



Winner: The **Western Mudsnake (*Farancia abacura reinwardtii*)** is found in lowland swamps from central Alabama west to east Texas and up the Mississippi drainage to southern Illinois. It is the possible source of the “hoop snake” myth due to its occasional habit of basking in a horizontal circle, tail to head. It feeds primarily on amphiumas and sirens (aquatic, nearly legless salamanders). This beautiful juvenile specimen was photographed by **John White**.

2013 YEAR of the Snake

www.yearofthesnake.org



Runner-up: The **Two-striped Garter-snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*)** is so named because it lacks the mid-dorsal stripe seen in other gartersnakes. However, some individuals have a nuchal spot on the neck, such as this one photographed by **Rob Lovich** at Camp Pendleton, California. This species is found along permanent freshwater streams from Monterrey, California, south to Baja California, Mexico. It is considered a threatened species in California.

Year of the Snake Photo Contest Calendar

October 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	Effects of Wildlife Fire & Fire Mgmt on Amphibians & Reptiles Symposium at TWS*	7	8	9	10	11
The Wildlife Society [TWS] Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI					Wetland Restoration Workshop, Mt. Orab, OH*	
13	Columbus Day (US) Thanksgiving (Canada)	14	15	16	17	18
				Northern Copperhead program, 6:30 pm, Sessions Woods Cons. Ed. Ctr, Burlington, CT*		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	*See Upcoming Meetings and Events in the September issue of <i>Year of the Snake News</i> for links to many of these events.	

Sabino Canyon Lizard Walk, SCRA, Tucson, AZ. 8 am at the visitors' center