



Frogs of south-west NSW

A glovebox guide to identification, ecology and conservation

3rd edition

Department of Climate Change,
Energy, the Environment and Water

A partnership between the NSW Saving our Species program
and the Australian Museum FrogID project



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Artist and designer Nikita Ridgeway from Aboriginal design agency Boss Lady Creative Designs created the People and Community symbol



Purpose of this guide

This guide assists in the identification of frog species that are commonly found on the highlands, tablelands, slopes and plains of south-west New South Wales. This guide is a starting point to understanding local frog fauna, and its ecology and conservation needs. Other sources are available that provide additional details (refer to the bibliography for some examples).

Frogs are found through most of Australia. Their presence is critical to maintaining healthy environments. Their dual life cycle, which includes an aquatic tadpole stage and a terrestrial frog stage, and the fact they can occur in large numbers, means that they filter and cycle large quantities of nutrients. This service directly benefits the environment, including water quality. Frogs also consume invertebrates, many of which are pests to humans. Frogs are food for other animals, including fish, reptiles and birds, and are an important part of Australia's biodiversity.



Contents

Purpose of this guide	3
FrogID	6
Water for frogs	7
Frog conservation in south-west NSW	8
Threatened frog species of south-west NSW	9
Information in this guide	18
Water body types	20
Eastern water-holding frog (<i>Cyclorana platycephala</i>)	24
Booroolong frog (<i>Litoria booroolongensis</i>)	26
Green tree frog (<i>Litoria caerulea</i>)	28
Brown tree frog (<i>Litoria ewingii</i>)	30
Eastern dwarf tree frog (<i>Litoria fallax</i>)	32
Broad-palmed rocket frog (<i>Litoria latopalmata</i>)	34
Stony creek frog (<i>Litoria lesueuri</i>)	36
Southern green stream frog (<i>Litoria nudidigitus</i>)	38
Victorian tree frog (<i>Litoria paraewingii</i>)	40
Peron's tree frog (<i>Litoria peronii</i>)	42
Southern bell frog (<i>Litoria raniformis</i>)	44
Red tree frog (<i>Litoria rubella</i>)	46
Spotted tree frog (<i>Litoria spenceri</i>)	48
Whistling tree frog and alpine tree frog (<i>Litoria verreauxii</i> , <i>Litoria verreauxii alpina</i>)	50

Eastern stony creek frog (<i>Litoria wilcoxii</i>)	52
Eastern sign-bearing froglet (<i>Crinia parinsignifera</i>)	54
Common eastern froglet (<i>Crinia signifera</i>)	56
Sloane's froglet (<i>Crinia sloanei</i>)	58
Eastern banjo frog (<i>Limnodynastes dumerilii</i>)	60
Barking frog (<i>Limnodynastes fletcheri</i>)	62
Giant banjo frog (<i>Limnodynastes interioris</i>)	64
Striped marsh frog (<i>Limnodynastes peronii</i>)	66
Salmon-striped frog (<i>Limnodynastes salmini</i>)	68
Spotted marsh frog (<i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i>)	70
Painted frog (<i>Neobatrachus pictus</i>)	72
Sudell's frog (<i>Neobatrachus sudellae</i>)	74
Crucifix frog (<i>Notaden bennettii</i>)	76
Bibron's toadlet (<i>Pseudophryne bibronii</i>)	78
Southern corroboree frog (<i>Pseudophryne corroboree</i>)	80
Dendy's toadlet (<i>Pseudophryne dendyi</i>)	82
Northern corroboree frog (<i>Pseudophryne pengilleyi</i>)	84
Smooth toadlet (<i>Uperoleia laevigata</i>)	86
Wrinkled toadlet (<i>Uperoleia rugosa</i>)	88
Bibliography	90
More information	90

FrogID

The citizen science program is revolutionising our understanding of Australian frog populations

Frogs are often heard, but not seen. Listening to frog calls is a common method of identifying, monitoring and surveying for different species.

The Australian Museum's FrogID app allows anyone with a smartphone to record frog calls. These recordings are reviewed by experts to confirm the species calling. Information from frog calls collected across Australia is being used to address knowledge gaps about frog distribution and track the population health of different species.

FrogID is also used for citizen science conservation programs like 'Sloane's Champions', a group that supports monitoring of the endangered Sloane's froglet. FrogID provides extensive information about each species' ecology, calling periods and distribution, and so can be used in conjunction with this field guide to better understand your local frogs. The description of each frog species in this guide has a QR code that links to the species' advertisement call on the FrogID website.

The FrogID smartphone app can be downloaded for free from the app store, or from the FrogID website (see 'More information' on page 90).



Water for frogs

The management of water in our rivers and wetlands is critical for the restoration and maintenance of healthy habitat for frogs and other native wildlife across New South Wales. The NSW Government has been delivering water for the environment to wetlands on public and private land across the south-west region for over 20 years. In a landscape altered by river regulation, these managed flows help to restore and maintain critical frog habitat, including for the endangered southern bell frog (*Litoria raniformis*).

Water for the environment supports healthy habitat and robust food webs, creates connectivity across the landscape and helps to maintain viable frog populations in the event of drought or other threats. Restoring suitable feeding and breeding habitat can take several years and repeated applications of water for the environment. Only then are we likely to establish diverse and abundant frog communities in our rivers and wetlands. Water for the environment is delivering habitat restoration on a landscape scale.



Frog conservation in south-west NSW

Over the past 50 years the number of globally declining and extinct frog species has increased dramatically. In the region covered by this booklet, eight frogs are listed as threatened. These species have undergone extensive declines across their range. These declines are linked to a range of factors, but particularly to habitat degradation and infection by the amphibian chytrid fungus, which causes a lethal disease called ‘chytridiomycosis’.

The NSW Government has implemented conservation programs for most of these threatened frog species over the past two decades. Two species (southern corroboree frog and spotted tree frog) would already be extinct if not for these efforts. Frog conservation work continues, primarily via two NSW Government programs: Saving our Species and Water for the Environment. The work done for these species has only been possible with the support of partner organisations, including Local Land Services, and major zoological institutions such as Taronga Zoo, Melbourne Zoo, Healesville Sanctuary and the Amphibian Research Centre.



Wetland habitat for the southern bell frog. Alex Pike/DCCEEW

Threatened frog species of south-west NSW

Southern corroboree frog (*Pseudophryne corroboree*) – critically endangered

The southern corroboree frog is perhaps Australia's most iconic threatened frog species. It has declined rapidly since the introduction of chytrid fungus to its high-country habitat in the early 1980s. Fortunately, recovery efforts have prevented its extinction, including the establishment of a large-scale captive breeding program at Taronga Zoo, Melbourne Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary.

A Saving our Species conservation project, involving collaboration with many partners (zoological institutions, government agencies and universities), is supporting the development of reintroduction techniques to maintain the species in the wild. Research is continuing into options for mitigating the impacts of chytrid fungus. Traditional Owners of Country where the southern corroboree frog occurs are also reviving their cultural links to this species and assisting conservation efforts.



Southern corroboree frog being swabbed for chytrid fungus screening.
David Hunter/DCCEEW

Northern corroboree frog (*Pseudophryne pengilleyi*) –critically endangered

Like its southern relative, the northern corroboree frog has declined extensively across its range following the introduction of chytrid fungus. Important populations of this species in the Brindabella Range, Kosciuszko National Park and adjacent state forests are in a critical state of decline. The species is being secured in captivity at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, Taronga Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary.

A Saving our Species conservation project is also focused on protecting this species' habitat from other threats, such as feral animals and weeds invasion. As is the case for the southern corroboree frog, the Traditional Owners of Country where the northern corroboree frog occurs are also reviving their cultural links to this species and assisting conservation efforts.



Northern corroboree frog. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Spotted tree frog (*Litoria spenceri*) – critically endangered



Spotted tree frog. David Hunter/DCCEEW

The spotted tree frog occurs along rocky streams in the central highlands of Victoria and a small area of Kosciuszko National Park in New South Wales. This species is declining across its range following the introduction of chytrid fungus and exotic fish species, and habitat degradation. The spotted tree frog would already be extinct in New South Wales if not for a captive breeding and reintroduction program by the NSW Government and the Amphibian Research Centre.

This species has been translocated to a new stream that may prove to be a refuge from chytrid fungus. The warmer temperatures of this stream are likely to be less favourable to the fungus. For the first 6 years post-release, the spotted tree frog population was increasing in numbers and expanding its range but was severely affected by the 2019–20 wildfires. Fortunately, the surviving population has begun to re-build, and was bolstered by another release of captive bred individuals in 2022.

Booroolong frog (*Litoria booroolongensis*) –endangered

The Booroolong frog has declined from much of its former known distribution because of habitat degradation and chytrid fungus. Ensuring the persistence of the species will rely on maintaining certain features of the river environment –especially rocky crevices in shallow water where this species likes to lay its eggs (see photo below). Key threats to these critical rocky habitats are weeds, particularly willows, and sedimentation caused by erosion. Several Local Land Services (Murray, Riverina and Central Tablelands) are undertaking weed control and riverbank protection where the Booroolong frog occurs.



