

## Banded Water Snake

*(Nerodia fasciata)*

**Imported from the Eastern and Central U.S. as pets, these nonvenomous snakes now prey on California's native fish and amphibians. When handled by humans, they often defecate and emit foul-smelling musk.**

*Image Credit: Ben Young Landis/Chris Brown  
U.S. Geological Survey-Western Ecological Research Center*

