


Appendix 1. Community awareness pamphlet produced and distributed by NPWS Western Directorate.



# HAVE YOU SEEN THE YELLOW-SPOTTED BELL FROG?




Photo by G. Grigg

The Yellow-spotted Bell Frog (*Litoria castanea*) is a large lime-green frog reaching up to 8cm in length. It is often found in bulrushes and other emergent vegetation in or at the edges of permanent water. Lakes, dams, ponds and slow moving streams may all provide suitable habitat. By day, adults rest on reeds or bask on grassy banks. By night, adults are active on grassy banks or floating on the water's surface. During autumn and winter, they shelter under fallen timber, rocks or debris. These frogs are more often heard than seen as they have a very loud and distinctive call. It sounds like a series of "grunts" sometimes lengthened into a growl.

The Yellow-spotted Bell Frog is now a threatened species in NSW, that is, a species at risk of extinction. It has not been definitely recorded in the wild since the mid to late 1970s. However, it is possible that it still occurs in the region so please keep a lookout. The South Eastern Highlands (as far north as Orange/Bathurst) is a good place to start looking as they were recorded there in the past. The species also formerly occurred on the New England tablelands. Possible threats to this species include the destruction of habitat (through clearing of wetland vegetation, trampling by grazing animals, alteration of flood regimes by weirs and channels and the clearing of fallen timber), predation on eggs and tadpoles by exotic fish species, pesticides and increased salinity.

You can help this species, and other frogs, by retaining vegetation in and around wetlands and dams and by controlling stock access to these areas. Limiting the use of pesticides near water bodies will also benefit frog populations.

### OTHER THREATENED BELL FROGS

Green and Golden Bell Frog  
(*Litoria aurea*)



Photo by M. Murphy

Southern Bell Frog  
(*Litoria raniformis*)



Photo by M. Leffers

**If you see a Yellow-spotted Bell Frog  
(or either of the bell frogs pictured above)  
PLEASE contact your nearest NPWS Office or  
Robyn Molsher at NPWS Dubbo on 02 6883 5342.**

Please record the date, location and habitat of the frog and if possible take a photo of the frog.

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