Booroolong frog. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Alpine tree frog (*Litoria verreauxii alpina*)
– endangered



Alpine tree frog. David Hunter/DCCEEW

The alpine tree frog is a high-altitude subspecies of Verreaux's tree frog, which historically occurred across the entire high-country region of south-eastern mainland Australia. The introduction of chytrid fungus has caused the alpine tree frog to disappear from more than 90% of its former range. Over the past 2 decades the NSW Government has undertaken a monitoring program for the alpine tree frog. Fortunately, the results suggest that most remaining populations are persisting and stable, even in the face of severe drought and wildfire. Research has shown that this species is able to persist at some sites, despite much of the population being infected with chytrid.

Sloane's froglet (*Crinia sloanei*) – endangered

Sloane's froglet is estimated to have declined from over 90% of its former NSW range because of habitat degradation and fragmentation. Important populations in Albury and Corowa in southern New South Wales are threatened by ongoing habitat loss and fragmentation from urban and industrial development, and other land management practices, such as intensive livestock grazing around wetlands.

A Saving our Species conservation project has been developed to ensure these populations are secured, which includes incorporating suitable wetland breeding habitat into the urban and industrial stormwater system. Many partner organisations are involved in this project, including local councils, government agencies, universities, conservation groups and landholders. These partners are working together to ensure that urban development and land management is sensitive to the species' needs by maintaining a network of large and connected wetlands. This work is also being supported by a citizen science program known as 'Sloane's Champions'.



Sloane's froglet. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Southern bell frog (*Litoria raniformis*) – endangered

Until recently (around the 1980s), the southern bell frog occurred through a large portion of south-eastern Australia and was widespread in the southern tablelands, western slopes and south-western catchments of New South Wales. The species' dramatic decline is likely related to disease caused by chytrid fungus, regulation of flooding and river systems, over-grazing around wetlands, and degradation of aquatic habitat by exotic fish, such as carp.

Monitoring by NSW Government and partner organisations has shown that southern bell frogs respond well following large flood events in wet years, but contract back to refuge areas during dry times. A Saving our Species conservation project is focused on ensuring that priority southern bell frog wetlands receive targeted environmental water at the right times so they can support viable breeding populations of this species. This project is supported by numerous partners, including environmental water managers, irrigation companies, research institutions and landholders.



Southern bell frog. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Painted frog (*Neobatrachus pictus*) – endangered



Painted frog. Stephen Mahony/Australian Museum

The painted frog is widespread in south-eastern South Australia and western Victoria but has been found at only a few locations in New South Wales. Fewer than 30 individuals have been recorded in the state. However, it can be difficult to distinguish a painted frog from a common spadefoot frog (which is very similar in appearance), and both are active only after good rainfall, meaning they cannot be monitored or surveyed regularly.

The painted frog is a 'partnership species' under the Saving our Species program. Partnership species are threatened species found mainly in other states and territories – these species have less than 10% of their population in New South Wales. Key threats to painted frogs are likely to include fragmentation or loss of habitat through over-grazing and loss of suitable wetland habitats.



Information in this guide

The species described in this guide are separated into 2 types of frogs, which represent the major groups found in Australia: tree frogs and southern frogs. These groups are largely based on differences in the frogs' internal anatomy (or structure).

The following information is provided for each species to assist with identification in the field.

Description

This section describes the physical appearance of each species, including its size, colour, pattern, form and skin texture. Unlike many other animals (e.g. birds), frogs are often highly variable in colour and pattern. Many species can look very different from the pictures provided in this guide. Hence, it is necessary to use a range of features when identifying frog species (e.g. size, call, colour, pattern and habitat). In addition to a description of the frog species' size, the stylised frog next to the ruler provides an indication of the actual size of an adult male for that species. Females are often larger than males.

Call description

This section provides a written description of the calls made by each species. The call descriptions should be used with the recordings available through the QR code that links to the relevant FrogID webpage. Male frogs call during the breeding season to attract a mate (an 'advertisement' call). Their calls can be used to identify the species present. Male frogs often have other calls, including a threat call, which is different from the advertisement call and can confuse the listener. These calls are typically less frequent and often interspersed with the advertisement call.

Breeding season

This section describes when male frog calling activity is most likely. Depending on seasonal conditions, particularly temperature and rainfall patterns, males may also call outside this period.

Breeding habitat and behaviour

Where a frog is found (its habitat) may provide clues to its identification. Habitat includes both the micro-habitat, such as the location where a male calls from, and the broader habitat or water body type occupied by the species. Each species described has been assigned to broad water body types where it is likely to be found in the landscape. Explanations of these terms are provided on the following pages.

Conservation status

This section describes the conservation status of each species. Several frog species in the south-west region have disappeared from much of their former known range, primarily because of chytrid fungus and loss of habitat. Consequently, these species are listed as threatened at a state or national level, or both.

Geographic coverage and species distributions

This guide covers frog species that occur in the highlands, tablelands, slopes and floodplains of south-west New South Wales (see map below). Each species' entry includes a distribution map that broadly outlines where it might be found. This guide does not include the possible distribution of the species in adjacent states.



Water body types

Dams and large ponds

This water body type includes both natural ponds such as billabongs, and artificial wetlands like dams and lakes. Dams and large ponds can support many different frog species breeding in proximity to each other, depending on vegetation and structural complexity.



Example of a dam or large pond. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Seasonal rivers

These water bodies include rivers where the duration of surface-flowing water varies depending on the season. Most frogs occupying this wetland type will also use ponds and dams.



Example of a seasonal river. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Ephemeral claypans, swamps and floodplains

These water bodies provide ephemeral (temporary) habitat that will recede at different rates depending on rainfall and temperature. They vary greatly in size and only fill after rain, or as larger river or creek systems flood.



Example of a claypan. Helen P. Waudby/DCCEEW

Permanent rivers

These water bodies maintain surface-flowing water along a drainage line all year except during periods of severe drought, when surface water may be reduced to intermittent pools. They are structurally diverse, with varying depths, water flow rates, substrates and vegetation. Several frog species are restricted to this wetland type.



Example of a permanent river. Helen P. Waudby/DCCEEW

Small ponds and puddles

This water body type ranges from alpine sphagnum pools to roadside puddles that dry seasonally and includes ephemeral depressions (like gilgais) that only fill after rain. Many frog species can breed in relatively small water bodies. Many frogs that breed in small ponds also breed in soaks and seepages.



Example of a gilgai wetland. David Hunter/DCCEEW

Soaks and seepage lines

This water body type occurs at all altitudes and results when flowing groundwater is pushed to the surface, resulting in slow-moving, shallow surface water.



Example of a soak/seepage line. David Hunter/DCCEEW



Eastern water-holding frog

(*Cyclorana platycephala*)

Also known as the ‘water holding frog’.
A distinctive medium- to large-sized frog (65–110 mm) with eyes that sit very high on top of the head. The dorsal (the upper side or back of a frog) surface colour is either a warm brown, yellow-brown, or a yellow-ochre. The dorsal skin can be smooth or have tubercles and skin folds. When viewed from above, the nose is distinctly rounded. The belly is smooth and white. The toes are completely webbed.

Water body type

Ephemeral claypans, swamps and floodplains.



Call description

A soft, low-pitched moan with an inflection at the end: ‘wa-a-a-r’



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
cyclorana-platycephala](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/cyclorana-platycephala)

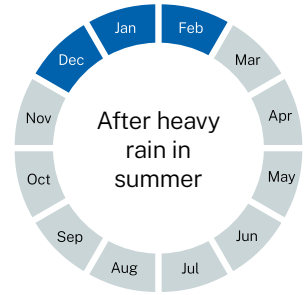
Gerry Marantelli/Amphibian Research Centre



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Eastern water-holding frogs can spend many years underground in a membranous cocoon, waiting for good rain. Adults breed opportunistically, emerging from underground after heavy rainfall. In the region covered by this guide, the species is primarily found in mallee woodlands. Breeding occurs after summer rainfall in floodplains and large clay pans. Males usually call while floating on the water's surface or sometimes from within aquatic vegetation. Eggs are deposited in large clumps that may sink if disturbed.

■ Breeding season

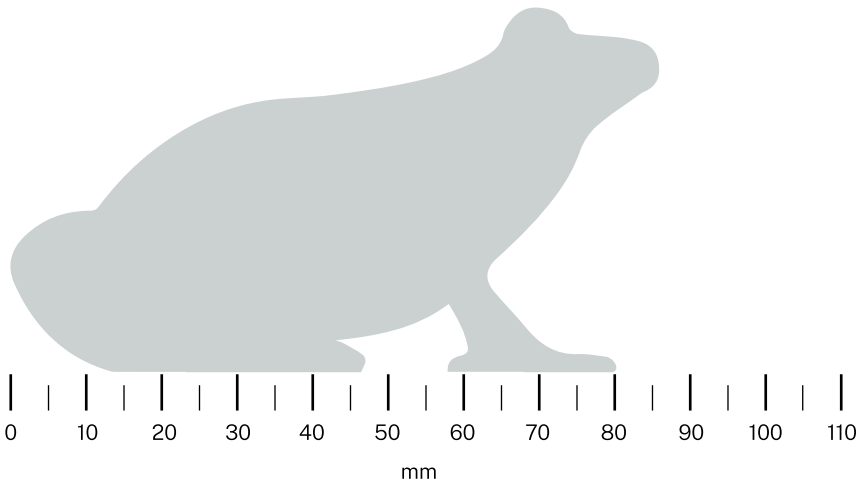


■ Distribution area



Conservation status

Not listed



Booroolong frog (*Litoria booroolongensis*)

A medium-sized frog (35–55 mm). The dorsal colour varies from light grey to brown with light and dark mottling and raised flecks. The thighs are typically a darker brown with lighter coloured spots. The belly is white and smooth. The toes are fully webbed except for the longest toe. The toepads are well-developed and noticeable.

