5. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Frog species detected

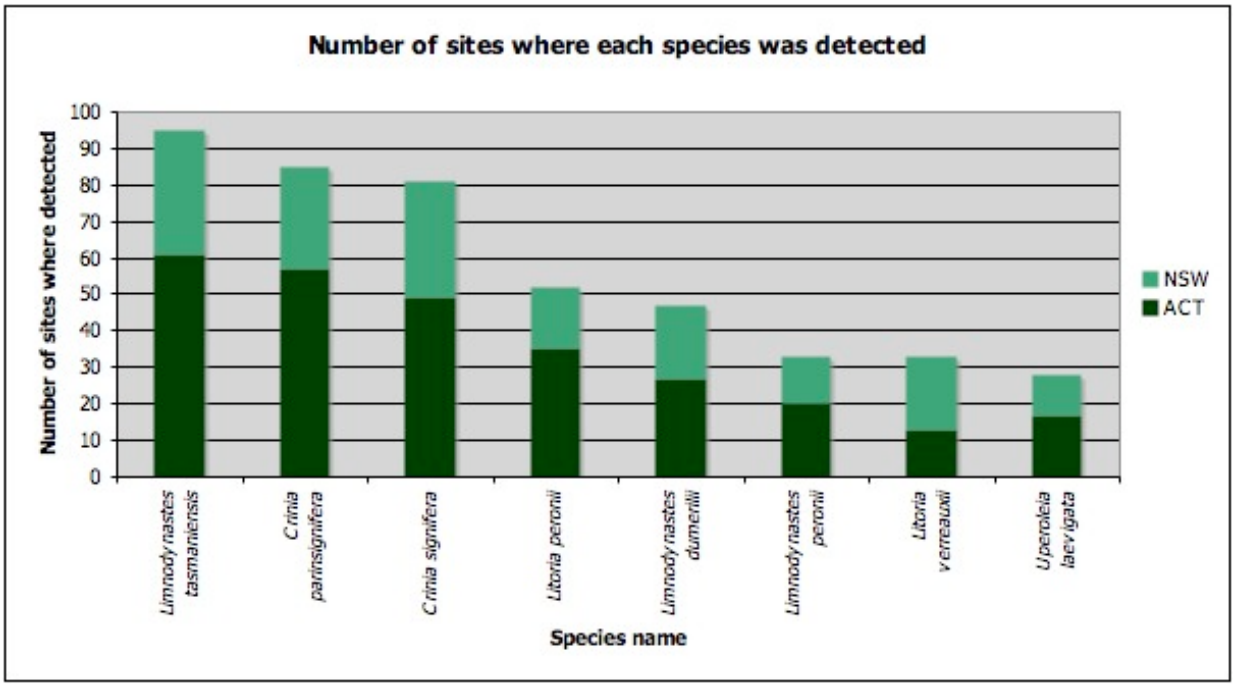
Throughout the ACT and region, a total of 8 frog species were detected this spring. They are listed here in order of greatest distribution.

Figure 2. Frog species detected, Community Frogwatch Census 2007

Frog Species Distributio n	All sites (160 total)		ACT sites (118)		NSW sites (42)	
	Number of sites where found	% of sites	Number of sites where found	% of sites	Number of sites where found	% of sites
Limnodynastes tasmaniensis Spotted Grass Frog	95	**59**	61	**52**	34	**81**
Crinia parinsignifera Plains Froglet	85	**53**	57	**48**	28	**67**
Crinia signifera Common Eastern Froglet	81	**51**	49	**42**	32	**76**
Litoria peronii Peron's Tree Frog	52	**33**	35	**30**	17	**40**
Limnodynastes dumerilii Eastern Banjo Frog	47	**29**	27	**23**	20	**48**
Limnodynastes peronii Brown-striped Frog	33	**21**	20	**17**	13	**31**
Litoria verreauxii Whistling Tree Frog	33	**21**	13	**11**	20	**48**
Uperoleia laevigata Smooth Toadlet	28	**18**	17	**14**	11	**26**
None heard	24	**15**	24	**20**	0	**0**

As in previous years, the 3 most common species detected were *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*, *Crinia parinsignifera* and *Crinia signifera*. Each of these species were detected at at least 50% of Frogwatch sites, as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Number of sites where each species was detected



In addition, a record of *Litoria citropa* (Blue Mountains Tree Frog) was recorded at one of our Frogwatch sites in Nimmitabel this year. This species has a distribution along the coastal region of south-east Australia between northern NSW and Victoria. The site where this species was observed is outside of the Frogwatch region, and is therefore not included in the summary and other statistics provided in this report.

