

Metamorphosis of the Frog and Turtle Program

By Sadie Gilliom, SPP Frog and Turtle Program Coordinator



Frog Program Overview



Mr. Anglemeyer feeding the crickets



OSF Tank Set-up



Carefully cleaning the net pens



Morphing Frog with Tail



Newly morphed OSF

Egg to Tadpole



The Beginning of Frogga Walla (Photo by SPP staff)

- ❧ Began in 2009 at Cedar Creek Corrections Center
- ❧ First program of its kind
- ❧ Partnership between WDFW, The Evergreen State College, Department of Corrections, Woodland Park Zoo, Northwest Trek and Oregon Zoo

Adult with a Tail



- ❧ Inmates did a great job!
- ❧ Earned respect of the scientists and zoologists
- ❧ Learned skills in animal husbandry, data collection, biology, conservation and public speaking
- ❧ Networking with other scientists
- ❧ Collaboration is key



The Adult Phase



- 879 frogs raised and released!
- New York Times, Komo News, Mother Nature Network, PBS, Seattle Times, USA Today
- Certificates earned by technicians

The New York Times

Raising Frogs for Freedom, Prison Project Opens Doors



Matthew Ryan Williams for The New York Times
Taylor Davis, left, and Carri LeRoy counted frogs to be released near the Cedar Creek prison in Littlerock, Wash.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife



DOC SPP Liaison Ms. Sibley, inmate technician Mr. Nuss and graduate student Ms. Fiona Edwards learning how to sex an OSF



Marc Hayes examining an OSF

Two Zoos



Northwest Trek OSF keepers and
Dr. Allison observe Cedar Creeks frogs



Northwest Trek OSF keepers and
Dr. Allison learning about the
OSF program from the technician

Department of Corrections



Superintendent Cole holding
an OSF



Technician Mr. Nuss, SPP Liaison Mr. Pickard and Technician Mr.
Jamar

The Evergreen State College



Technician, Mr. Boysen and Evergreen SPP Frog Coordinator, Sadie Gilliom
Measuring an OSF

Turtle Program Overview



- ❧ Shell disease
- ❧ WDFW brings infected turtles from the wild to PAWS
- ❧ PAWS treats turtles with antibiotics
- ❧ PAWS sends turtles to Cedar Creek
- ❧ Cedar Creek inmate technicians care for the turtles:
- ❧ Turtles are released and tracked



Preparing for Release (Photo by Tammy Schmidt)



Plastron of turtles with
advanced shell disease
(Photo by PAWS)



Same turtle after 8 months
of recovery
(Photo by PAWS)

Partners Make it Possible



Photo credit: Fiona Edwards

Metamorphosis



❧ New Turtle Shed!

❧ Program is expanding!

❧ Protocol updates are in progress!

❧ New partnerships being developed!



Centralia College Building Crew posing in front of their masterpiece

Coming Out of Our Shell



- ❧ Turtle program is now expanding to Larch Corrections Center for Columbia River Gorge population
- ❧ They have finished the turtle building and will be receiving turtles shortly!
- ❧ New education program



Western Pond Turtle Hatchling: Photo by
Woodland Park Zoo

Future



- ❧ Excited to see the results of the evaluation of the Oregon spotted frog rearing programs
- ❧ Looking forward to new program beginnings and the development of new partnerships to make them possible!

Questions?



Photo by Save The Frogs!