Water body type

Permanent rivers

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

The call is a series of repeated 'crawwww, crawwww, crawwww'



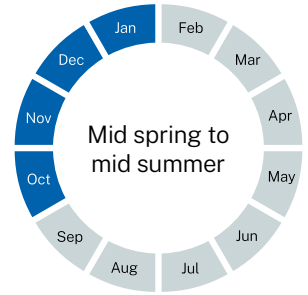
frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-booroolongensis



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Booroolong frogs breed from mid spring to summer in permanent rivers, particularly those with ample rocky habitat. The species can occupy streams flowing through cleared pastures, grasslands, woodlands and forest. The males call from exposed rocky banks, the call is relatively soft because the species lacks a distinct vocal sac. The females deposit their eggs in submerged rock crevices.

Breeding season



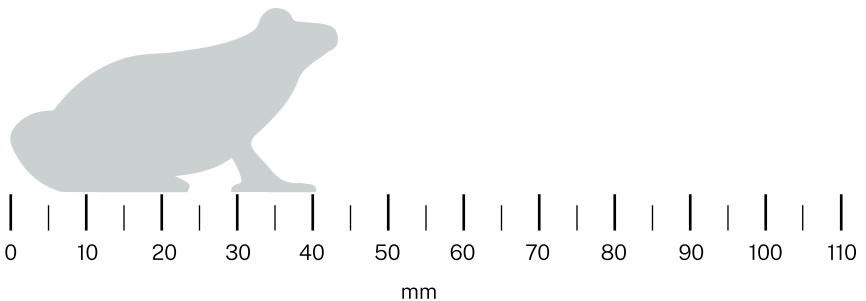
Conservation status

NSW status: endangered ●

National status: endangered ●

The species has declined from much of its former range, but persists along many streams, including those flowing through the agricultural landscape.

Distribution area



Green tree frog

(*Litoria caerulea*)

One of Australia's largest frogs (90–130 mm). The dorsal colour is a uniform bright green. White spots may be present on its sides and sometimes on the back. The back is typically smooth. The belly is white and grainy in texture. The groin is white and back of the thighs bright green. The eardrums are large and noticeable. The toes are about three-quarters webbed and the toepads are large. They shelter in hollow tree limbs, houses, toilets, water tanks and other artificial water sources during dry periods.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains and permanent rivers

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A deep: 'wark-wark-wark'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-caerulea



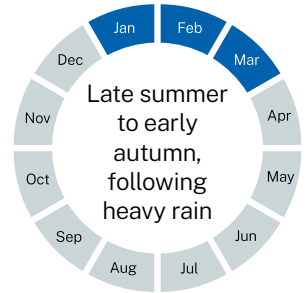
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Green tree frogs are typically associated with permanent water systems (e.g. rivers and creeks) and grassy ephemeral wetlands that form after good rain. The species occurs in a range of habitats Australia-wide, including woodlands, forests and grasslands. They are often heard calling from hiding spots during dry periods. Males call from near large ponds following heavy rain in late summer. Eggs are deposited in large floating clumps on the surface of the water.

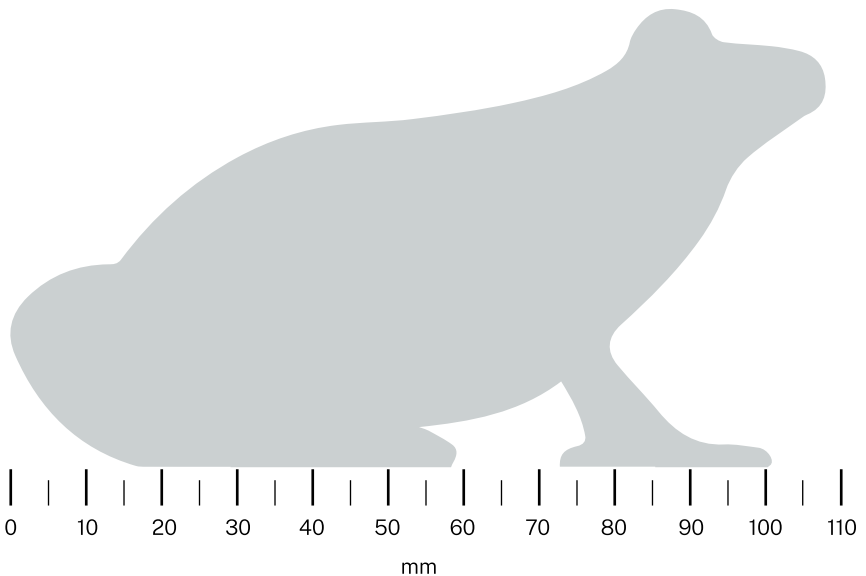
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Brown tree frog (*Litoria ewingii*)

A medium-sized tree frog (30–45 mm) that occurs along the eastern edge of the NSW southern tablelands and southern edge of the NSW western slopes. The dorsal colour is typically a light cream, grey, or brown colour with a broad darker brown band running down the back. The belly is white or cream. A black stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout, through the eye, to over the shoulder. The back of the thighs and groin are a bright yellow to orange-red colour without darker spots. The toes are half-webbed. The toepads are slightly wider than the toes.



Call description

A series of whirring pulses (5–10 times): ‘creee-creee-creee...’



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-ewingii

Nick Clemann/Zoos Victoria



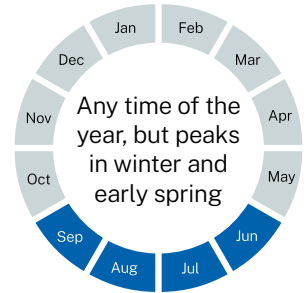
Water body type

Dams, large ponds, seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles

Breeding habitat and behaviour

Brown tree frogs occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They breed in farm dams, natural wetlands, stream-side pools and roadside ditches. Males call from vegetation overhanging the water, from the bank, or from among floating vegetation in the water. Eggs are attached in clusters to submerged sticks and vegetation in still water. Breeding can occur at any time of the year, but peaks in winter and early spring.

Breeding season

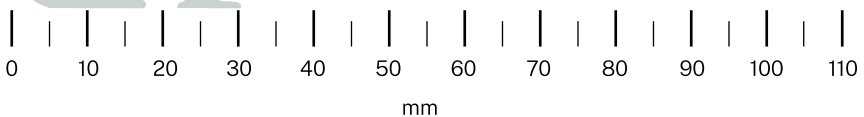


Distribution area



Conservation status

Not listed



Eastern dwarf tree frog (*Litoria fallax*)

A small-sized tree frog (20-30 mm) distributed along most of the east coast of Australia. The dorsal colour is typically bright green or bronze, with a bronze stripe that runs from the tip of the snout along the sides if the back is green, or small green patches if the back is bronze. A white stripe runs from under the eye to the arm. The belly is white. Males have a yellow throat with a bright orange vocal sac during the breeding season. The front sides of the lower legs and the groin are orange. The fingers are slightly webbed and the toes are three-quarters webbed, both with small pads. The toepads are slightly wider than the toes.



Call description

Calls have 2 parts: a long 'wreeeek' followed by a sharp 'kik kik, kik kik'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-fallax

Kelly Nowak/DCCEEW



Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, small ponds and puddles

Breeding habitat and behaviour

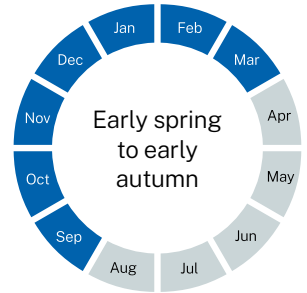
Eastern dwarf tree frogs occur in garden ponds, forests, heathlands and cleared pastures.

The species has been transported to Melbourne in Victoria, where some breeding populations are now present. Introduced populations have also turned up in north-eastern Victoria and around the towns of Albury and Griffith in south-west NSW.

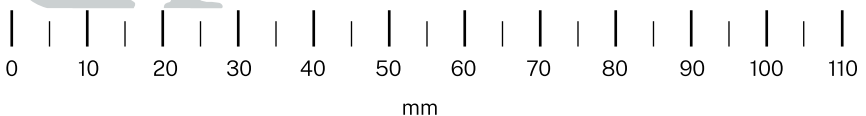
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Broad-palmed rocket frog (*Litoria latopalmata*)

Also known as the 'broad-palmed frog'. A medium-sized tree frog (30–45 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light grey or brown, often with darker blotches and slightly raised warts. A broad stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout to above the shoulder. The stripe is broken by a white bar in front of the eye. The backs of its thighs are a dark brown colour with yellow blotches. The toepads are not much wider than the toes.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles



Call description

A series of rapid 'yap, yap, yap, yap, yap'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-latopalmata

David Hunter/DCCEEW



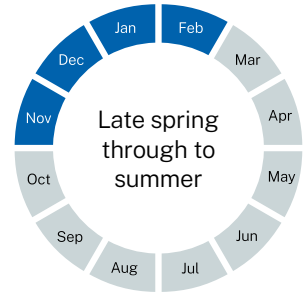
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Broad-palmed rocket frogs are found in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They breed from late spring through to summer in farm dams, natural wetlands and stream-side pools. Males call from the edge of the water in vegetation or on rocks. Eggs are laid in clusters near the surface of the water.

Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

Stony creek frog (*Litoria lesueuri*)

Also known as 'Lesueur's river frog'. A medium-sized tree frog (35–65 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light grey or brown, sometimes with darker blotches. Males turn a yellow colour during the breeding season. A dark stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout to above the shoulder. The backs of its thighs are a dark brown colour with yellow or blue blotches. The toepads are slightly wider than the toes.

Water body type

Permanent rivers



Call description

The call is a repeated 'craww, craww, craww'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-lesueuri

David Hunter/DCCEEW



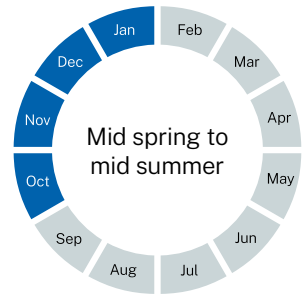
Breeding habitat and behaviour

The stony creek frog breeds from mid spring to mid summer in permanent rivers, particularly where ample rocky habitat is available. It can occupy streams flowing through cleared pastures, grasslands, woodlands and forest. The males call from exposed rocky banks, the call is relatively soft because this species lacks a distinct vocal sac. The females deposit eggs in submerged rock crevices.

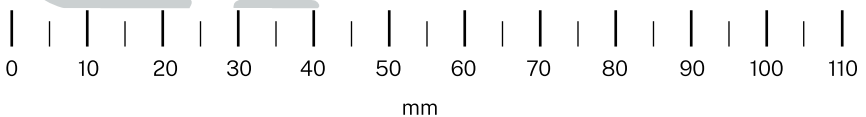
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Southern green stream frog (*Litoria nudidigitus*)

Also known as the 'southern leaf-green river frog'. A small-to medium-sized tree frog (30–45 mm) that is very similar to the northern green leaf river frog. The dorsal colour is a light green to dark olive. Some populations have individuals with brown flecks and small raised warts. A light silver-to gold-coloured stripe runs from the snout, across the top of the eye and down the side of the body. The armpits, groin and backs of thighs are a dark red or purple colour. The toes are partially webbed. The toepads are broader than the toe.

Water body type

Permanent rivers

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

The call has 2 parts:
'eeerrrrr –cuk, cuk'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-nudidigita



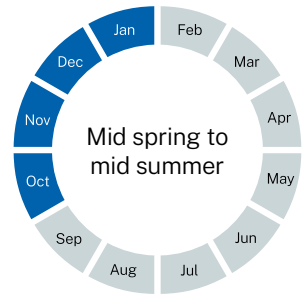
Breeding habitat and behaviour

This species breeds from mid spring to mid summer in pools and slow-flowing sections of permanent rivers, typically in wet and dry forests. Males call from vegetation along the bank. Females deposit eggs in clusters that are attached to submerged sticks and other vegetation.

Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

Victorian tree frog (*Litoria paraewingi*)

Also known as the 'plains tree frog'. A medium-sized tree frog (35–45 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light cream or brown, with a broad darker brown band that runs down the back and is divided by a paler stripe running directly down the backbone. The belly is white or cream. A broad dark stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout, through the eye, to over the shoulder. The back of the thighs and groin are a bright yellow to orange-red colour. The toes are half-webbed. The toepads are wider than the toes.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, permanent rivers, seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A series of whistling pulses (5–10 times): 'creeee-creeee-creeee-creeee ...'



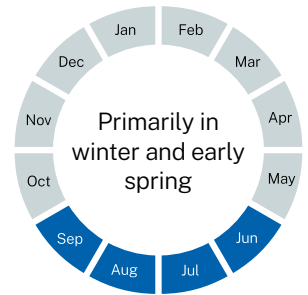
frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-paraewingi



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Victorian tree frogs occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They breed primarily from winter to early spring in farm dams, natural wetlands, streams and roadside ditches. Males call from vegetation overhanging the water, from the bank, or from floating vegetation. Eggs are attached in clusters to submerged sticks and vegetation in still water.

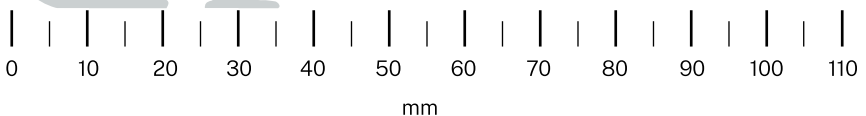
Breeding season



Conservation status

Not listed

Distribution area



Peron's tree frog (*Litoria peronii*)

Sometimes also known as the 'maniacal cackle frog' because of its distinctive call. A medium-to large-sized tree frog (45–65 mm). The dorsal colour is variable, ranging from light grey to dark brown, often with darker blotches. The back is covered in fine emerald-green flecks. The eye has a vertical stripe that, in combination with the horizontal pupil, gives the appearance of a cross-shaped pupil. The armpits, groin and backs of thighs have bold yellow and black marbling. The toes are half webbed and the toepads are large.



Call description

A rapid cackle with a downward inflection: 'eehh, ehh, ehh, ehh, ehh, ehh'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-peronii

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent and seasonal rivers

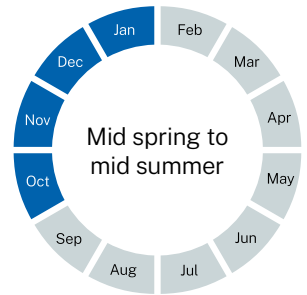
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Peron's tree frogs occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They breed from mid spring to mid summer in farm dams, natural wetlands and slow sections of streams. Males typically call from vegetation or logs either within or overhanging the water. Eggs are laid singularly or in small groups among leaf litter and vegetation.

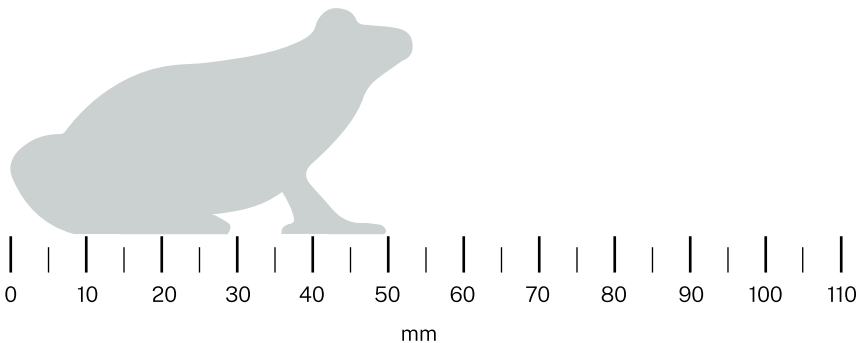
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Southern bell frog (*Litoria raniformis*)

Sometimes also known as the growling grass frog. A large frog (55–110mm) that historically occurred throughout the southern tablelands and south-west slopes region. The dorsal colour and pattern can be highly variable, but typically consist of a background of olive to emerald green with irregular dark brown to gold markings. The back is warty, with a pale green stripe down the middle. The groin and back of thighs are bright blue and the belly is white. The toes are webbed, and toepads are small.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent and seasonal rivers

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A drawn-out 'waaaaaah, waaaaaah' followed by a rapid series of pulses 'rah-rah-rah-rah-rah'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-raniformis



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Southern bell frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They often bask in direct sunlight adjacent to water and will jump into the water when disturbed. Males usually call from within the water among emergent vegetation or other debris from mid spring through summer.

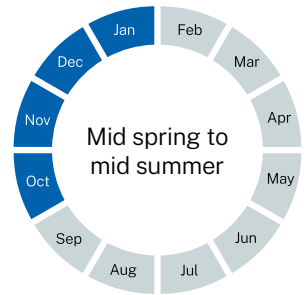
Conservation status

NSW status: endangered ●

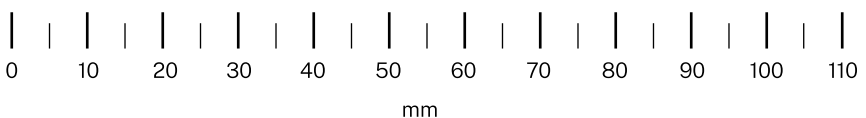
National status: vulnerable ●

Historically, the species occurred across much of the NSW southern tablelands and NSW slopes, but no persistent populations are currently known in this region. In NSW, the species is now only known from the south-west where it can be locally common, particularly in irrigation areas or after large floods.

■ Breeding season



■ Distribution area



Red tree frog (*Litoria rubella*)

Also known as the ‘desert tree frog’.
A small-to medium-sized frog (30–40 mm) with relatively short legs. The dorsal colour varies from grey to red-brown, with some individuals having darker flecks. A dark band runs from the nostril, over the shoulder and down the side of the body. The groin is typically a yellow colour, while the hind edges of the thighs are brown with white flecks. The toes are two-thirds webbed. The toepads are wider than the toes.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A harsh buzz:
‘eeerrrrrrrrrrrrrr’



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-rubella



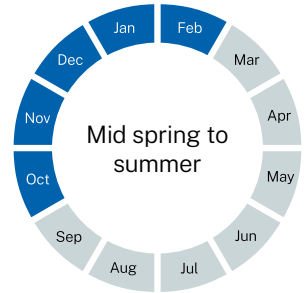
Breeding habitat and behaviour

A highly adaptable frog that is often associated with human dwellings. Breeding typically occurs in water bodies that become inundated after heavy summer rain.