Except for *L. citropa*, the species recorded during the 2007 Census have all been detected during previous Census years. In previous years one or two individuals of *Neobatrachus sudelli* (Spotted Burrowing Frog) and *Litoria aurea* (Green and Golden Bell Frog) have been detected, but were not found in 2007. This result was not unexpected. *Neobatrachus sudelli* is an opportunistic species that only becomes active during periods of extended wet weather when the ground is saturated. Conditions in October-November this year were not conducive to trigger a breeding event for this species. *Litoria aurea* is a nationally threatened species that was observed in October 2006 at one Frogwatch site (1 individual). Unfortunately this species was not recorded at this site again this year.

Frog species diversity and abundance

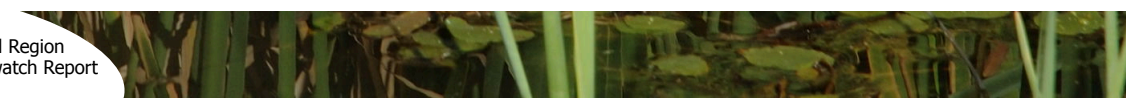
A high number of frog species inhabiting a particular breeding site can indicate the availability of good quality habitat that is sufficiently complex to fulfill the requirements of a number of different species. Our observations of frog species diversity at Frogwatch sites can help to highlight sites of significant environmental value and can therefore assist with decision-making, priority setting and management of an area. Figure 4 provides a summary of the amphibian diversity across all of our Frogwatch sites.

Figure 4. Summary of species diversity, Community Frogwatch Census 2007

Species Diversity	All sites	ACT sites	NSW sites
Minimum # species per site	0	0	1
Maximum # species per site	7	7	7
Median # species per site	3.0	2.0	4.0
Average number of species per site	2.8	2.4	4.2
Number of sites with:			
7 Species	4	1	3
6 Species	15	6	9
5 Species	17	10	7
4 Species	26	17	9
3 Species	25	18	7
2 Species	21	20	1
1 Species	29	23	6
0 Species	23	23	0
Total number of sites	160	118	42

The greatest number of species found at any one site in the 2007 Census was 7 species. This number was found at 4 sites:

- Farm dam at corner of Boulder Place and Binowee Drive, Little Burra (BIN100)
- Jarramlee Pond, Dunlop (FGC009)
- Molonglo River house site, Parsons property, Carwoola (PAR100)
- Molonglo River site 2, Parsons property, Carwoola (PAR200)



Sites with 6 species detected included:

- Molonglo River on Reynolds property, near Balcombe Hill (CFR100)
- Molonglo River, 200m up from CFR100 (CFR150)
- Hodgman Property, large dam, Captains Flat Rd (CFR200)
- Molonglo River, just of Captains Flat Rd (CFR300)
- Gooromon Ponds Creek, Dunlop (FGC030)
- Dam at entrance to Little Burra Estate, Googong (LBE300)
- Mulligans Flat Site 1, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFL001)
- Mulligans Flat Site 2, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFL002)
- Mulligans Flat Site 3, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFL003)
- Mulligans Flat Site 7, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFL007)
- Mulligans Flat Site 10, Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve (MFL010)
- Molonglo River at Molonglo River Park, Queanbeyan (MOL150)
- Gully dam 1, Laver property, Murrumbateman (PLM300)
- Farm dam 3, Laver property, Murrumbateman (PLM400)
- Dam 1, Moseley property, Sutton (SUT100)

Almost all of the sites with 6 or more species are located in rural areas or Canberra Nature Parks, highlighting the value of farm dams and rural environments as significant habitat for a number of our common species. The Molonglo River also features in the list of sites with high diversity. The difference in the median number of species per site between the ACT and NSW can also be attributed to the higher percentage or rural sites in NSW as compared to the ACT sites, which are mainly in close proximity to urban areas.

Molonglo River, off Captains Flat Rd(CFR300). 6 species were observed at this site.

