

## TABLE ONE

| Frogs found around the Albury area (Page number in frog guide, Track number on CD) | Main calling period |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|  | Jan                 | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Bibron's toadlet ( <i>Pseudophryne bibroni</i> ) (Page 72, Track 27)               |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Plains tree frog ( <i>Litoria paraewingi</i> ) (Page 34, Track 8)                  |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Plains froglet ( <i>Crinia parinsignifera</i> ) (Page 48, Track 15)                |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Common eastern froglet ( <i>Crinia signifera</i> ) (Page 50, Track 16)             |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Sloane's froglet ( <i>Crinia sloanei</i> ) (Page 52, Track 17)                     |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Common spadefoot frog ( <i>Neobatrachus sudelli</i> ) (Page 68, Track 25)          |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Spotted grass frog ( <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> ) (Page 64, Track 23)       |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Eastern banjo frog ( <i>Limnodynastes dumerilii</i> ) (Page 54, Track 18)          |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Giant banjo frog ( <i>Limnodynastes interioris</i> ) (Page 58, Track 20)           |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Striped marsh frog ( <i>Limnodynastes peroni</i> ) (Page 60, Track 21)             |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Smooth toadlet ( <i>Uperoleia laevigata</i> ) (Page 80, Track 31)                  |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
| Peron's tree frog ( <i>Litoria peroni</i> ) (Page 36, Track 9)                     |                     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |

## TABLE TWO

|  |   |
|--|---|
| What time of year do I survey?         | July to August, preferably after it has rained and wetlands have filled   |
| When do I survey?                      | Preferably the first few hours after dark<br>Avoid very windy or rainy evenings   |
| Where do I survey?                     | You can select your own wetlands<br>Any type of wetland is fine, including artificial ones (e.g. small to large dams, small ponds and puddles)<br><br>You must ensure that you have permission to access the site and have considered any potential risks   |
| How do I survey?                       | *Listen for frog calls for 5-10 minutes<br>Record any Sloane's froglets that you might hear and the estimated number<br><br>Record other frog species if you are interested and can identify them   |
| How often do I survey?                 | Wetlands could be visited as many times as you like<br><br>Up to three visits per site is recommended, particularly if earlier surveys do not detect Sloane's froglet   |
| What information do I need to collect? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Date</li> <li>- Time</li> <li>- Surveyor's name</li> <li>- Weather conditions (wind, cloud and rain)</li> <li>- Description of waterbody (wetland)</li> <li>- Whether Sloane's froglet is calling</li> <li>- Estimate of Sloane's froglet abundance (place in an abundance category: 1-5 males, 6-10 males, 11-20 males, 21-50 males, 51-100 males, &gt; 100 males)</li> <li>- Other frog species calling</li> </ul> |
| How do I record and enter data?        | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use the datasheet provided on Woolshed Thurgoona Landcare Groups website or record details in a notebook</li> <li>2. Enter data into the Sloane's Champions BioCollect Portal</li> </ol> To access the Sloane's Champions BioCollect Portal: visit<br><a href="https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project_and_search_for_Sloane's">https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project_and_search_for "Sloane's"</a>         |

\* We encourage participants to listen to the frog chorus recordings to calibrate their hearing and familiarise themselves with the calls of Sloane's froglet and other species. Please visit Woolshed Thurgoona Landcare Group's website for examples.

## Other winter calling frog species in this area



Common spadefoot frog  
(*Neobatrachus sudelli*)



Common eastern froglet  
(*Crinia signifera*)



Spotted grass frog  
(*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*)



Plains froglet  
(*Crinia parinsignifera*)



Plains tree frog  
(*Litoria paraewingi*)

## SLOANE'S CHAMPIONS: HELPING A THURGOONA LOCAL

*A brief guide to community surveying and monitoring of Sloane's froglet (Crinia sloanei)*



## Why does this Thurgoona local need your help?

Sloane's froglet is a threatened species with a very restricted distribution in NSW. One of the largest remaining populations in NSW occurs in the Thurgoona-Wirlinga area. The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and Woolshed Thurgoona Landcare Group are coordinating a community-based Sloane's froglet survey and monitoring program. We are asking community members to help us survey and monitor Sloane's froglet. The data you collect will help us to plan and prioritise conservation work for this tiny frog to secure its long-term future in Thurgoona-Wirlinga.

