WLDF 311 Treefrog Study; Fall 2007
Pipe Checking Protocol:

1. Arrange time to meet/travel to study area with your co-worker
2. Pick up gear from stockroom & BRING YOUR OWN WATER JUG or carton (of some kind)
   The equipment should include:
   a. Water jug (bring from home)
   b. Bucket
   c. Flashlight
   d. Pesola scale
   e. Baggies
   f. Plastic ruler
   g. Plastic gloves
   h. Datasheet (download from website) & shelter for it if it’s raining
   i. Sharpie, white duct tape, and flagging (just in case) – this is mainly needed for 1st groups
to go out…
3. Park off main road; walk through gate (combination = “8184”…LEAVE ALL GATES AS YOU FIND
   THEM [if they’re open, leave them open, if they’re closed, close them behind you] NO DOGS).
4. Walk to your “transects”
5. Check each trap with the flashlight. If there’s no frog, simply record “0” for that trap and make
   sure it’s water is refilled. Please record the zeros because that will allow us to verify that each
   pipe is checked. If there is a frog(s), then:
   a. Take the trap off the stake without letting frogs escape, and dump the contents gently into
      bucket (you may want some water & bottom of bucket first). If the frogs don’t come out,
      put some more water in the pipe, swirl and “swoosh” them out.
   b. Pick up each frog and let excess water drip off. Put the frog in a plastic bag, weigh it
      (nearest 0.1 g), and then measure the snout to urostyle length (SUL) with the plastic ruler
      (nearest mm, see below). Record these data on the data sheet.
   c. Choose the color morph of the frog (mainly green or mainly brown). If you can’t decide,
      record notes on its appearance (% green, % brown, significant stripes & spots, etc.). See
      some sample photos on next page
   d. Return pipes to their stakes, refill with water.
   e. Release frog within 1 m of their pipe/stake at appropriate microhabitat (some understory
      vegetation).
   f. Reweigh the empty bag
6. Measure any other captured frogs as above and record all data. Take notes on weather, data,
times, and any special notes.

SUL measurement
A green (but very spotted) morph

A brown and a green morph together

A tan/green morph (sometimes called orange)

A brown morph (note it's quite gray)