This guide is intended to help landowners and other interested people discover the frogs of the Macquarie Marshes. Frogs are an important part of the Marshes food web. My research aims to shed light on what the frogs of the Marshes need to be happy and healthy. I’m interested in hearing about what frogs you see and where you see them, and happy to answer any questions.

Please contact me on jo.ocock@gmail.com or awrc@unsw.edu.au

**Crucifix toad**
*Notaden bennetti*

This frog spends most of its time burrowed underground. It breeds in temporary rain-filled ponds or the edge of flood waters after heavy rain when it’s warm. It has a very distinctive appearance!

Photos: top to bottom: Angela Rehn / Jodi Rowley

**Ornate burrowing frog**
*Platyplectrum ornatum*

Found in sandy areas, like near the Terrigal creek, after heavy rain in temporary and high flood waters. This frog can be very variable in colouring (see picture below – they are the same species!)

Photos: Jo Ocock

**Painted burrowing frog**
*Neobatrachus sudelli*

Also a burrowing frog, this one has a round nose. There is some skin colour variation, with yellow, chocolate and cream colours seen. Again, usually only seen after heavy rains near temporary and high flood waters.

Photos: Jo Ocock

**Burrowing frogs**

**Yorkshire waterholding frog**
*Cyclorana platycephala*

Another frog that burrows underground, this one makes a cocoon from layers of skin! It is also mostly known from red clay soil areas, near temporary rain-filled ponds after heavy rain.

Photos: top to bottom: Jo Ocock / Jodi Rowley

**Barking marsh frog**
*Limnodynastes fletcheri*

This frog can be seen and heard calling throughout the year near any water body, such as floodplain creeks, marshes and rain-filled ponds. It often has pink patches behind the eyes, but can look similar to the spotted marsh frog. Call is a single rough ‘bark’.

Photos: top to bottom: Jo Ocock / Jodi Rowley

**Wrinkled toadlet**
*Uperoleia rugosa*

These guys are very small and hard to see, but can be common in flooded gravel areas after heavy rains. Brown and warty on top, but they have very distinctive orange thighs!

Photos: Jo Ocock

**Marsh frogs**

**Striped burrowing frog**
*Litoria alboguttata*

This is another frog that burrows. It has a pointy nose and a green stripe down its back. Usually only seen after heavy rains at temporary waters.

Photos: top to bottom: Richard Tate / Jo Ocock

**What frog is that?**

*The contents of this page are a list of frogs found in the Macquarie Marshes. Each frog is described with its scientific name, physical characteristics, and habitat preferences. Detailed pictures are also included to aid in identification.*

*What frog is that?*

*The contents of this page are a list of frogs found in the Macquarie Marshes. Each frog is described with its scientific name, physical characteristics, and habitat preferences. Detailed pictures are also included to aid in identification.*
Salmon-striped frogs
Limnodynastes axillaris
These are very small frogs. They can be found in cooler months. They call mainly in shallow, flooded areas.
Photos: Jo Ocock

Broad-palmed frog
Litoria latopalmata
This frog can also be found around the house. It has quite a pointy nose, and the body is a creamy brown with yellow thighs. It makes a regular high-pitched ‘yipping’ call.
Photos: Jo Ocock

Tree frogs

Green tree frog
Litoria caerulea
Everyone knows this one! This frog makes a very loud repetitive ‘crawk’ noise, especially after heavy rain in summer.
Photos: Jo Ocock

Desert tree frog
Litoria rubida
This is a smallish, usually reddish tree frog. It is also seen around houses, on the floodplain and dam ponds. It most often heard calling after heavy rain around temporary waters. This frog makes a harsh, buzzing noise.
Photos: Jo Ocock

Brown frogs

Spotted marsh frog
Limnodynastes tasmaniensis
Can be seen and heard calling throughout most of the year near any water body, such as floodplain creeks, marshes and rain-filled ponds. It usually has a stripe down its back, but can look similar to the back-sprung marsh frog. The call is a repetitive ‘machine gun’ sound.
Photos: Jo Ocock

Peron’s tree frog
Litoria peroni
This frog can also be very common. It is often seen around houses, as well as on the floodplain and near any water body such as dam ponds. Its call sounds like a maniacal, slow descending cackle!
Photos: Jo Ocock

Brown froglets
Crinia parinsignifera
These are very small frogs. They call mainly in cooler months. Its call sounds like a low ‘meep’ around shallow flooded areas.

Cane toad
Bufo marinus
This species is NOT known from the Macquarie Marshes area. It has a very warty skin, large glands behind the eyes, a bony head and sits upright. If you think you see it, let NPWS staff or me know.
Photos: G Millen, Australian Museum

Spotted marsh frog
Limnodynastes tasmaniensis

Cane toad
Bufo marinus

Brown froglets
Crinia parinsignifera

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Tree frogs of the Macquarie Marshes

an informal guide to knowing which frog is that?

Jo Ocock