



**City of Albuquerque – Albuquerque BioPark Education  
MARCH 2008 BROWN BAG SEMINAR**

# **Amphibian Decline and Conservation**

**By Allyson Zahm**

**Acting Curator, Albuquerque BioPark Education**

**Saturday, March 1, 12:45 - 1:30pm**

**&**

**Thursday, March 6, 12:45 - 1:30pm**

**Rio Grande Zoo Education Barn, 903 Tenth Street SW**

A recent assessment of amphibian populations worldwide found that nearly one third of amphibian species are at risk of extinction. Over the past 20 years, amphibian populations have declined at an alarming rate prompting some scientists to suspect the world may be facing the greatest mass extinction since the dinosaurs. The most severe threat to amphibians is habitat loss, but in some cases, populations in seemingly pristine habitats have been lost. This presentation will discuss the threats to amphibians including loss of habitat and such factors as chemical contaminants, disease, introduced species, climate change, and over-exploitation. What can be done to mitigate these threats? Habitat protection, research, and captive breeding are a few of the answers, and individual citizens can also take action to contribute to the conservation of amphibians.

---

Since 1994, informal Brown Bag seminars have been offered on a monthly basis at the Albuquerque BioPark to BioPark visitors, employees, and volunteers. Topics include plant and animal themes relevant to the BioPark, and presenters may be BioPark staff or field experts. The same monthly seminar is offered twice, on different days, to give as many people as possible the opportunity to attend. When the Brown Bag is held at the Rio Grande Zoo, it is included with regular zoo admission. When it is held at the Albuquerque Aquarium and Rio Grande Botanic Garden, admission is not required. For more information, call BioPark Education at 764-6245. For general inquiries, please call 311 (Relay NM or 711). The BioPark is a division of the City of Albuquerque Cultural Services Department.



Martin J. Chávez, Mayor