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To: Chris Martin, SNHP Biologist
From: Larry Woolbright 
Date: February 28, 2011
Re: Amphibian crossings on tour road

I was cleaning out some old files and ran across a student project done in 2007 by Siena ES major, Katie Muir. Katie was working on pulling together the data from our driving transects of the tour road for the prior three years, 2004, 2005, and 2006. As you know, we drove the tour road very slowly on wet spring nights in April of those years. The automobile odometers were re-set to 0.0 miles at the entry gate from the parking area into the tour road, and then the location to the nearest 0.1 mile was recorded for each amphibian seen crossing the road.

Attached are three of the graphs that Katie generated from these data. While most species of amphibians were not sighted frequently enough to provide useful information, woodfrogs (*Rana sylvatica*) and spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*) were fairly common. As you can see in the attached figures 1 and 2, both show peaks of abundance in the vicinity of miles 0.5, 4.0, and 6.0. These are areas that probably qualify as primary movement corridors for amphibians in this landscape. They should be considered for special treatment to facilitate amphibian movement in future master plans.

The spotted salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*) is much less common in the Park than either of the above frogs, and it is a member of a group that appears to be susceptible to human disturbance. Although the numbers are small, there is a very interesting peak in spotted salamander sightings (Fig. 3) at mile 4.9 that does not show up on either of the other graphs. I do not know if there is any significance to this location, but I thought you might be interested in getting copies of these three graphs.

Fig 1.

