

# FROGWATCH 2013



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY

## ACT and Region FROGWATCH

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## Here comes the AGM and Christmas party invite, post Census update, web entry info and end of the year notes!!

Your Frogwatch coordinator, Anke Maria Hoefler.

### AGM and Christmas Party



Please come and celebrate all your hard work with the GCG Committee, Coordinators and plenty other volunteers during our Christmas Party!! All food and drinks will be provided. I am really looking forward to seeing you at the **Lake Ginninderra Scout Hall, Evelyn Parker Place, Belconnen, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

The AGM licks off @11am followed by Xmas lunch @ 12:30pm and you are welcome to attend both, one or the other. We will have lucky door prizes and quite a few awards!!

### Life after the Census

This year has been **massive**, thanks to your efforts. I am drowning in data and recordings and I am elated about it. June Hornby has been sterling in helping with data entry and getting my office back into shape!! So far 161 surveys have been accepted, 164 submitted and 132 are in progress!!

### Monitoring data

If your monitoring events are still **in progress** or just on your desk at home please submit all your data/photos/recordings before the end of the year. If the online submission is not an option, feel free to send in your paper work and recordings in the traditional way. This will greatly support me in getting the job done!!

### Webpage problems:



If you are using Internet Explorer you might have difficulties entering frog species and numbers online. There are two ways to get around this:

a) just enter the frogs/numbers in the NOTES box instead of using the drop boxes or b) download the **free Internet browser Google CHROME**.

### Census Results

From this year onwards and retrospectively for the last 3 years, we will publish all Frogwatch Census results online. rather than in a paper version!! This shall save a few more trees, time and money!! Kat Ng is currently working hard to get this going, so please stay tuned in. We shall let you know once the new system is up and running!!

### Frogwatch Funding

You might not be aware of the fact that Frogwatch is running out of funding by the end of 2014- unless we can come up with a great plan to save the program. If you are interested in contributing ideas and suggestions and working on this master piece, please let me know!! We are planning a "save Frogwatch" workshop for early February 2014.

### Ephemeral Zone Project

The **Frogwatch Ephemeral Zone Project**, funded through an *ACT Environmental Grant*, will undertake the re-vegetation of wildlife corridors at the edges of 30 water bodies across the ACT. Strategic planning shall be completed in a few weeks, so there is still some time for your input regarding waterways in need within your stomping grounds!!

## Ongoing Monitoring

Thanks to the volunteers who have committed themselves (and their friends and partners) to the ongoing monthly monitoring of a site. This will help us learning more about frogs calling outside of October and about the shifts in calling behaviour throughout the year.

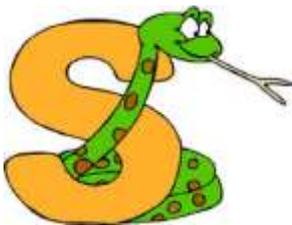
## Special Thanks

Roger Hnatiuk has been instrumental in monitoring a number of sites at the Arboretum on a weekly basis throughout spring. Thanks to his regular site visits, often accompanied by other volunteers passionate about the environment, we now have lovely recordings of the spotted burrowing frog (*Neobatrachus sudelii*), which is not often heard in the ACT. The species was detected in mid September after heavy rain falls at two of the Arboretum sites. Well done!!! (a summary of the results will be available online soon)

## New Frog identification book

Our well loved Frog specialist David Hunter has just published the fantastic frog identification guide **A GLOVEBOX GUIDE TO THE HIGHLANDS, TABLELANDS AND SLOPES OF SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL NEW SOUTH WALES**. The book includes great pictures and habitat information plus a frog call CD. If you would like a copy please contact David Hunter at the Office of Environment and Heritage Queanbeyan by email [David.Hunter@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:David.Hunter@environment.nsw.gov.au).

## Upcoming event in January



**Snakes Alive!** in the  
Australian National  
Botanic Gardens

**20.01. - 26.01.2014**

Please come along to see and touch one of the most diverse displays of Australian herpetofauna – everything from snakes, lizards, goannas, frogs, turtles to crocs! Enjoy seeing and touching live reptiles and amphibians, learning about rare and threatened species and assisting with morning and afternoon feeding times. There will also be kid's competitions and people can take home a gift or souvenirs. This is a perfect activity for the whole family!! ACTHA is a proud supporter of the ACT and Region Frogwatch Program.

## More volunteering opportunities

If you happen to have some spare time once in a while why not joining our team and giving us a helping hand?? We can always do with some extra energy for data entry, office type jobs, newsletter writing, event organising, sorting etc. Please do let us know if you are interested!!!

*This is it for the remainder of the year.*

Once more I would like to thank you so very much for all your support and enthusiasm. Looking forward to some down time before another year of exciting work!!

I wish you all a

*very merry Christmas*



*and a very happy New Year*

with  
lots of big smiles



**Yours Anke Maria**

The ACT & Region Frogwatch Program is coordinated by the Ginninderra Catchment Group with the assistance of funds made available through the Caring for our Country Initiative with the support of the ACT Natural Resource Management Council. In addition, Frogwatch is generously supported by the ACT Herpetological Association (ACTHA).