

# What frog is that?

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.ockock@gmail.com](mailto:jo.ockock@gmail.com) or [awrc@unsw.edu.au](mailto:awrc@unsw.edu.au)



## Burrowing frogs

### 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 Knerl / Jodi Rowley



### Ornate burrowing frog

*Platyplectrum ornatum*

Found near 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 on left – 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



### 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



## 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



## Warty waterholding frog

*Cyclorana verrucosa*

It can be bright green, but also a lighter olive colour, with a cream stripe. It is also mostly seen after heavy rain, around temporary rain-filled ponds and the edge of flood waters.

Photos: Jo Ocock



## Wrinkled toadlet

*Uperoleia rugosa*

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

Photos: Jo Ocock

## Marsh frogs

### 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







## Brown froglets

*Crinia parinsignifera*

These are very small frogs. They call mainly in cooler months. Its call sounds like a low 'meeeeep' around shallow flooded areas.

Photos: Jo Ocock



## Salmon-striped frogs

*Limnodynastes salmini*

These can quite large frogs. It is rather distinctive with those pink stripes! They have been seen throughout the floodplain.

Photos left to right: Jodi Rowley / Jo Ocock



## 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 barking marsh frog. The call is a repetitive 'machine gun' sound.

Photos: Jo Ocock

## Tree frogs

### 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 colour with yellow thighs. It makes a regular high-pitched 'yipping' call.

Photos top to bottom: Jodi Rowley / Jo Ocock



## Desert tree frog

*Litoria rubella*

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



## Green tree frog

*Litoria caerulea*

Everyone knows this one! This frog makes a very loud repetitive 'cawk' noise, especially after heavy rain in summer.

Photos left to right: Jo Ocock / Richard Tate



## 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 left to right: Jo Ocock / Angela Knerl



## 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



# frogs

## of the Macquarie Marshes



an informal  
guide to  
knowing  
which frog  
is that?

Jo Ocock