## What materials are available to help me?

Accurate identification of Sloane's froglet is important to the success of this program. A range of factors may strongly influence the accuracy of Sloane's froglet surveys, including: time of year, time of day, weather conditions, and the calling of other frog species at the wetland, which can sometimes be confused with Sloane's froglet or make it difficult to hear Sloane's froglet. The surveyor's ability to correctly recognise the call of Sloane's froglet is very important. We've provided a series of recordings to help you familiarise yourself with Sloane's froglet calls, and those of other frog species, and to estimate how many frogs are present (visit: [wtlandcare.org](http://wtlandcare.org)).

## How do I survey for Sloane's froglet?

For an overview of monitoring methods, refer to Table 2. Surveying for Sloane's froglet involves listening for calling males at their wetland breeding habitat, and then entering the survey results into the Sloane's Champions BioCollect Portal (visit <https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project> and search for "Sloane's"). Sloane's froglets breed in a wide range of wetland types, from small puddles to large dams. It is important to record the type of wetland being surveyed and accurate location details (these are fields in BioCollect). If Sloane's froglets are present at a wetland, they are usually heard calling straight away. However, sometimes they stop calling for a while, or other factors may influence our ability to hear them, so it is best to listen for calling males for a minimum of five minutes. If calling males are present, the number of males should be estimated and assigned to a relative abundance category (also a field in BioCollect). It is often beneficial to survey a wetland more than once during the main survey period (July and August), particularly if the first survey did not detect Sloane's froglet.

## What time of the year should I survey?

Sloane's froglet may call at any time of the year, but their main calling and breeding season is in winter, after sufficient rainfall has filled the wetlands in which they breed. To maximise the likelihood of detecting Sloane's froglet, this survey and monitoring program will be primarily undertaken during July and August after sufficient rainfall. Surveys can also be undertaken outside this period, particularly if people want to know what other frog species are calling at their wetlands (see Table 1 for a list of potential species - those in bold call in winter).



## What time of the day should I survey?

Sloane's froglet may call at any time of the day, but the most consistent calling occurs during the first few hours after dark. To maximise the accuracy of the results surveys should be undertaken during that time.

## What weather conditions are best for surveying Sloane's froglet?

While Sloane's froglet may call under a range of weather conditions, our ability to hear its call can be influenced by rain and wind. The most appropriate time to survey for Sloane's froglet is when wind and/or rain is relatively light or non-existent.

## What if I do not hear Sloane's froglet?

Recording absences is just as important as recording presences. If you do not hear Sloane's froglet please still provide your monitoring data via the Sloane's Champions BioCollect Portal (visit <https://biocollect.ala.org.au/acsa/project> and search for "Sloane's"). You may like to include data on the other frog species you heard.



Calling Male  
Sloane's froglet

Sloane's froglet  
(*Crinia sloanei*)



## What about other frog species?

Sometimes it can be difficult to hear Sloane's froglet when other frog species are calling at a wetland. For this reason, it is important for the surveyor to become familiar with the other frog species that may be calling during the Sloane's froglet survey season. Five other species are likely to be calling during July and August (see species in bold in Table 1). If many other frog species are calling loudly, walking around the perimeter of the wetland may help you find a position where you can hear Sloane's froglet properly.

Another potential source of confusion is that males sometimes give a call that is not their typical advertisement call (which is designed to attract females). Males of other species often emit a threat call, which can sound like a Sloane's froglet advertisement call. This type of call is generally infrequent. However, if you occasionally hear a call that sounds like Sloane's froglet, but isn't quite right, you should consider if it may be a threat call of another species and try to record the call for later confirmation.

Table 1 contains a list of frog species likely to be found in the Albury region, and the time of the year they are most likely to be calling. Frog species in bold text are those that are likely to be calling during the July and August monitoring period. The page and track number refers to information in the 'Frogs of South-West NSW' glovebox guide.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** if you are unsure whether the call is that of Sloane's froglet, please take a recording. We will hold a meeting later in the year where experts will be available to listen to recordings.