

Mexican Geographical Distribution Notes 6: New Herpetological Records for Islands in the Gulf of California

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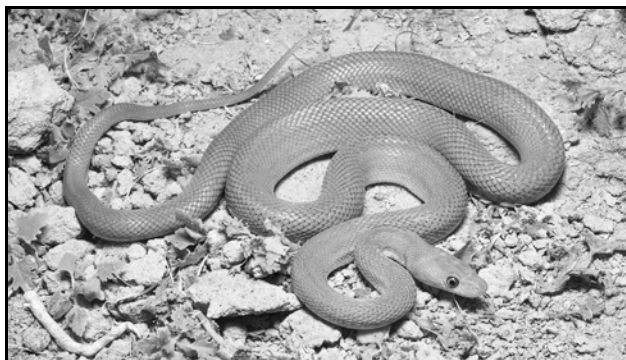
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A recent herpetological expedition to multiple islands in the Gulf of California resulted in four new records of snakes from two islands, Isla Espíritu Santo and Isla San José, both in the municipality of La Paz, Baja California Sur. We report the new records below.

Isla Espíritu Santo

Bogertophis rosaliae (Baja California Ratsnake).

Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo (24.4919°N, 110.3736°W; datum = WGS84; 19 m elev.), 12 October 2022. First record for the species on Isla Espíritu Santo. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as on Isla Danzante, in the Bay of Loreto, 165 km to the NNW (Grismer, 2002). Found active after dark at 19:45 in a dry river bed. Four individuals were observed, but only one was photographed. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9806).



Baja California Ratsnake, *Bogertophis rosaliae* (UTADC 9806), Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo.

†*Hypsiglena ochrorhynchus ochrorhynchus* (Cape Nightsnake).

Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo (24.4905°N, 110.3730°W; datum = WGS84; 36 m elev.), 12 October 2022. First record for the species on Isla Espíritu Santo. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as in 20 other islands of Baja California, the closest island record being at Isla Partida Sur, only 5 km to the

north of the present record (Grismer, 2002). The snake was found active after dark at 21:48 in a rocky hillside. Five individuals were observed, but only one was photographed. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9807a-b).



Cape Nightsnake, *Hypsiglena ochrorhynchus ochrorhynchus* (UTADC 9807a-b). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo.

†*Hypsiglena slevini* (Baja California Nightsnake).

Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo (24.4905°N, 110.3730°W; datum = WGS84; 36 m elev.), 12 October 2022. First record for the species on Isla Espíritu Santo. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as from Isla Cerralvo, Isla Danzante and Isla



Baja California nightsnake, *Hypsiglena slevini* (UTADC 9883). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo.

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Margarita, the closest island record being at Isla Cerralvo, 50 km to the SE (Grismer, 2002). Found active after dark at 21:48 in a rocky hillside. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9883).

†*Trimorphodon lyrophanes* (Baja California Lyresnake). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo (24.4905°N, 110.3730°W; datum = WGS84; 36 m elev.), 12 October 2022. First record for the species on Isla Espíritu Santo. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as from Isla Cerralvo, Isla Danzante and Isla Margarita, the closest island record being Isla Cerralvo, 50 km to the SE (Grismer, 2002). Found active after dark at 21:48 on a rocky hillside. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9884).



Baja California Lyresnake, *Trimorphodon lyrophanes* (UTADC 9884). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla Espíritu Santo.

Isla San José

Hypsiglena slevini (Baja California Nightsnake). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla San José (25.0108°N, 110.5772°W; datum = WGS84; 23 m elev.), 17 October 2022. First record for the species at Isla San José. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as from Isla Cerralvo, Isla Danzante and Isla Margarita, the closest island record being at Isla Cerralvo, 100 km to the SE (Grismer, 2002). Found active after dark at 23:03 in a dry river bed. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9808a-b).



Baja California Nightsnake, *Hypsiglena slevini* (UTADC 9808a-b). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla San José.

Lichanura trivirgata trivirgata (Mexican Rosy Boa). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla San José (25.0033°N, 110.5811°W; datum = WGS84; 49 m elev.), 18 October 2022. First record for the species at Isla San José. Previously known from the mainland of Baja California, as well as from several islands in the Gulf of California, the closest island record being at Isla Espíritu Santo, 60 km to the SE (Frick et al., 2016). The snake was found active after dark at 20:00 in a dry river bed. Photographed by Ricardo Ramírez-Chaparro, verified by Christoph I. Grünwald. Image deposited at the University of Texas Digital Catalogue (UTADC 9809).



Mexican Rosy Boa, *Lichanura trivirgata trivirgata* (UTADC 9809). Mexico, Baja California Sur, Municipality of La Paz, Isla San José.

Acknowledgments

We thank Luz Hurtado, Irma Gonzalez and Raol Preciado with CONANP and the Parque Nacional Archipiélago de Espíritu Santo for access to field sites. All work was funded by the National Geographic Society (NGS-61140R-19) to M.J.M., M.B., H.F.-C., C.L.P., and J.L.S., the American Museum of Natural History (Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Grant) to M.J.M., and the University of South Florida to M.J.M. All work was conducted under permit SEMARNAT Oficio No SGPA/DGVS/04999/22 and USF IACUC IS00008275.

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- Grismer, L. L. 2002. Amphibians and reptiles of Baja California, including its Pacific islands and the islands in the Sea of Cortés. Berkeley: University of California Press.

† The time and geographic coordinates for these three species are the time and the spot at which the different team members got back to the boat after searching for rattlesnakes on a dry river bed on Isla Espíritu Santo. We did not take coordinates of those snakes, as they were not the goal of the excursion, but all were found within a 1.5-km radius from that spot.