The ACT region is home to approximately 22 frog species - 9 of these are relatively common, and can often be found in our local backyards, national parks and parkslands. Unfortunately, many of our local frog species are in decline and some are threatened with extinction. Some species like the Corroboree Frog are not found anywhere else in the world! Habitat destruction, exotic pest predators, disease, pollutants and other factors can contribute to these amphibian declines.

You can learn more about our local frog populations and help to protect them by creating frog friendly habitats, avoiding pesticides, properly disposing of chemical products and deterrents, and working with others to improve your local environment. The ACT and Region Frogwatch Program is an exciting community activity open to everyone with an interest in frogs. We can support you to help our local frogs by providing free resources, information, training and great opportunities for volunteering!

To get involved or find out more, contact the Ginninderra Catchment Group, ACT Frogwatch Coordinator on 6279 3500 or have a look at: www.ginninderraland.org.au

**Did you know....**

- Frogs have a distinct skin coloration and pattern that can help distinguish between species. Some frogs can also change coloration to blend in with their environment or to communicate with others.

- Frogs are some of the most diverse in their diet, consuming insects, small animals, and even other frogs.

- Frogs play a crucial role in aquatic ecosystems by controlling the populations of insects and other small animals.

- Frogs are excellent indicators of environmental health, with changes in their populations often being an early signal of ecological stress.

**PLAINS FROGLET**

**Crinia parvipes/parvipes**

**Appearance:** Adults are brown in colour and possess a yellow or orange underside. They have a distinctive pattern on the head with black stripes. Males have dark spots on the limbs.

**Stages:** A common common species, found predominantly in suburban gardens and parks.

**Call:** Younger calls are “wee-wee” sound, repeated regularly. Calls from August to November.

**Habitat:** Lowland areas, lowland creeks, Swamps, farm dams and lakes. Open country and plains.

**COMMON EASTERN FROGLET**

**Lithobates pipiens**

**Appearance:** Adults are small, up to 10 cm in length and have dark triangular markings on their upper lips and dark spots on the hind legs. They have a variable secreted pattern colour ranging from greyish/pink to red and can use movement to create a pattern of edges. The underside of the body is generally a dark and white pattern.

**Stages:** An abundant species with widespread distribution in south-eastern Australia.

**Call:** A ‘rick rick rick rick’ sound. Calls from June to January.

**Habitat:** Upland rivers, Montane creeks, Montane seepages, lowland rivers, lowland creeks, Swamps, Farm dams and lakes.

**EASTERN BANJO FROG OR PURPLE-FRONT**

**Lithobates ornatus**

**Appearance:** Adults are small, up to 3 cm in length and have yellow or orange-brown with a broad dark band along the sides of the body. Males have white patches on the flanks, a broad, dark band from the eye to the ear.

**Stages:** A common species with wide distribution.

**Call:** A distinctive loud ‘Bark’ when being flushed. Calls from September to January.

**Habitat:** Upland rivers, Montane creeks, Montane seepages, lowland rivers, lowland creeks, Swamps, Farm dams and lakes.

**STIPED MARSH FROG OR BROWN-STIPED FROG**

**Lithobates palustris**

**Appearance:** Grows to about a centimetre length with a pattern of distinctive dark and light brown lines on the back. They have a lightly overlaid gate stripe running along the upper edge from the snout and the eye to the back. Flanks are a dark stripe along each side of the back that passes through the eye.

**Stages:** Generally uncommon, mainly associated with open grasslands in low areas.

**Call:** A distinctive single 'plop,' 'plop' or 'naplop' that is most commonly repeated every 4-5 weeks.

**Habitat:** Lowland rivers, lowland creeks, Swamps, Farm dams and lakes. Found mainly in lowlying country that has a good cover of perennial grasses.

**SPOTTED GRASS FROG**

**Lithobates palustris**

**Appearance:** A relatively small and hibernation frog, up to 3 cm in length, with a broad brown band along the sides of the body. Males have white patches on the flanks, a broad, dark band from the eye to the ear.

**Stages:** A common species with wide distribution.

**Call:** A distinctive single 'plop,' 'plop' or 'naplop' that is most commonly repeated every 4-5 weeks.

**Habitat:** Lowland rivers, lowland creeks, Swamps, Farm dams and lakes. Associated with small water bodies, including roadside ditches, puddles, temporary lakes, and ponds. They prefer situations where there is mature planted or native vegetation such as veldsfoen and sedges. During drier weather they shelter in deep cracks in the bases of dry velds, beneath large logs and in the bases of green velds.

**NORTHERN CORROBORREE FROG**

**CRICIDAE**

**Litoria brevipalmata**

**Appearance:** A strikingly beautiful black and orange frog, with a bright orange patch on the back and green on the underside. It is a small, slender frog, up to 4 cm in length.

**Stages:** Endemic. Only a handful of individuals remain.

**Call:** A distinctive call that is a short and sweet ‘wrench’ in the middle of the night.

**Habitat:** Breeding occurs in a range of wetland types including lakes, ponds, lagoons, temporary lakes, watersheds and drainages, as well as in upland habitats and in orchards. The Northern Corroboree Frog is one of the most beautiful frogs found in Australia, with a sleek, orange body and a green underside. It is found in wetland areas and in upland habitats, including lakes, ponds, lagoons, and temporary lakes. The Northern Corroboree Frog is a highly aquatic species and can be found in a variety of wetland environments, including lakes and temporary wetlands.