



2021 Eagle Hill Institute
 Online Natural History Seminars
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Nonindigenous amphibians and reptiles in Florida from 1863–2020: evidence for 157 years of invasions

Dr. Kenneth L. Krysko

March 22nd – March 31st, 2021

Introduced species originate from a foreign land but have been transported to a novel environment elsewhere. If allowed to thrive in their new (introduced) area, they can potentially invade areas far from their original introduction site and have negative impacts on the environment, economy, and/or human health, and thus be defined as invasive. The state of Florida, USA, is infamous for its plethora of exotic species, in part due to its subtropical and tropical climates, large volume of trade in exotic species, and the replacement of native fauna in human-altered environments. Regarding amphibians and reptiles, Florida has more introduced species than any other place on Earth. From 1863 through 2020, there have been at least five interceptions and 191 introductions in Florida. These introductions consist of 180 taxa, 64 of which are now established (i.e., reproducing) and include four frogs, five turtles, one crocodylian, 49 lizards, and five snakes. Introduction pathways include biological control, zoo, and cargo, but an overwhelmingly (>85%) are directly related to the pet trade. This bioseminar will provide a detailed presentation with photographs; open dialogue; and recommended list of resources including literature, databases and websites. Participants can ask questions and submit photographs for species identification. There will be a wealth of information examined, which will be perfect for the general public, students, teachers, scientific researchers and agencies.



Scheduling Details

March 22nd, 24th, 26th, 29th, 31st

5:30 PM – 7 :30PM ET

Participants need to have a Zoom account (<https://zoom.us> sign up for zoom is free). You will receive a secure link to join the instructor before each class. Classes will be recorded so participants can review them or make up missed ones.

For more information regarding seminar costs and registration please visit:
<https://www.eaglehill.us/programs/sems-online/general-info.shtml>

About the Instructor

Kenneth L. Krysko (langaha01@yahoo.com) received his BS and MS in Biological Sciences from Florida State University and Florida International University, respectively, and PhD in Wildlife Ecology and Conservation from the University of Florida. He has primarily researched imperiled native species and introduced species in the Everglades region and Florida Keys. From 1995 to 2017, he helped curate the international research and teaching UF-Herpetology collections. He has published over 260 articles, books and book chapters, and is the co-author of *The Amphibians and Reptiles of Florida* (2019).