

FROGS OF THE PERTH REGION

Darling Range

Eight species of frogs are found commonly along streams and in the many small swamps in the Darling Range east of Perth. All of these species breed during the wetter months between late autumn and early spring.



Whooping Frog
Heleioporus inornatus

BUILD: stout round body and short limbs, males have black nuptial spine on first finger

LENGTH: maximum length 7cm

LOOK FOR: uniformly copper brown back, flanks may be mottled with white, grey or yellow

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn

MALE CALL: 'whoop whoop whoop'



Crawling Toadlet
Pseudophryne guentheri

BUILD: flattened body, small head and short limbs

LENGTH: maximum length 3.5cm

LOOK FOR: 'warty' back mottled with browns and grey, belly blotchy with black on white background, crawls

BREEDING SEASON: winter

MALE CALL: short, sharp grating sound



Sand Frog
Heleioporus psammophilus

BUILD: robust body with short limbs, males may have black nuptial spine on first finger

LENGTH: maximum length 6cm

LOOK FOR: back brown to dark grey. Pale coloured bumps on lower flanks

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn

MALE CALL: high pitched trilling 'purr'



Western Spotted Frog
Heleioporus albopunctatus

BUILD: large with a robust build

LENGTH: maximum length 8.5cm

LOOK FOR: white or yellow spots on chocolate brown body

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn

MALE CALL: short, high pitched 'coo'



Humming Frog

Neobatrachus pelobatoides

BUILD: medium size, flat broad head, robust with short legs

LENGTH: maximum length 4.5cm

LOOK FOR: back patterns with base colour of green or grey with darker green or brown irregular patterns. Cat like pupils and often a red or yellow strip down their backs

BREEDING SEASON: winter

MALE CALL: a humming sound or low pitched trill



Hooting Frog

Heleioporus barycragus

BUILD: males have massive front arms and black nuptial spine on first finger

LENGTH: maximum length 9cm

LOOK FOR: greyish to chocolate brown body with scattering of yellow spots on its flanks

BREEDING SEASON: late autumn

MALE CALL: an owl like 'hoot'



Ticking Frog

Geocrinia leai

BUILD: small, flattened body, long, powerful hind limbs

LENGTH: maximum length 2.5cm

LOOK FOR: back dark brown surrounding irregular grey to black patch. Smooth green belly

BREEDING SEASON: winter

MALE CALL: 'tik..tik..tik..tik'



Bleating Froglet

Crinia pseudinsignifera

BUILD: bumps and ridges on the back

LENGTH: maximum length 2.5cm

LOOK FOR: back is bumpy with longitudinal ridges. Usually a combination of browns, black and grey blotches and strips. Associated with granite.

BREEDING SEASON: winter to early spring

MALE CALL: high pitched 'ba..ba..ba..ba'

Three other species (Slender Tree Frog, Moaning Frog and Western Banjo Frog) are also found in some parts of the hills, but are more typical of coastal plain habitats. These species are illustrated on the companion information sheet titled 'Frogs of the Perth Region: The Swan Coastal Plain'.

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.