

FROGS OF THE PERTH REGION

Swan Coastal Plain

The Swan Coastal Plain stretches from Jurien to the north of Perth, down to Bunbury in the south. It is made up of deep sandy soils that supports a large number of lakes and swamps. Seven different species of frogs are commonly found in these habitats. One other species, the strange Turtle Frog, lives in sandy habitats on the coastal plain and can be found far from any water body.

A. Krupa



Motorbike Frog

Litoria moorei

BUILD: powerful build, relatively long hind legs, discs on each digit, toes webbed, fingers unwebbed

LENGTH: maximum length 7.5cm

LOOK FOR: variable back from green with gold mottling to a uniform dark brown. Belly is pale green to light brown

BREEDING SEASON: late spring through summer

MALE CALL: 'grrr, grrr, grrr' like a motorbike changing gears

D. Robinson



Slender Tree Frog

Litoria adelaidensis

BUILD: long, slender body and limbs, toes webbed, fingers unwebbed.

LENGTH: maximum length 4.5cm

LOOK FOR: uniform back colour ranging from pale fawn to bright green. Bold dark stripe along both sides of head and body. Red/yellow blotches on back of thighs.

BREEDING SEASON: late winter and spring

MALE CALL: single, loud grating 'screech'

D. Robinson



Quacking Frog

Crinia georgiana

BUILD: small, flattened body, short limbs often with barring, fingers and toes long and unwebbed

LENGTH: maximum length 4cm

LOOK FOR: red patches between legs, red, yellow or gold upper eyelids

BREEDING SEASON: winter

MALE CALL: a loud 'quack'

D. Robinson



Turtle Frog

Myobatrachus gouldii

BUILD: muscular build, short stubby limbs, fingers and toes unwebbed

LENGTH: maximum length 4.5cm

LOOK FOR: body shape resembles a small turtle, a small head with small eyes and is very distinct from body

BREEDING SEASON: late spring to summer

MALE CALL: deep croaks (duck like)



Clicking Froglet

Crinia glauerti

BUILD: small, can be smooth or have ridges

LENGTH: maximum length 2.5cm

LOOK FOR: patterned with brown, black and grey markings, may have red lines along thighs

BREEDING SEASON: winter through to early spring, will breed at any time after rain except mid summer

MALE CALL: pea rattling in a can



Western Banjo Frog

Limnodynastes dorsalis

BUILD: thick arms, poison glands above rear legs, fingers unwebbed, toes can be webbed

LENGTH: maximum length 7.5cm

LOOK FOR: red around groin, pale yellow line down centre of back, black/brown patches over back and limbs

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn, winter and spring

MALE CALL: single, very loud 'bonk'



Squelching Froglet

Crinia insignifera

BUILD: small, can have bumps and ridges on the back, short limbs, fingers and toes unwebbed

LENGTH: maximum length 3cm

LOOK FOR: back usually complex pattern of dark and light brown with grey blotches and or stripes

BREEDING SEASON: winter

MALE CALL: a low 'squelch'



Moaning Frog

Heleioporus eyrei

BUILD: powerful, robust with short limbs, fingers unwebbed, toes partly webbed

LENGTH: maximum length 6.5cm

LOOK FOR: brown and grey back mottled in dirty white or light grey. Yellow patch on flanks behind front limbs

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn

MALE CALL: a long drawn out moan

Four other species (Crawling Toadlet, Sand Frog, Western Spotted Frog and Humming Frog) can be found in suburbs close to the Darling Scarp and in the Swan River Valley. These species are illustrated on the companion information sheet titled 'Frogs of the Perth Region: The Darling Range'.

More information can be found on the Alcoa Frog Watch website: frogwatch.museum.wa.gov.au/explore/frogwatch and the book 'A Guide to the Reptiles and Frogs of the Perth Region' by Bush, Browne-Cooper, Maryan and Robinson.