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THE HERPETOLOGISTS' LEAGUE
Established in 1946

October 2, 2009

Dr. John Holdren, Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President
725 17th Street Room 5228
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Dr. Holdren:

On behalf of The Herpetologists' League (HL), I write to express strong support for issuance of an Executive Order by President Obama to promote the preservation and use of all scientific collections, as proposed by the Natural Science Collections Alliance (NSC Alliance).

The Herpetologists' League publishes two scientific journals, *Herpetologica* and *Herpetological Monographs*. Both deal with the biology of amphibians and non-avian reptiles, and the work of many of our society's members revolves around the building and analysis of scientific collections. These diverse collections located in many institutions are critical to furthering our knowledge of the natural world. The Executive Order might establish a mechanism by which federal agencies could ensure wise and strategic investments in these important and irreplaceable parts of our research infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of the Executive Order proposed by the NSC Alliance.

Sincerely,

David Cundall
President

Cc: Harold Heatwole
Patrick Owen

Member of the American Institute of Biological Sciences