

accomplishments, his impact on the lives that he touched, family, friends, students, and colleagues, will be carried in their memories and their hearts for the rest of their days. Floyd will be missed by many, never forgotten, and while his memory might bring a tear, it will certainly bring a smile!

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TRACHEMYS SCRIPTA ELEGANS (Red-eared Slider). **DELAYED EMERGENCE.** Delayed emergence from a nest is a strategy used by species that face high environmental variability and uncertainty if they exit the nest immediately upon hatching (Gibbons and Nelson 1978. *Evolution* 32:297-303). This behavior, once considered rare in turtles, is now likely the default behavior among many freshwater turtle species (Gibbons 2013. *Journal of Herpetology* 47:203-214). Gibbons (2013, *op. cit.*) reviewed the literature and found reports of delayed emergence by *T. scripta* from Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, and South Carolina. Herein, we provide evidence of delayed emergence of *Trachemys scripta elegans* from West Tennessee, USA.

On 19 April 2021, we discovered two road killed, hatchling *T. s. elegans* (28.9 and 38.3 mm Straight-line Plastron Length [SPL]), approximately 7 m apart, that were flattened by vehicles and dried by the Sun. On 5 May 2021, we discovered two additional road killed hatchlings (28.1 and 32.2 mm SPL) at approximately the same location as the previous observation. These two individuals were also flattened by vehicles and were approximately 0.25 m apart. All were found on a road adjacent to the Freed-Hardeman University Wetlands and Research Area, Henderson, Chester County, Tennessee, USA (35.4371°N, -88.6339°W; WGS 84). The

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nearest body of water, a small abandoned irrigation pond, was approximately 17 m from the turtles.

In Tennessee, nesting by *T. scripta* occurs during late spring and summer (Niemiller et al. 2013. *The Reptiles of Tennessee*. The University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville, Tennessee. 366 pp.). We suspect that this is an example of delayed nest emergence because these hatchlings were found together, away from water, during the spring of the year. In this scenario, the turtles overwintered in their nest, emerged in the spring, and were killed while traveling toward the pond.

Knowledge of emergence timing in freshwater turtle species is important to conservation. Hatchlings of species that delay emergence are at greater risks from land disturbances around the margins of wetlands year round (Gibbons 2013, *op. cit.*). Likewise, delayed emergence may increase the risk of nest predation by invasive species such as the Red Import Fire Ant (*Solenopsis invicta*) that are known to attack and kill hatchling turtles in the nest (Buhlmann and Coffman 2001. *Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society* 117:94-100). Wildlife managers who understand the timing of freshwater turtle emergence should be able to better mitigate potential threats to nests and hatchlings.

Submitted by **BRIAN P. BUTTERFIELD** (email:

butterfield@fhu.edu), **ALEXIS B. LARKINS, LAURA D. LLOYD,** and **KAYLEN A. BUNCH,** Freed-Hardeman University, 158 E. Main Street, Henderson, Tennessee 38340, USA.

***DIADOPHIS PUNCTATUS* (Ring-necked Snake).** USA: TENNESSEE: McNairy Co.: Mt. Peter (35.289797°N, -88.534467°W; datum WGS84). 31 March 2022. Alexis Larkins, Laura Lloyd, and Brian P. Butterfield. Verified by Jessica Grady. David H. Snyder Museum of Zoology, Austin Peay State University (APSU 20125, color photo). A specimen (APSU 12339) exists for McNairy Co. (Redmond and Scott 2008. Atlas of Reptiles in Tennessee. The Center for Field Biology, Austin Peay State University,

Clarksville, Tennessee. Internet version, available at <http://apsu.edu/repatlas/> [updated 18 November 2019]; accessed 31 March 2022). However, this specimen is listed from quad “Purdy, TN” and lacks exact locality data (J. Grady, pers. comm.). Our record is the first vouchered specimen of this species with specific locality data for McNairy County. An individual was found under debris remaining from a removed mobile home located in a rural upland oak-hickory forest. Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency permit #1419.

Submitted by **Alexis Larkins, Laura Lloyd,** and **Brian P. Butterfield** (e-mail: butterfield@fhu.edu), Freed-Hardeman University, 158 E. Main Street, Henderson, Tennessee 38334, USA.