Molonglo River, off Captains Flat Rd(CFR300). 6 species were observed at this site.

Population abundance

As in previous years, the most common abundance rating (that is the number of individuals of a particular species at each site) was '1 to 5'. The exception to this was for *Crinia parinsignifera*, whose most common rating was '5 to 20' individuals.

Four species (*Crinia parinsignifera*, *Crinia signifera*, *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis* and *Limnodynastes peronii*) were reported to have an abundance of '20 to 50' individuals at one or more sites, and one population of *Crinia parinsignifera* was reported to have '50 to 100' individuals.

Detailed results

Figures 5-9 on the following pages show maps of the species diversity recorded at each site for the ACT and region, Ginninderra, Molonglo and Southern ACT catchments.

The following section of this report (Section 6) presents a distribution map for each species observed. Summarised details of the 2007 results and the monitoring history for each site are presented in Appendix 2.

Figure 5. Number of species detected at each site, ACT and region

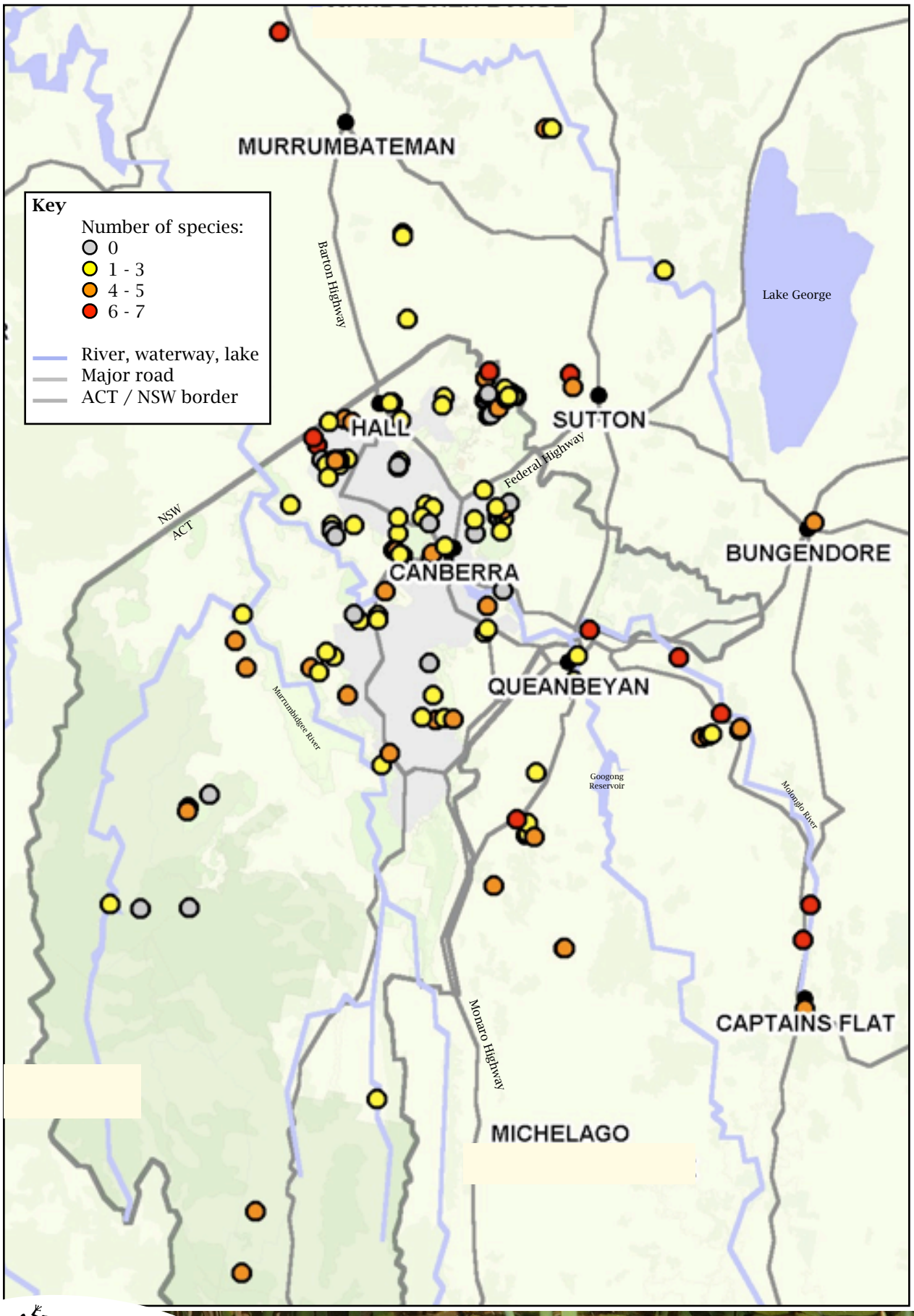


Figure 6. Number of species detected at each site, Ginninderra catchment

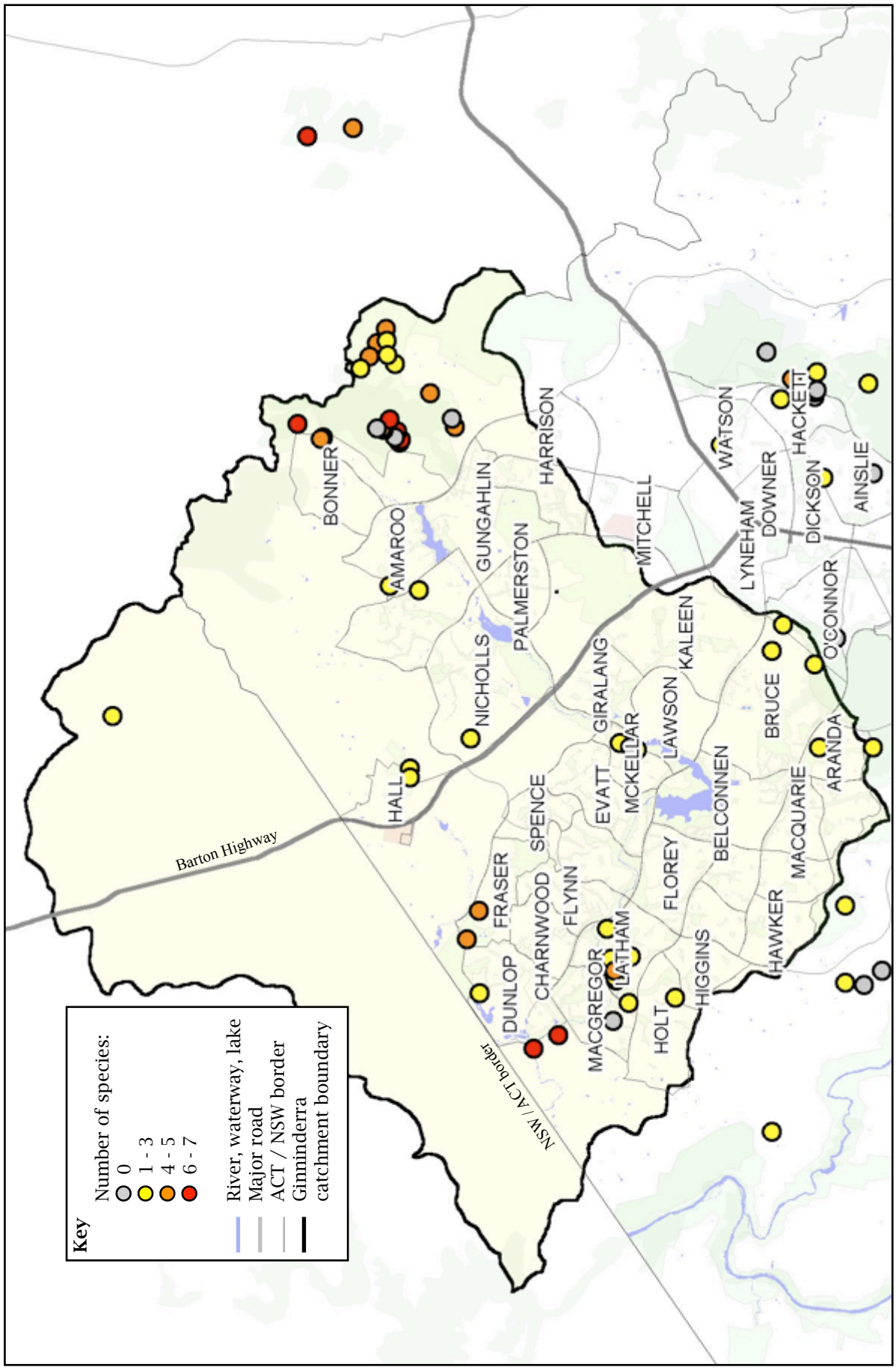
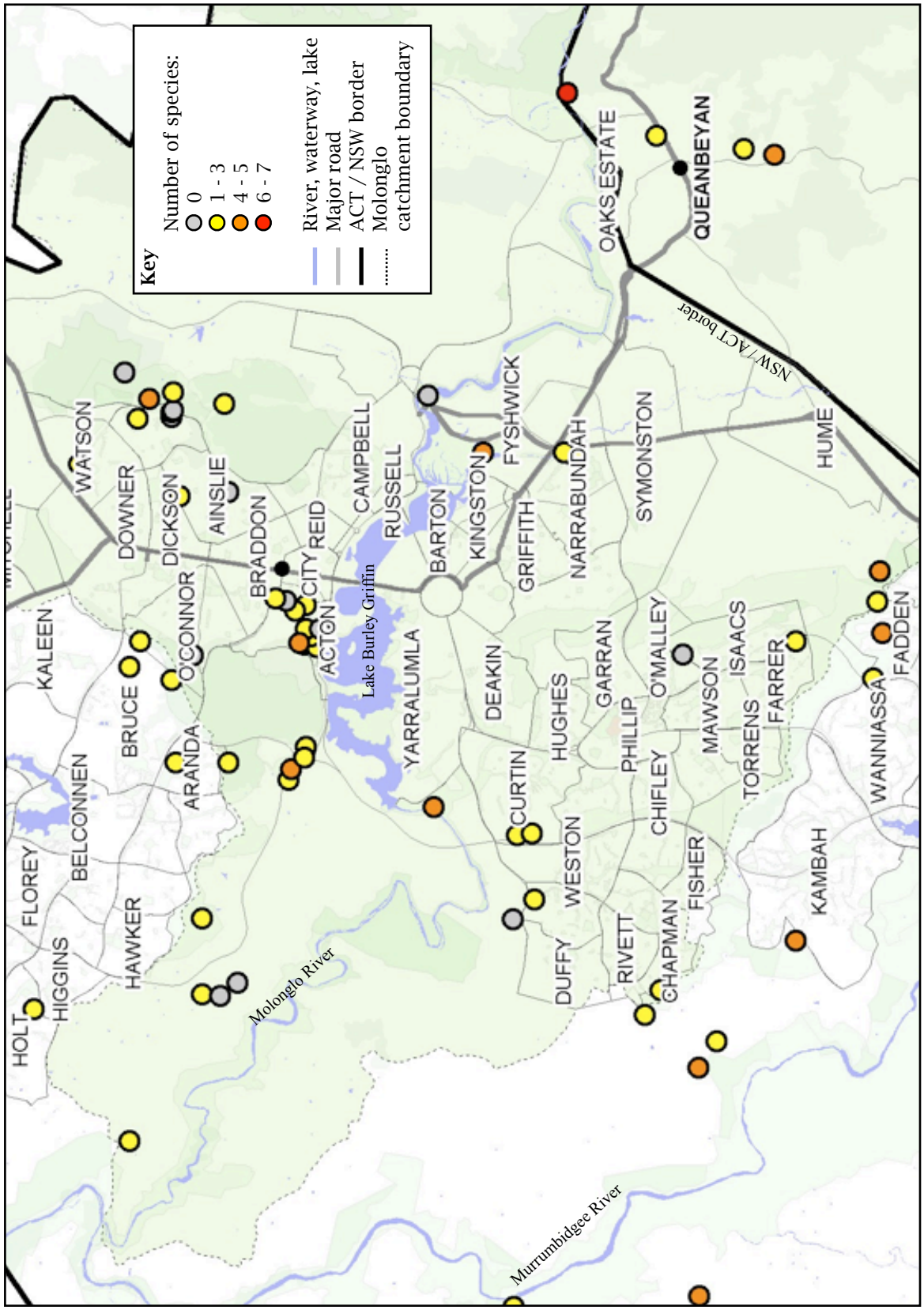