Movement Corridors: *Rana sylvatica*

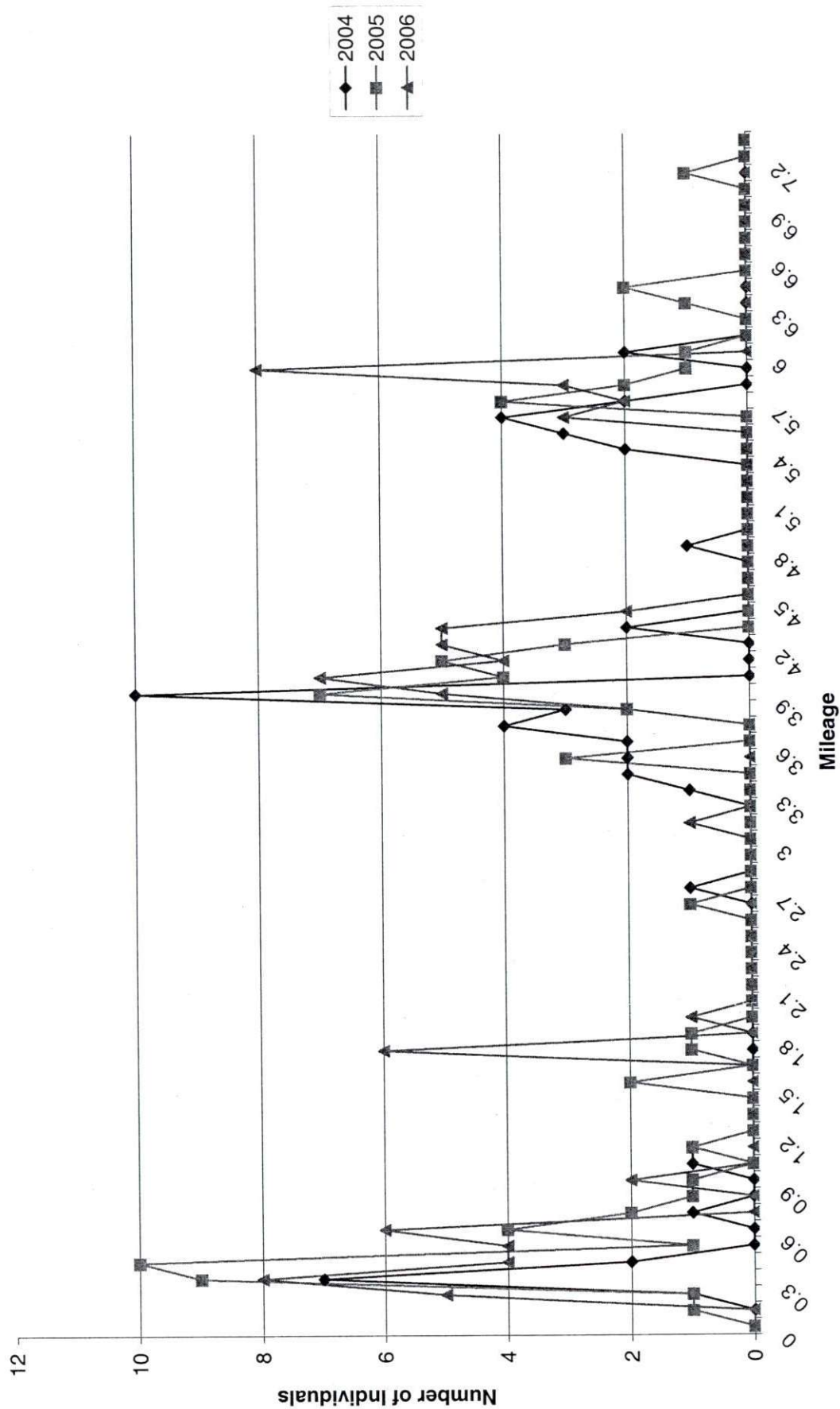


Fig 2

Movement Corridors: *Pseudacris crucifer*

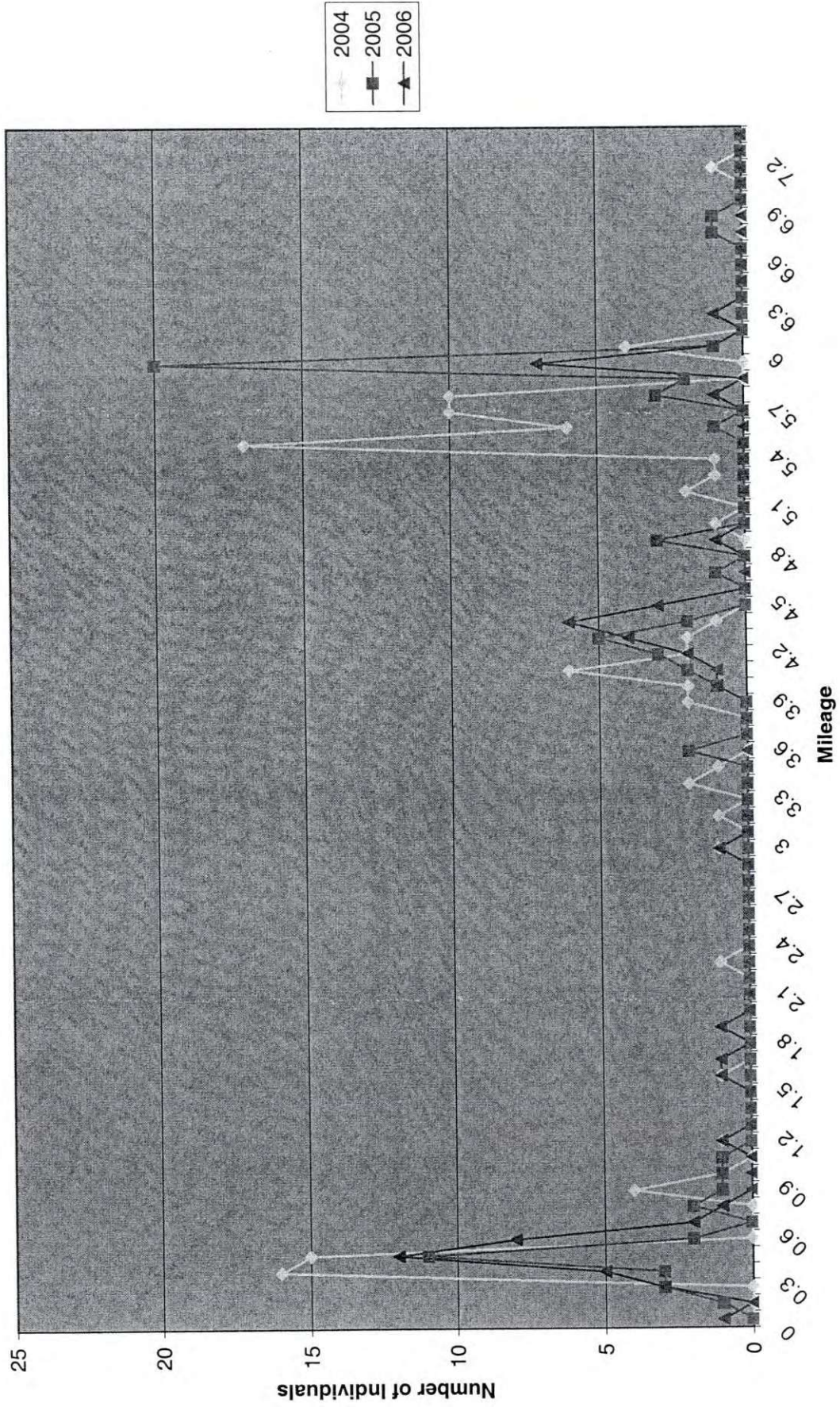
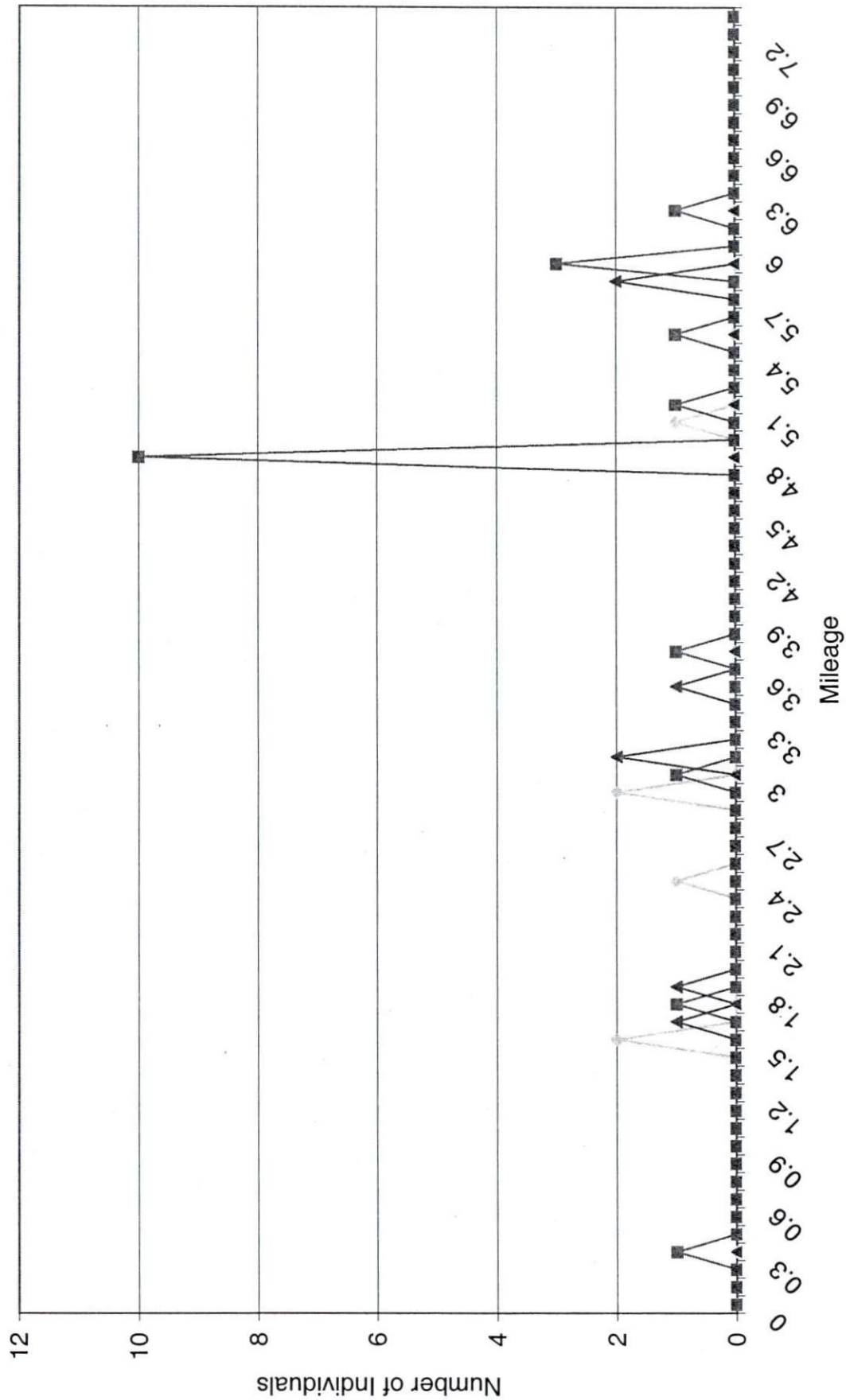


Fig 3.

