle Mapping Project (Olson and Barela 2010) is a national project to compile new and existing locality data for US turtles and tortoises. **Data Forms** are provided, and can be submitted to yearoftheturtle2011@gmail.com.

Newsletter highlighting ongoing efforts, with layout provided by Kathryn Ronnenberg, PNW.

Logo contest winner, Kelly Christiansen, PNW.

Top 25 Endangered Turtles, Amy Lindsley, OSU/PNW.

Twitter and **Facebook**, Yasmeen Sands, PNW.

Media Release, Sherri Richardson-Dodge, PNW.



From top: Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*), Greg Lipps; Three-toed Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina triunguis*) Ross Kiester; Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*), J.D. Kleopfer; Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), J.D. Willson; Spiny Softshell (*Apalone spinifera*), J.G. Hall