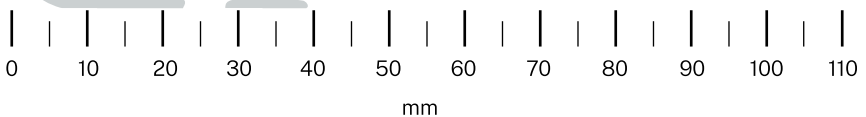
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Spotted tree frog (*Litoria spenceri*)

A medium-sized frog (40–55 mm). The dorsal colour typically consists of a pale grey or brown, often with darker brown or olive spots. The back has a warty texture. The pupil is horizontal, and a patch of green is often present under the eye. The toes are fully webbed. The toepads are wider than the toes.

Water body type

Permanent rivers



Call description

There are 2 parts to the call:
'eeerrrrrrr-crer,
crer, crer, crer'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-spenceri

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Spotted tree frogs breed from mid spring to early summer along rocky permanent rivers in dry and wet forest. Males typically call from rocks within or along the edge of the stream. Eggs are laid in rock crevices. These frogs often bask in direct sunlight adjacent to moving water and will jump into the water when disturbed.

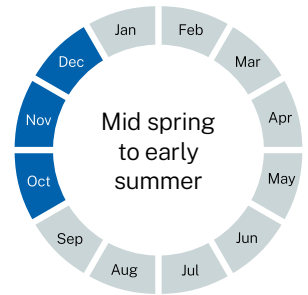
Conservation status

NSW status: critically endangered ●

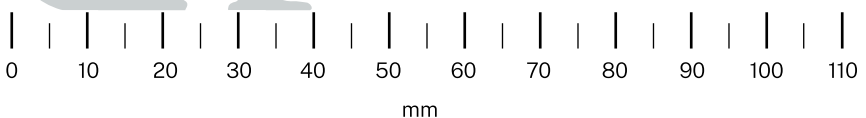
National status: endangered ●

The only known population in New South Wales occurs in Kosciuszko National Park in the upper Murray catchment.

Breeding season



Distribution area



Whistling tree frog and alpine tree frog

(*Litoria verreauxii verreauxii*,
Litoria verreauxii alpina)

A medium-sized tree frog (30–45 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light cream or brown, often green at higher altitudes. A broad dark brown band runs down the back and is divided by a paler stripe running down the backbone. Lower altitude populations have a smooth back, while higher altitude populations have a rough, warty back. The belly is white or cream. A broad dark stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout, through the eye, to over the shoulder. The back of the thighs and groin are bright yellow to orange-red with darker spots. The toes are half-webbed. The toepads are the same width as the toes.

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A series of rising whistles:
'Weeeee, Weeeee,
Weeeee.....'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-verreauxii



Water body type

Dams, large ponds, permanent rivers, seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles

Breeding habitat and behaviour

The species occurs in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. It breeds primarily from winter to late spring in farm dams, natural wetlands, streams and roadside ditches. Males call from vegetation overhanging the water, from the bank, or from among floating vegetation within the water. Eggs are attached in clusters to submerged sticks and vegetation in still or slow-moving water.

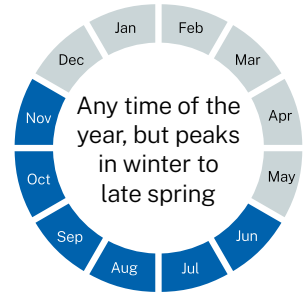
Conservation status

NSW status: endangered ●

National status: vulnerable ●

The alpine subspecies (alpine tree frog, *Litoria verreauxii alpina*) is listed as endangered in New South Wales, and vulnerable nationally. This subspecies occurs above 1200 m in the Snowy Mountains region.

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

Eastern stony creek frog (*Litoria wilcoxii*)

Also known as the 'rocky river tree frog'. A medium-sized tree frog (35–65 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light grey or brown, sometimes with darker blotches. Males turn a bright yellow when calling during the breeding season. A dark stripe runs along the side of the head from the snout to above the shoulder. The backs of the thighs are a dark brown colour with yellow blotches. The toepads are slightly wider than the toes.

Water body type

Permanent rivers



Call description

A series of repeated 'crawkl, crawkl, crawkl'



frogid.net.au/frogs/litoria-wilcoxii

David Hunter/DCCEEW



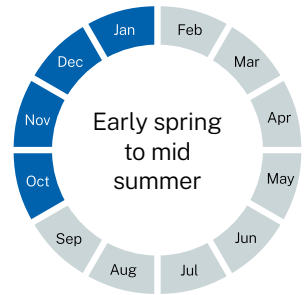
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Eastern stony creek frogs breed in permanent rivers, particularly where ample rocky habitat is available. The species can occupy streams flowing through cleared pastures, grasslands, woodlands and forest. The males call from exposed rocky banks, the call is relatively soft because the species lacks a distinct vocal sac. The females deposit eggs in submerged rock crevices.

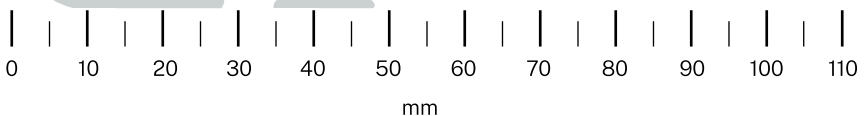
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Eastern sign-bearing froglet (*Crinia parinsignifera*)

Also known as the 'plains froglet'. A small frog (20–30 mm) that is common throughout the central and southern tablelands and adjacent slopes. The dorsal skin has raised warts and ridges, which are mottled with colours ranging from light cream through to dark brown. The belly is typically grey with darker flecks. The toes lack webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent rivers, seasonal rivers, small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A single drawn-out note:
'eeeeeeeeeeee'



frogid.net.au/frogs/crinia-parinsignifera

David Hunter/DCCEEW



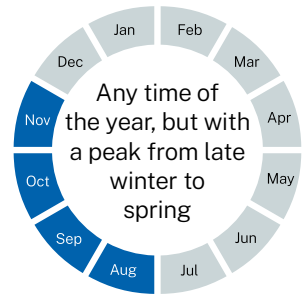
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Eastern sign-bearing froglets occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds in a large range of water body types, from large permanent wetlands, flowing rivers, to small puddles. Breeding may occur at any time of year but peaks from late winter to spring. Males may call from open sites, from within vegetation, or from submerged vegetation. Eggs are typically scattered singularly on the substrate but may also be attached to submerged vegetation.

Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

Common eastern froglet (*Crinia signifera*)

A small frog (20–25 mm) that is common throughout the region covered by this guide. The dorsal colour and texture is highly variable, ranging from smooth with a uniform colour to raised warts and ridges with contrasting stripes and mottles of light cream through to dark brown. The belly is typically granular and is mottled with white and light and dark grey. The toes lack webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent rivers, seasonal rivers, small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A series of rapid ratchet sounds: 'crick, crick, crick'



frogid.net.au/frogs/crinia-signifera

David Hunter/DCCEEW



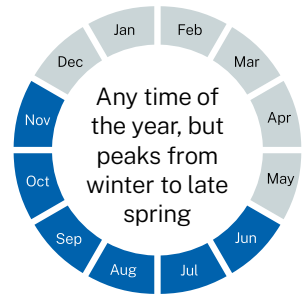
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Common eastern froglets occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds in a large range of water body types, from large permanent wetlands and flowing rivers to small puddles. Breeding may occur at any time of year but peaks from late winter to spring. Males may call from open sites, from within vegetation, or from submerged vegetation. Eggs are typically scattered singularly on the substrate but may also be attached to submerged vegetation.

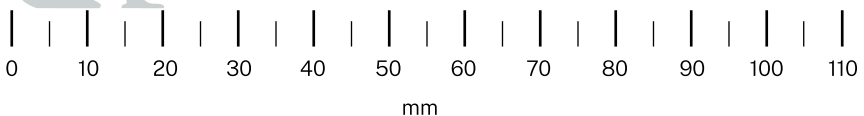
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Sloane's froglet (*Crinia sloanei*)

A small frog (15–25 mm) that occurs on the western edge of the slopes region. The dorsal skin has raised warts and ridges, which are mottled with colours ranging from light cream through to dark brown and olive. Raised warts are often capped with orange. The belly is typically grey with darker flecks. The toes lack webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A single sharp 'eeh' or 'chip', often repeated in close succession



frogid.net.au/frogs/crinia-sloanei

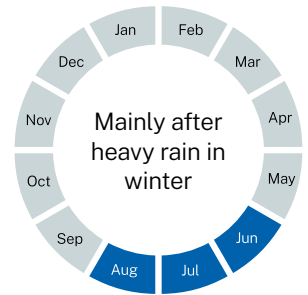
David Hunter/DCCEEW



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Sloane's froglets occur in forests, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds in a large range of water body types, from large permanent wetlands to small puddles, primarily in areas that become inundated with winter rainfall. Males typically call from submerged vegetation. Clusters of single eggs are typically attached to submerged vegetation.

Breeding season



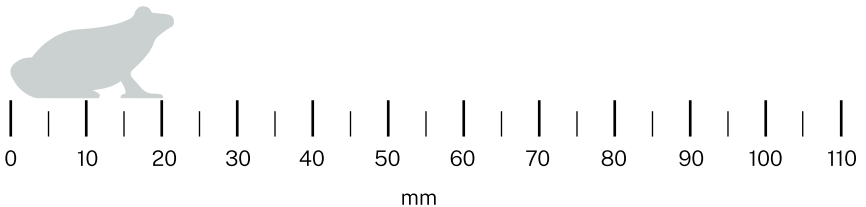
Conservation status

NSW status: endangered ●

National status: endangered ●

A poorly known species that may have contracted in recent years from much of its former range.