Figure 7. Number of species detected at each site, Molonglo catchment (ACT)



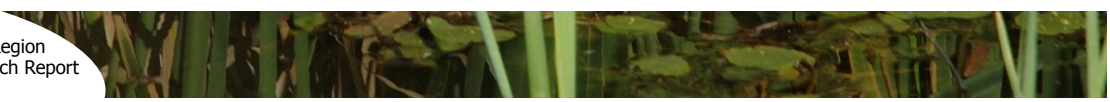


Figure 8. Number of species detected at each site, Molonglo catchment (NSW)

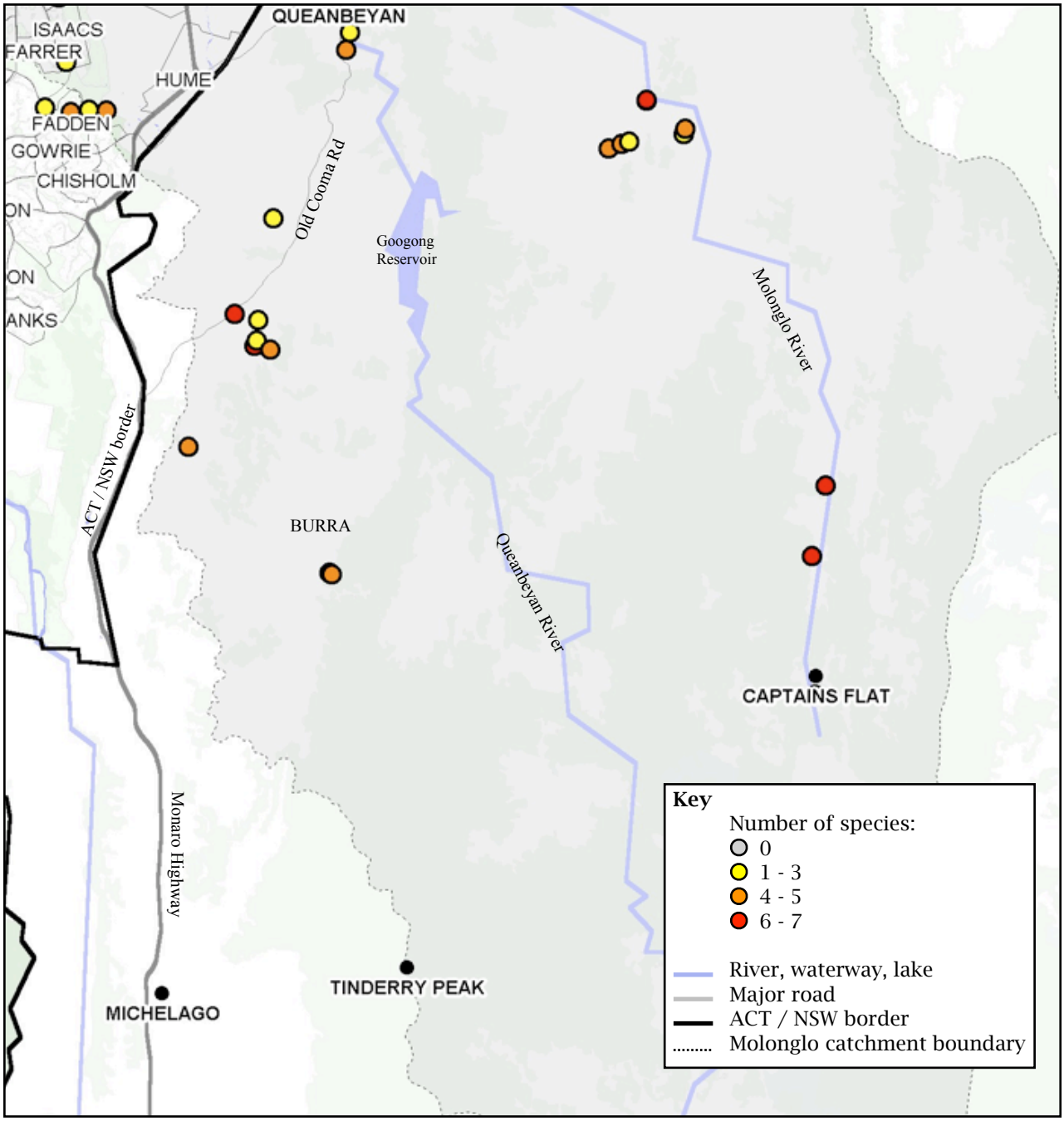
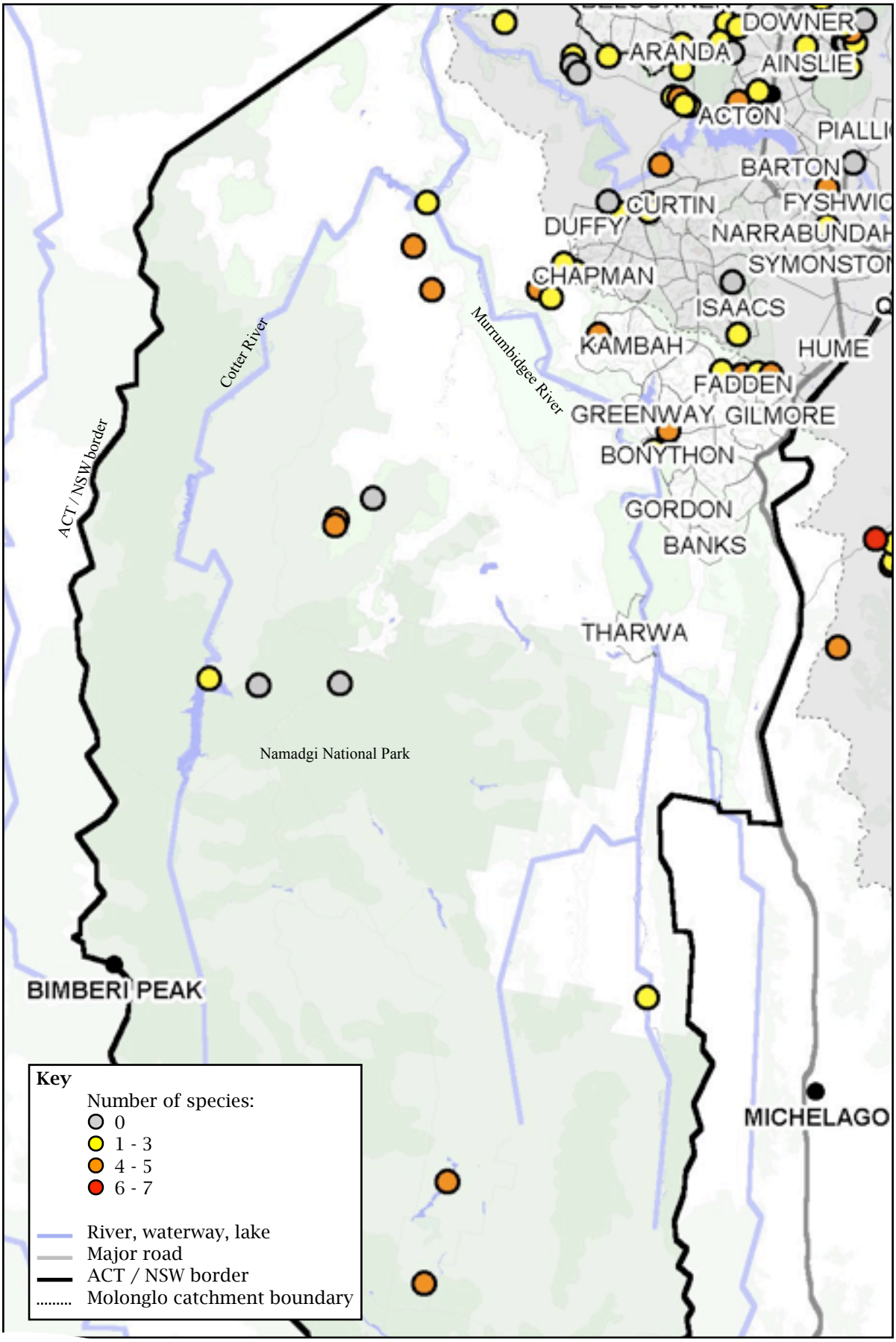



Figure 9. Number of species detected at each site, Southern ACT catchment