

# ADOPT-A-SNAKE Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROV.: \_\_\_\_\_ PC: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME TO APPEAR ON CERTIFICATE:  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS for MAILING (if different):  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROV.: \_\_\_\_\_ PC: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK YOUR SUPPORT LEVEL:

- HABITAT : \$25     TRAIL : \$100  
 DEN : \$500

Name species if other than a Rattlesnake  
Adoption:  
\_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your cheque or money order to:

**Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre**

1000 Rancher Creek Road

Osoyoos, BC V0H 1V6

Thank you for your support.



**Osoyoos Indian Band**



**Canada**

Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre's  
Rattlesnake Research project is supported  
by the Canadian Wildlife Service,  
Environment Canada, the Osoyoos Indian  
Band, and World Wildlife Fund:  
Endangered Species Recovery Fund.

### WHAT OTHER SPECIES CAN I ADOPT?

RUBBER BOA  
NIGHT SNAKE  
GOPHER SNAKE  
YELLOW-BELLIED RACER



(250) 495-7901 FAX (250) 495-7912  
Toll Free in BC 1-888-495-8555

## NK'MIP DESERT CULTURAL CENTRE



## ADOPT-A-SNAKE APPLICATION



# Living with Rattlesnakes...

One of our most exciting programs at Nk'Mip Desert & Heritage Centre is our rattlesnake research. Under the umbrella name "Snakes Alive", we conduct specialized research on the Northern Pacific Rattlesnake, offer two levels of educational programs to schools, and conduct daily programs for visitors throughout the summer season.



Started in the summer of 2002, the research is ongoing with participation by herpetologists, biologists, our interpreters, and wildlife interns from the Osoyoos Indian Band.

Rattlesnakes are captured from the Nk'Mip RV Resort & Campground, Nk'Mip Cellars, Sonora Dunes Golf Course and Nk'Mip Desert & Heritage Centre from April to October. The snakes are held for a few days during which we collect individual data - weight, length, sex, insert tiny microchips, colour code their rattles with

paint, and photograph their back patterns. Their pattern is as unique to them as fingerprints are to humans!



After undergoing this procedure, the rattlesnakes are released back out onto the desert as close as possible to where they were caught.

If the rattlesnakes are healthy and large enough, they may have a radio-transmitter implanted by a veterinarian so researchers can study their movements.

## Why Rattlesnakes?

The Northern Pacific Rattlesnake (often referred to as the Western Rattlesnake) is a threatened species in British Columbia and was put on the federal "Species at Risk" list in the spring of 2004.

As human development continues to encroach into snake habitat, and we crisscross their territory with roads, the snake populations continue to plummet. All snake species are encountering the same problems and many are now also considered threatened or their status is of concern.

This important project has been undertaken by the Osoyoos Indian Band to ensure that the natural populations of this threatened species remain healthy on the

Band's territory. The knowledge gained will also be used to reduce the conflict between rattlesnakes and people. This project is co-sponsored by the Canadian Wildlife Service.

And through our

## "Adopt-a-Snake" Program

you too can support our research!

Choose both the snake species & support level of adoption you wish. All adoptions come with a personalized colour photo certificate & information sheet about the species chosen. Rattlesnakes also come with a capture-tagging data sheet specific to the snake described on the certificate.

**HABITAT LEVEL - \$25** - helps us purchase research equipment such as snake tongs, scales, thermometers, GPS for mapping location of capture & release, & batteries for equipment.

**TRAIL LEVEL - \$100** - helps in the purchase PIT tags (over 200 used in 2004) and scanners to read the tags. You will receive mid & end season reports on our research plus have a personal invitation to attend a PIT tag session & join us as we release the snakes back onto the desert.

**DEN LEVEL - \$500** - helps purchase radio transmitters & pay veterinary fees to implant them in the rattlesnakes. You will receive mid & end of season reports on our research plus have a personal invitation to accompany our researchers on a ½ day field trip to track rattlesnake movement & attend a PIT tagging session.