Movement Corridors: *Ambystoma maculatum*

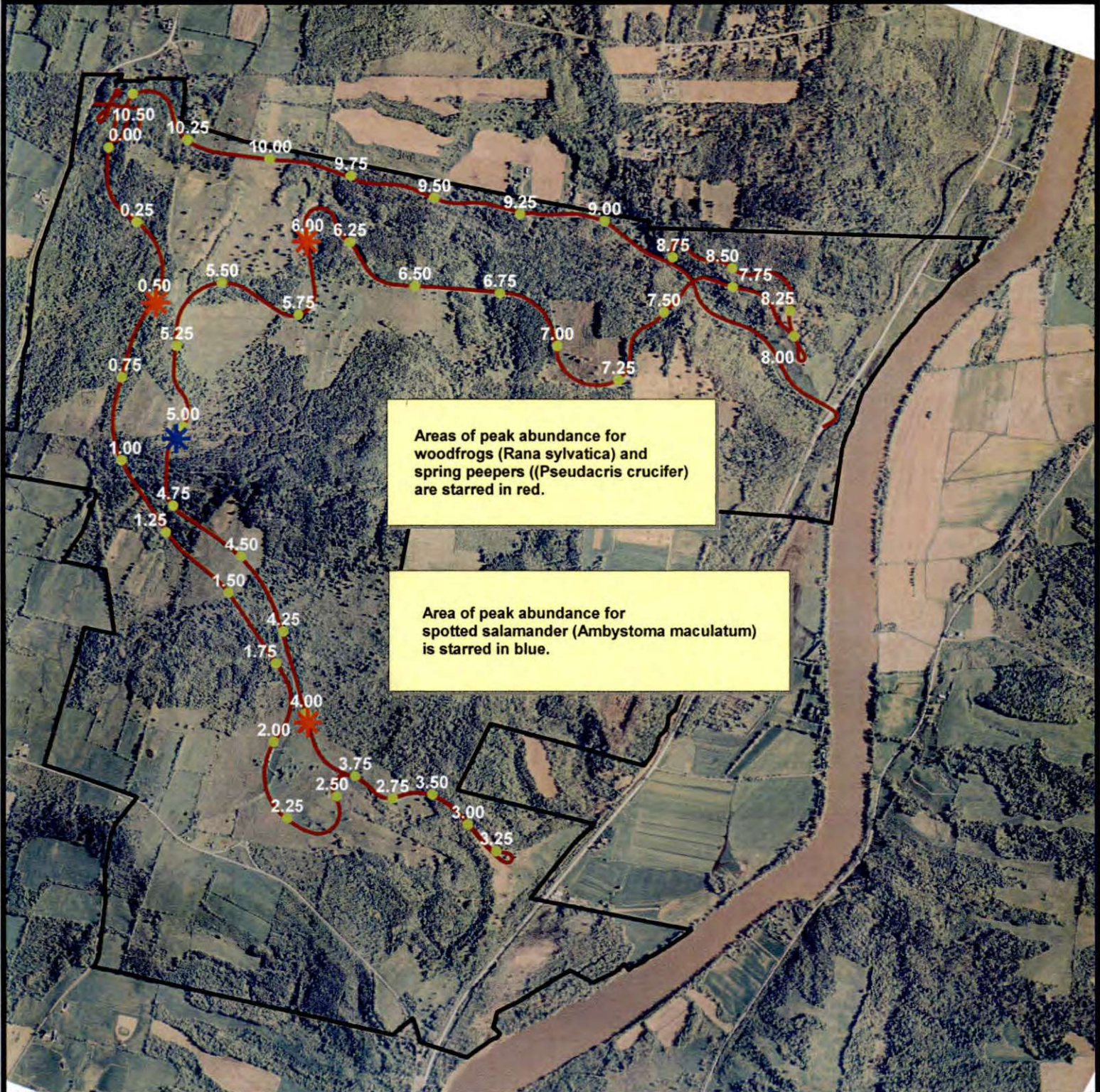


2004
2005
2006

Amphibian Crossings

Observations for 2004, 2005, 2006

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Areas of peak abundance for woodfrogs (*Rana sylvatica*) and spring peepers (*Pseudacris crucifer*) are starred in red.

Area of peak abundance for spotted salamander (*Ambystoma maculatum*) is starred in blue.

● Road Mileage Markers

— Park Roads

□ Battlefield Boundary

Siena College
Saratoga National Historical Park



0.25 0 0.25 0.5 0.75 Miles

1 : 25,344 1 inch = 0.40 miles

March 4, 2011