Distribution area



Eastern banjo frog (*Limnodynastes dumerilii*)

Also known as the ‘pobblebonk frog’. A large burrowing frog (55–85 mm) that occurs throughout the NSW tablelands and western slopes region. Two subspecies are recognised in the tablelands region: *L. dumerilii dumerilii*, which occurs at altitudes below 1,000 m, and *L. dumerilii fryi*, which occurs at higher altitudes in the Snowy Mountains. The dorsal colour can be variable, ranging from grey to dark brown or olive green. Individuals may have irregular dark markings or a stripe down the middle of the back. A raised, prominent pale stripe runs from below the eye to above the arm. The back is moderately warty, and the belly is smooth. The toes are one-quarter webbed. A prominent raised gland is present on the lower leg.

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A short resonating ‘bonk’. Males often call in chorus, producing a rapid series of ‘bonks’



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-dumerilii](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-dumerilii)



Water body type

Dams, large ponds, permanent and seasonal rivers

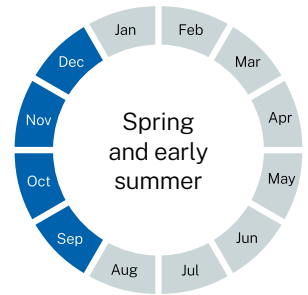
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Eastern banjo frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds from spring to early summer in large permanent dams and wetlands, and streams. Males usually call from the water among emergent vegetation or other debris. Eggs are laid in a large floating foamy mass.

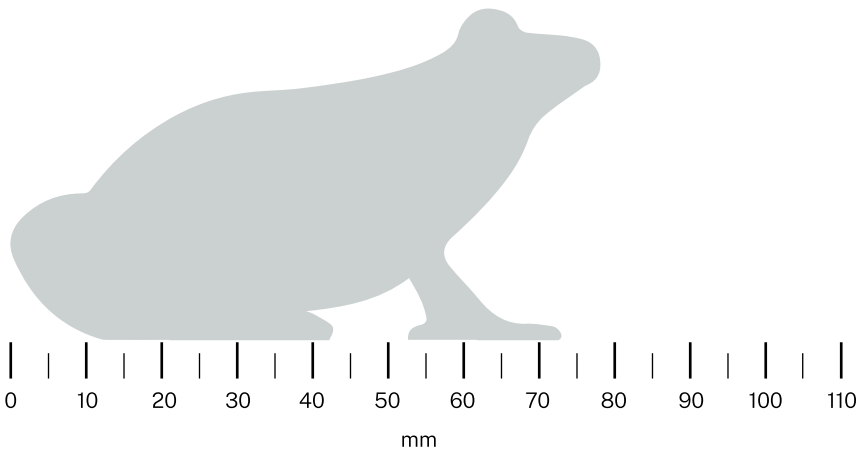
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Barking frog

(Limnodynastes fletcheri)

A medium-sized frog (40–45 mm) that occurs along the western edge of the NSW slopes region. The dorsal colour can be highly variable, with irregular dark blotches of brown or green. An irregular orange patch is usually present on the upper eyelid. The belly is white and the skin is smooth. The toes have very little webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent rivers, seasonal rivers



Call description

Typically a single barking pulse: 'rup'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-fletcheri](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-fletcheri)

David Hunter/DCCEEW



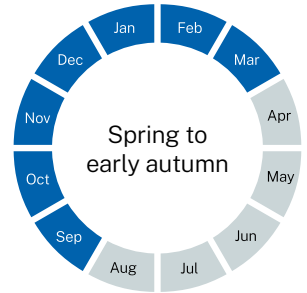
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Barking frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species typically breeds from spring to early autumn in grassy areas that have been inundated at the edge of ponds, large lakes or rivers. Males usually call from the water among emergent vegetation or other debris. Eggs are laid in a large floating foamy mass.

Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

Giant banjo frog

(Limnodynastes interioris)

Also known as the 'giant pobblebonk frog'. A large burrowing frog (65–90 mm) that occurs along the western edge of the NSW slopes region. The dorsal colour is typically a pale brown, yellow and orange, with a yellow belly. Most individuals have irregular dark markings on the back. A raised, prominent orange stripe runs from below the eye to above the arm. The back is moderately warty and the belly is smooth. The toes are one-quarter webbed. A prominent raised orange gland is present on the lower leg.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent and seasonal rivers

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A deep resonating 'bonk'. Males often call in chorus, producing a rapid series of 'bonks'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-interioris](https://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-interioris)



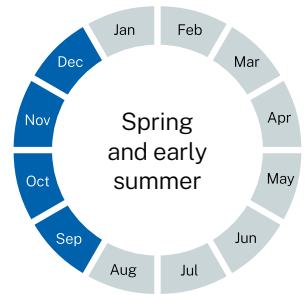
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Giant banjo frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. They breed from spring to early summer in large permanent dams and wetlands, and streams. Males usually call from the water among emergent vegetation or other debris. Eggs are laid in a large floating foamy mass.

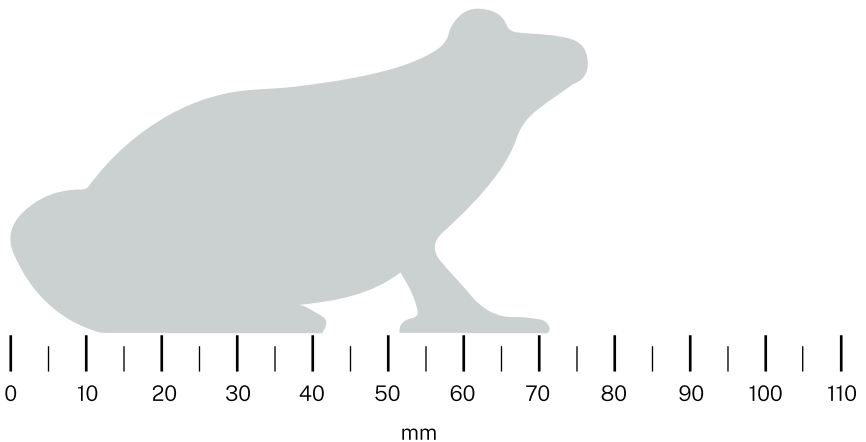
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Striped marsh frog (*Limnodynastes peronii*)

A medium-sized frog (40–50 mm) that has a patchy distribution throughout the NSW tablelands and western slopes region. The dorsal colour is typically a light grey-brown with darker longitudinal stripes, and sometimes a paler stripe running down the back. The belly is white and the skin is smooth. The toes have very little webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, permanent and seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles



Call description

A single loud 'tok'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-peronii](https://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-peronii)

David Hunter/DCCEEW



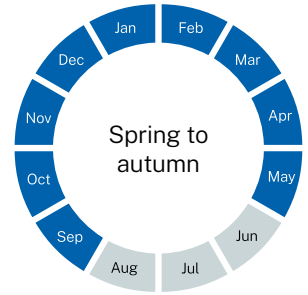
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Striped marsh frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds from spring to autumn in large permanent dams and wetlands, and also in smaller pools that tend to dry out. Males usually call from the water among emergent vegetation or other debris. Eggs are laid in a large floating foamy mass.

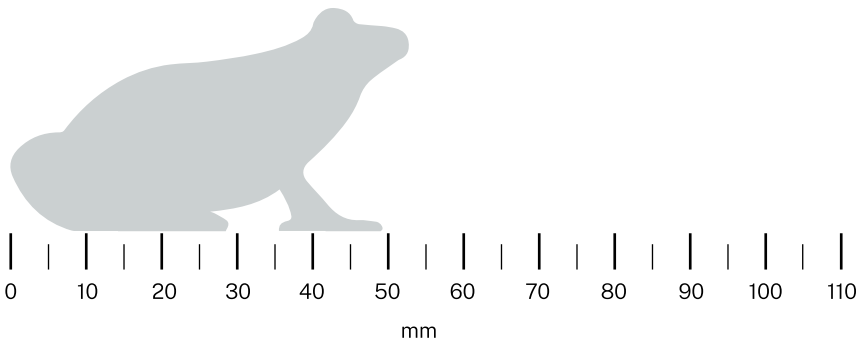
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Salmon-striped frog (*Limnodynastes salmini*)

A medium-sized frog (60–75 mm) with a distribution that primarily includes the northern part of the area covered by this guide. The dorsal colour is typically brown or grey-brown with darker brown spots or patches. A distinctive pink stripe is present on either side of the body and along the back. The belly is a whitish colour that may have some brown markings. The toes are only slightly webbed.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, small ponds and puddles



Call description

A loud repeated
'wuk'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-salmini](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-salmini)

Joanne Ocock/DCCEEW



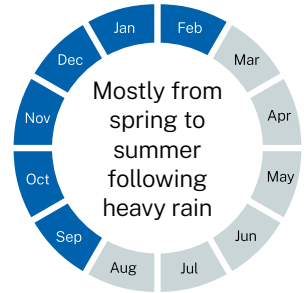
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Salmon-striped frogs emerge from underground to breed following rainfall in spring and summer. The species is typically associated with dams and grassy ephemeral wetlands that form after rain. Individuals can be found sheltering under logs and bark and following rainfall may also be found in artificial structures associated with human dwellings. Males call from the water's edge or from underneath vegetation in the water. Eggs are deposited in large foamy masses among vegetation at the edge of water bodies.

