

## Monument Hill Reserve, Kilmore



Photo credit David DeAngelis

### **Brown Treefrog**

*Litoria ewingii*

**Other names:** Southern Brown Treefrog, Ewing's Treefrog.

**Size:** Up to 45mm.

**Description:** Creamy brown, with dark stripe running from snout to shoulder. Reddish orange inner thighs. Visible eardrum. Dextrous climber.

**Call:** Rapid high-pitched repeating "Creee cree cree cree". .

**Distribution:** Southeast Australia and Tasmania.

**Habitat:** Widespread and common in a broad range of habitats including suburban parks and gardens, favours flooded grasslands/swamps. Impacted by water pollution.

**Breeding:** All year round. Females lay an egg mass in water attached to sticks and leaves.



Photo credit David DeAngelis

### **Eastern Banjo Frog**

*Limnodynastes dumerillii*

**Other names:** Eastern Pobblebonk

**Size:** Up to 90mm.

**Description:** Large frog with a pronounced lump on hind legs (the tibial gland). Brown or grey brown back with yellowish orange blotches on flanks.

**Call:** Single deep "bonk"; similar in sound to a banjo string.

**Distribution:** Southeast and eastern Australia, Tasmania and southeast Queensland. Monument Hill lies in the border of two distinct genetic groups (

subspecies)

**Habitat:** Widespread and common in a broad range of habitats including suburban parks and gardens, and dry forest. Burrows in soil to emerge after rainy weather to breed. Urban intensification can potentially impact localised populations of *L. dumerillii*.

**Breeding:** Spring-autumn after rain. Females lay a white foamy floating egg masses.. Very large tadpoles reaching 70mm in length.



Photo credit David DeAngelis

## **Spotted Marsh Frog**

*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*

**Other names:** Spotted Grass Frog

**Size:** Up to 50mm.

**Description:** Highly variable olive/grey green, with varyingly visible dark green spots. Often has a bold green, orange or cream stripe down the back. White belly.

**Call:** A single "plock". Males of the northern race call with a repeating "kuk-kuk-kuk".

**Distribution:** Occurs right across eastern Australia.

**Habitat:** Widespread in a broad range of habitats including woodlands and suburban areas, preferring ponds and swamps. It is highly tolerant of habitat disturbance and shelters in the ground or under rocks during dry periods.

**Breeding:** Females lay eggs in floating foam masses.



Photo credit Ian Jury

## **Common Eastern Froglet**

*Crinia signifera*

**Other names:** Ratchet Frog

**Size:** Up to 30 mm

**Description:** Highly variable. Mostly mottled brown/black/grey, with orange flecks. Striped, plain or marbled pattern. Belly white/pale grey bearing small lumps and black spots. Overall rough, chiselled appearance.

**Call :** Single "crick", or rhythmic steady "crick... crick... crick" giving it the common nickname "ratchet frog". The call can be easily confused with the call of Bibron's Toadlet.

**Distribution:** Southeast and eastern Australia, Tasmania and southeast Queensland.

**Habitat:** One of the common frogs in SE Australia, occurring in a broad range of habitats, but particularly in damp areas with high ground cover.

**Breeding:** All year round. Females lay an egg mass in water attached to sticks and leaves.

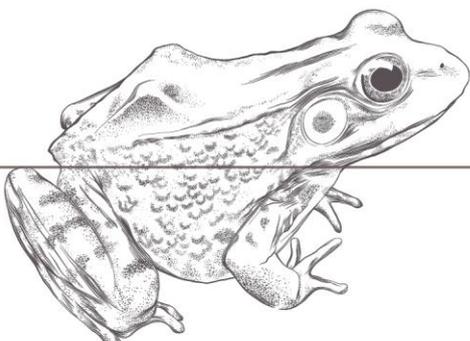




Photo Credit: David Kleinert Photography (2006).

**Bibron's Toadlet**

*Pseudophryne bibronii*

Endangered in Victoria

**Other names:** Brown Toadlet

**Size:** Up to 30mm long.

**Description:** Brownish black frog with a marbled black and white belly and distinctive orange or yellow bands around the shoulders. Pale yellow patch around genital region.

**Call:** Late summer to mid-winter, especially on still evenings after rain, Harsh repeating "cra-ark". Its secretive habits make this a particularly challenging species to detect and monitor.

**Distribution:** Southeast Australia and Tasmania

**Habitat:** Occurs in a wide range of habitats including dry forest and woodland and not reliant upon proximity to permanent water sources. and shelters under damp leaves and logs. Monument Hill Reserve has previously supported *P. bibronii* but, as across Greater Melbourne, recent surveys have failed to detect it at this site. Reasons for its rapid decline are not currently understood but are likely a combination of urban intensification, degradation of waterways, global climate change, the spread of chytrid fungus, genetic isolation, invasive species predation and chemical pollution.

**Breeding:** *P. bibronii* lays eggs in large clumps during autumn in burrows on land or nearby water, which hatch when inundated by rain.

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