



**Winner:** A rear-fanged **Olive Sand Snake (*Psammophis mossambicus*)** patrols the grass near the banks of the Mara River, Maasai Mara National Reserve, Kenya. Also known as the “Olive Whip Snake” and “Hissing Sand Snake”, it occurs in eastern and southern Africa where it is locally common. Its populations were found to increase after removal of large herbivores and a subsequent increase in small mammals, its main prey. This large individual, photographed by **Lance Benedict**, was about 6 feet long, the maximum size for this species.





[www.yearofthesnake.org](http://www.yearofthesnake.org)



**Runner-up: The Eastern Massasauga** (*Sistrurus c. catenatus*) is primarily a midwestern U.S. species, occurring in wet prairies, bogs and swamps from eastern Iowa and northeastern Missouri to western Pennsylvania, with disjunct populations in New York's Lake Plain. It is a species of conservation concern throughout its range. This photo was taken in Pennsylvania by **Charlie Eichelberger**.

# December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	Christmas Day 25	26	27	28
29	30	31	<p><b>In 2014, look for the Year of the Salamander Photo Contest Calendar</b></p>			