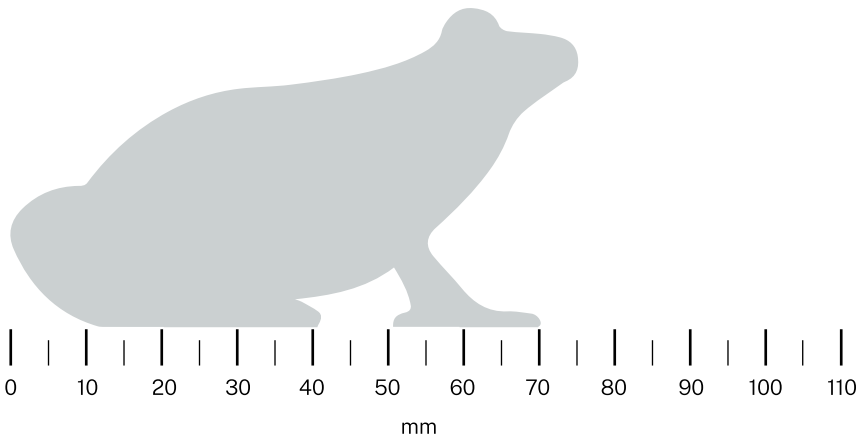
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Spotted marsh frog (*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*)

Also known as the 'spotted grass frog'. A small-to medium-sized frog (35–45 mm) that occurs throughout the NSW tablelands and western slopes region. The dorsal colour can be highly variable, with irregular spots and blotches of brown or green. Some individuals have a stripe running down the back that varies from white to red. Irregular orange to red markings may be present on other parts of the body. The belly is white and the skin is smooth. The toes have very little webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, permanent and seasonal rivers, small ponds and puddles

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

Typically a rapid series of 3 pulses: 'uk-uk-uk'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
limnodynastes-tasmaniensis](https://frogid.net.au/frogs/limnodynastes-tasmaniensis)



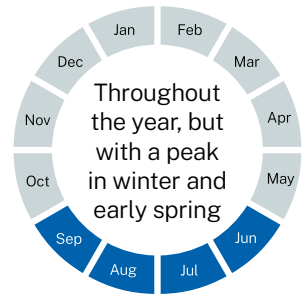
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Spotted marsh frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds in a large variety of wetlands, from large permanent dams to small roadside puddles. Males usually call from the water among emergent vegetation or other debris. Eggs are laid in a large floating foamy mass.

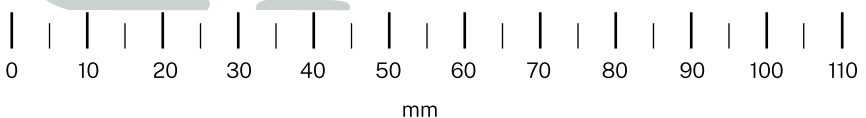
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Painted frog (*Neobatrachus pictus*)

A stout medium-sized frog (55–65 mm) with a head that is wider than it is long. The dorsal surface colour is a mix of brown, beige, yellow and/or yellowish-green with many dark brown to black patches. A cream or yellow stripe typically runs down the backbone. The belly is smooth and white. The toes are about three-quarters webbed in females and nearly completely webbed in males. Easily mistaken for Sudell's frog (*Neobatrachus sudellae*) with which it shares much of its range.

Water body type

Ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains and permanent rivers

Stephen Mahony/DCCEEW



Call description

A long and low-pitched repeated trilling



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
neobatrachus-pictus](https://frogid.net.au/frogs/neobatrachus-pictus)



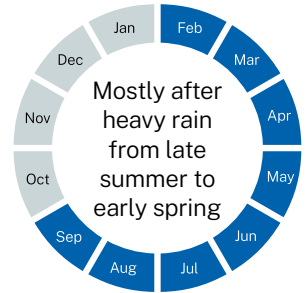
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Painted frogs breed opportunistically in large numbers, emerging from underground after heavy rainfall from late summer to early spring. In the region covered by this guide, the species is usually found in woodlands and grasslands in shallow ephemeral pools, dams, and in the slower-flowing sections of larger creeks and river systems. Males call as they float on the water's surface with only their head showing, or from among aquatic vegetation. Eggs are deposited in loose clumps near the water's surface or in vegetation, or both. Eggs are often attached to one another by thin strands.

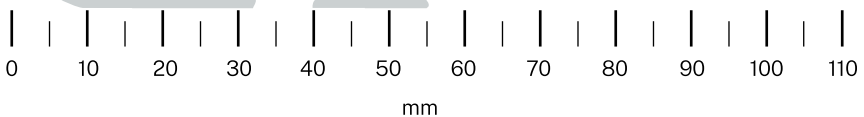
Conservation status

NSW status: endangered ●

Breeding season



Distribution area



Sudell's frog

(*Neobatrachus sudellae*)

Also known as the 'common spadefoot frog'. A medium-sized burrowing frog (35–50 mm) that occurs throughout the lower slopes and inland areas, extending to drier parts of the tablelands. The dorsal colour pattern consists of a fine to coarse patterning of lighter and darker yellows, browns, greys and olive greens. Its back typically has low warts, and the belly is smooth and white. The pupil is vertical, toes are webbed, and the underside of the foot has a distinctive black metatarsal tubercle (a hard skin fold under the foot).

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, small ponds and puddles

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A rapid or slowly (depending on temperature) pulsed trill: 'craw-aw-aw-aw-aw-aw'



frogid.net.au/frogs/neobatrachus-sudellae



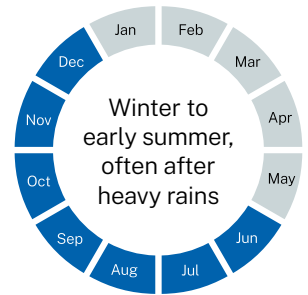
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Sudell's frogs occur in woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pastures. The species breeds in large permanent dams and wetlands, and also small ephemeral ponds. Males usually call from open water. Eggs are laid in long jelly strings that initially float near the surface or are wrapped around vegetation.

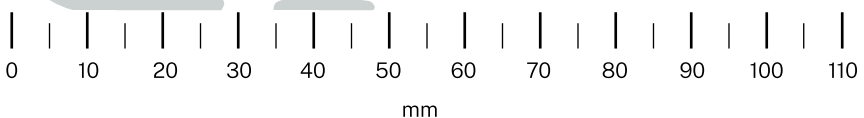
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Crucifix frog (*Notaden bennettii*)

Also known as the 'holy cross frog'. A plump medium-sized frog (60–70 mm) primarily found in inland arid and semi-arid areas. The dorsal surface is covered by a series of black, raised warts and smaller red dots that form the distinctive cross-like pattern. The background dorsal colour is yellow or yellowish-green. The sides of the body have white-tipped tubercles and red-orange dots. The eyes are large and sit close to the nose. The belly is white. The toes are around one-quarter webbed.

Water body type

Ephemeral claypans, swamps and floodplains



Call description

A high-pitched 'whoop, whoop'



frogid.net.au/frogs/notaden-bennettii

Joanne Ocock/DCCEEW



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Crucifix frogs breed opportunistically, emerging from underground following heavy rainfall from late winter through to early autumn. Usually found in woodlands and grasslands with clay soils or in red sandy soils with a clay base. Breeding occurs in shallow ephemeral wetlands or flooded areas, and possibly the fringes of large swamps. Eggs are deposited in clumps that float on the surface of the water (sometimes attached to vegetation underneath).

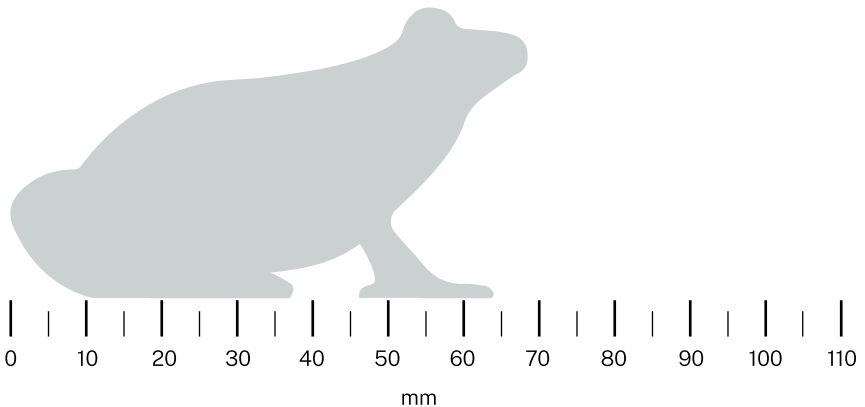
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Bibron's toadlet (*Pseudophryne bibronii*)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm) that occurs across much of south-eastern Australia. The dorsal colour varies from brown to light or dark grey, typically with darker flecks and sometimes orange-capped warts. The back is typically covered in low warts. A bright yellow or orange patch is often present on the vent and base of the arms. The belly is smooth or slightly granular and is marked with bold black and white mottling. The toes lack webbing. The species typically crawls rather than hops.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A short, rapid, grating sound: 'cre-ek'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
pseudophryne-bibronii](https://frogid.net.au/frogs/pseudophryne-bibronii)



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Bibron's toadlet occurs in forests, heathlands and grasslands, and often in areas that have been highly modified. Breeding habitat includes ephemeral pools and seepage lines that are typically dry during the breeding season from late summer to early winter. Males call from terrestrial nests in vegetation and soil in areas that will flood following major rain events. The eggs are deposited in these terrestrial nests where they develop through to hatching stage. When their nests flood, the eggs are stimulated to hatch and the tadpoles can move into the main pool.

