

FROGWATCH 2024



ACT and Region FrogWatch
Flynn Community Hub, 3/21 Bingle Street, Flynn
Phone: (02) 6278 3309
Email: frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au
Web: www.ginninderralandcare.org.au

Autumn greetings and happy reading from
your FrogWatch coordinator, Anke Maria

FrogTober report

The 2023 FrogCensus report is out! 2023 produced the biggest FrogCensus ever with just under 600 surveys - a 30% increase from the previous year. Thanks to the hundreds of volunteers that contributed to the report and its many findings.

To read the full report head to the FrogWatch webpage or use [this link](#).

Green and Golden Bell reintroduction

Help needed 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of April.

This exciting project spearheaded by Simon Clulow and Ewen Lawler from UC aims to restore Green and golden bell frogs (*Litoria aurea*) in the ACT. To reintroduce them despite the ongoing threat of chytrid, small satellite ponds will be installed next to various local wetlands/ponds, with conditions fatal to chytrid but harmless to frogs. As a first step pilot ponds will be installed at **David Street Wetland, Banskia Street Wetland, Mawson Ponds, and Kambah Pond** between **22nd and 24th of April**. This means: all hands on deck- **help is needed!** Please email me if you can spare a few hours to assist with the setup, every set of helping hands is very much appreciated!

Bragging about Bragg Street

Bragg Street Park volunteers, led by Chris Mobbs, have transformed their local park into a

frog heaven. Swales were installed, seed-funded by the ACT Government, to slow down water moving through the landscape and to provide habitat for local biodiversity- including frogs! A total of five species have used the swales for breeding after heavy rain and rewarded Bragg Street residents with their beautiful serenades. Even Costa has visited to see this perfect example of *from little things, big things grow*.



Before and after (2020 vs 2024).

New Australian Frog

Through a combination of genetic, morphological, and FrogID-informed acoustic analyses, the research team unveiled two previously unknown species!

1. South Australian Tree Frog (*Litoria calliscelis*)
2. Kangaroo Island Tree Frog (*Litoria sibilus*).
3. You can find more about this at the frogID webpage or [by using this link](#).

The ACT Herpetological Association

is a group of highly knowledgeable lovers of amphibians and reptiles. They run the breathtaking “snakes alive” exhibition at the Australian National Botanic Gardens each January. Meetings are held monthly at the Canberra Reptile Zoo, with a kids club and fascinating presentations. Membership is just \$20 – a bargain! The next get-together is on the 16.04. from 18:30 onwards. Check out their webpage <http://www.actha.org.au/> or email info@actha.org.au if you would like to join the group.

Australia's Environment 2023 Report

Have you seen the recent release of the latest Australia's Environment report - a summary of key environmental indicators and how they changed in 2023? If not [check it out here](#).

ACT Heritage Festival 13.04. – 28.04.

This year's events, including nature walks, will run across the ACT to explore the diverse and inspiring stories of heritage connections across our region.

For the full program [check out this webpage](#).

Ginninderra Creek Corridor SURVEY

Do you like to spend time at or near the Ginninderra creek? GCG is currently running a survey to gather information on habitat connectivity, biodiversity, and environmental stewardship in the Belconnen area.

The survey will take only 5-10 minutes of your time and is open to anyone who spends time in the Belconnen area, regardless of residency.

Jump the survey here:

<https://forms.gle/PyFg3wtpPDN7PyPf7>

The survey is closing on Sunday, 21st April. Don't miss out!



Supporting Canberra Nature Map

Are you using the CNM other than for the annual FrogCensus? If not yet then you better get started as it is a glorious tool to help identify local flora and fauna.

While the team of the CNM is doing everything possible to secure adequate ongoing funding it might be good time to show your appreciation for the amazing community support they have provided to date. Here is what you can do:

1. head to <https://canberra.naturemapr.org>
2. click on the DONATE button (top right)
3. No PayPal? email the team (About→contact) to find another way.

This is it for today! Please keep in touch. I will be on leave in May (Europe is calling) but shall be back for the start of winter and our fun winter walks & talks, including hot chocolates. Looking forward to it

Anke Maria



The ACT and Region Frogwatch Program is coordinated by the Ginninderra Catchment Group with the financial assistance of the ACT Government. Parts of the program are also supported by the ACT Herpetological Association (ACTHA) and Icon Water.