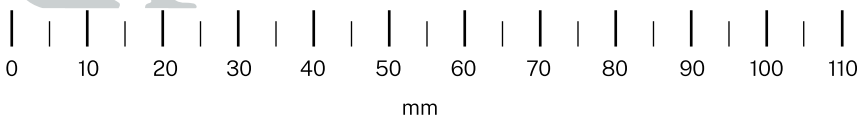
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Southern corroboree frog (*Pseudophryne corroboree*)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm). The dorsal colour consists of bold yellow and black stripes. The belly is smooth with yellow, black and white mottling. The toes lack webbing. The species typically crawls rather than hops.

Water body type

Small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A short, grating sound: 'creeeee-ek'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
pseudophryne-corroboree](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/pseudophryne-corroboree)

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Southern corroboree frogs occur in montane and sub-alpine woodlands, heathlands, sphagnum bogs and grasslands. Breeding habitat includes ephemeral pools and seepage lines that are typically dry during the mid-summer breeding season. Males call from terrestrial nests in vegetation and soil in areas that will flood following significant rain events. The eggs are deposited in these terrestrial nests where they develop through to hatching stage. When their nests flood, the eggs are stimulated to hatch and the tadpoles can move into the main pool.

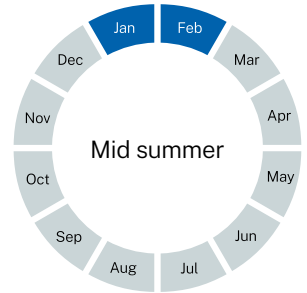
Conservation status

NSW status: critically endangered ●

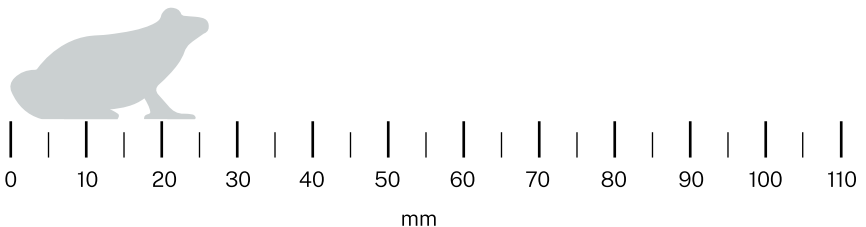
National status: critically endangered ●

This species would be completely extinct if not for the establishment of a captive assurance colony and reintroductions back to the wild in Kosciuszko National Park.

Breeding season



Distribution area



Dendy's toadlet

(Pseudophryne dendyi)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm) with a limited distribution in the tablelands region. The dorsal colour is typically dark brown or black with yellow patches on the upper arm, vent, thighs, and sometimes between the eyes. The belly is smooth with bold black and white marbling. The toes lack webbing. The species typically crawls rather than hops.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A short, grating sound: 'cre-ek'



[frogid.net.au/frogs/
pseudophryne-dendyi](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/pseudophryne-dendyi)

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Dendy's toadlet occurs in forests, heathlands and grasslands, often in areas that have been highly modified. Breeding habitat includes ephemeral pools and seepage lines that are typically dry during the breeding season from late summer to early winter. Males call from terrestrial nests in vegetation and soil in areas that will flood following significant rain events. The eggs are deposited in these terrestrial nests where they develop through to hatching stage. When their nests flood, the eggs are stimulated to hatch and the tadpoles can move into the main pool.

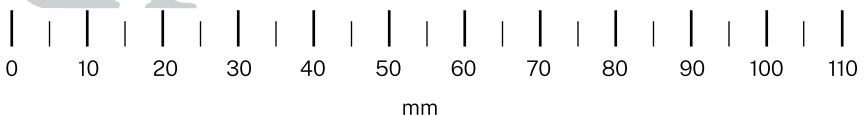
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Northern corroboree frog (*Pseudophryne pengilleyi*)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm). The dorsal colour consists of bold yellow or lime green and black stripes. The belly is smooth with yellow or lime green, and black and white mottling. The toes lack webbing. The species typically crawls rather than hops.

Water body type

Small ponds, puddles, soaks and seepage lines



Call description

A short, grating sound: ‘creeeee-ek’, similar to the call of the southern corroboree frog



David Hunter/DCCEEW

[frogid.net.au/frogs/
pseudophryne-pengilleyi](http://frogid.net.au/frogs/pseudophryne-pengilleyi)



Breeding habitat and behaviour

Northern corroboree frogs occur in montane and sub-alpine woodlands, heathlands, sphagnum bogs and grasslands. Breeding habitat includes ephemeral pools and seepage lines that are typically dry during the breeding season. Males call from terrestrial nests in vegetation and soil in areas that will flood following major rain events. The eggs are deposited in these terrestrial nests where they develop through to hatching stage. When their nests flood, the eggs are stimulated to hatch and the tadpoles can move into the main pool.

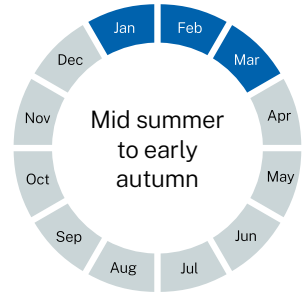
Conservation status

NSW status: critically endangered ●

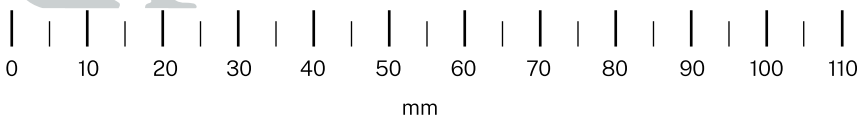
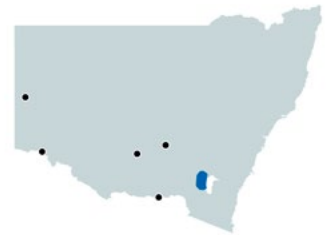
National status: critically endangered ●

This species is continuing to decline due to the chytrid fungus, and a large scale captive breeding program is being established to prevent complete extinction.

Breeding season



Distribution area



Smooth toadlet

(Uperoleia laevisgata)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm). The dorsal colour is typically a light brown or grey with darker blotches and patterns. A prominent pale triangular patch is usually present on top of the head. The groin and back of the thighs are a bright orange or red colour. The skin on the back is granular, and the belly is smooth with a light background and darker flecks and patterns. The toes lack webbing.

Water body type

Dams and large ponds



Call description

A short, squelching sound: 'aannnnk'



frogid.net.au/frogs/uperoleia-laevisgata

David Hunter/DCCEEW



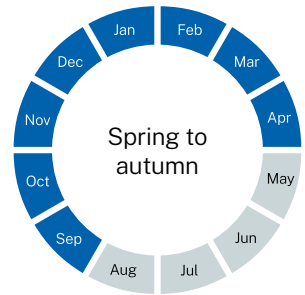
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Smooth toadlets occur in forests, woodlands, heathlands, grasslands and cleared pasture areas. Breeding habitat typically includes large dams with grassy areas that become inundated after heavy rain. Males call from the land or in the water. Clusters of single eggs are deposited on submerged vegetation or other debris.

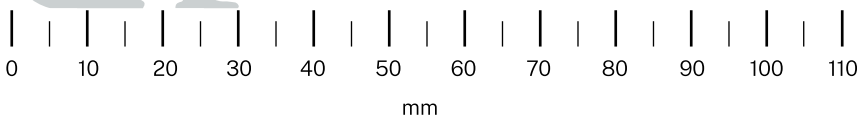
Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



Wrinkled toadlet (*Uperoleia rugosa*)

A small terrestrial frog (25–35 mm) that occurs along the western edge of the slopes region. The dorsal colour is typically a light brown or grey with darker blotches and patterns. A prominent pale triangular patch is usually present on top of the head. The groin and backs of the thighs have an orange patch. The skin on the back is granular, and the belly is smooth and grey in colour. The toes have only a small amount of webbing.

Water body type

Dams, large ponds, ephemeral claypans, swamps, floodplains, small ponds and puddles

David Hunter/DCCEEW



Call description

A short, sharp
'click'



frogid.net.au/frogs/uperoleia-rugosa



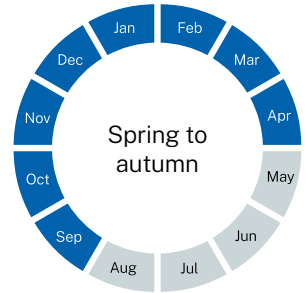
Breeding habitat and behaviour

Wrinkled toadlets occur in dry woodlands and grasslands where they breed from spring to autumn along the margins of wetlands and areas that become inundated after heavy rain. Males call from the land or in the water. Clusters of single eggs are deposited on submerged vegetation or other debris.

Conservation status

Not listed

Breeding season



Distribution area



mm

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More information

FrogID website: www.frogid.net.au

Sloane's Champions – Citizen Science Monitoring Program:
wtlandcare.org/sloanes-champions-citizen-science-monitoring-program



Spotted tree frog. George Madani/Birdlife Australia

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