

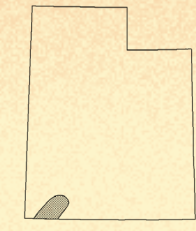
AMPHIBIANS OF UTAH



Relict Leopard Frog

Lithobates onca

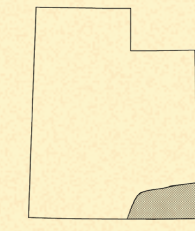
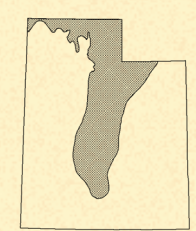
- Dorsolateral folds (ridges) on the frog's back are not continuous.
- Last seen in southwestern Utah in the early 1950s.
- Call resembles Northern Leopard Frog, only not as long or loud.



Boreal (Western) Toad

Anaxyrus boreas

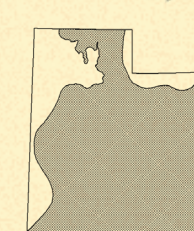
- Has a light-colored stripe down the center of its back and lacks raised crests (ridges) behind its eyes.
- A high-elevation species that can travel more than five miles across mountain ranges.
- Call is quiet and resembles a distant flock of geese.



Mexican Spadefoot

Spea multiplicata

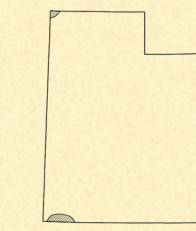
- Eyes are often copper-colored; lacks a noticeable boss (bump) between its eyes.
- Like most spadefoots, it has sickle-shaped growths (called spades) on its hind feet, which are used for burrowing underground.
- Call is a long, slow trill that sounds like a metallic, vibrating snore.



Woodhouse's Toad

Anaxyrus woodhousii

- Has a stripe down the center of its back, prominent cranial crests (ridges behind eyes), and nonparallel parotoid glands.
- Found statewide in lower-elevation areas (below 8,500 feet).
- Call resembles an infant's cry or a bawling calf.



Pacific Tree Frog

Pseudacris regilla

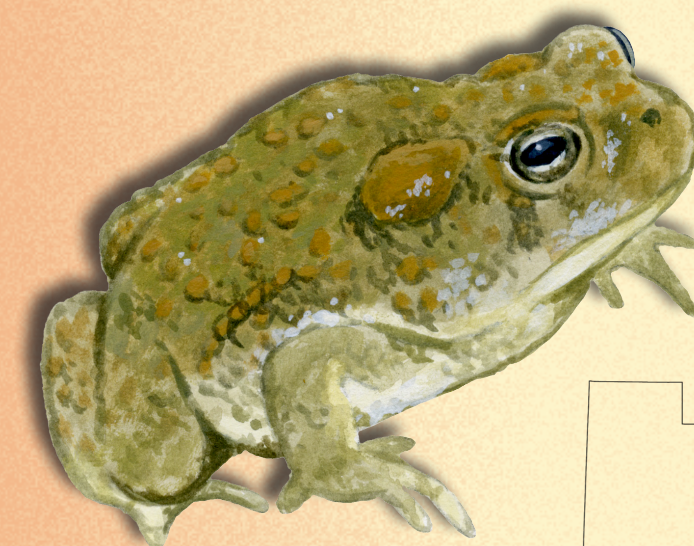
- Small frog with toe pads and a dark eye-stripe, highly variable color (green, tan, reddish, gray, cream, brown, or black).
- Populations in southwestern Utah may have been imported with nursery trees.
- Call resembles a "ribbit" or "kreck-ek."



Northern Leopard Frog

Lithobates pipiens

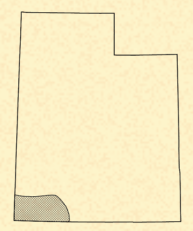
- Features a whitish belly, dark spots with pale borders, and continuous dorsolateral folds (ridges) on its back.
- When startled, it may jump in a zigzag pattern.
- Call resembles a low snore-like rattle followed by a series of chuckles.



Arizona Toad

Anaxyrus microscaphus

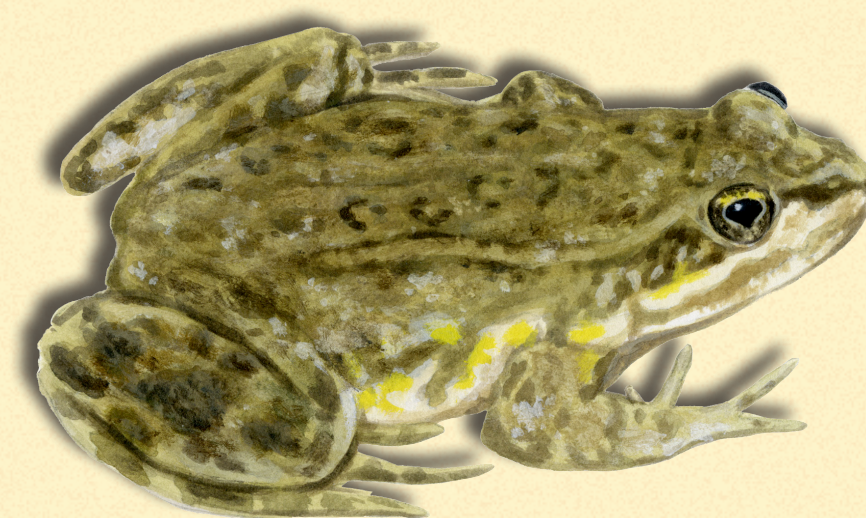
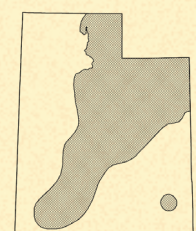
- Highly variable color (gray, beige, dull yellow, rust, brown, and pink) with small warts.
- Estimated to have disappeared from 75 percent of its known historical range.
- Call resembles a rapid trill, ending abruptly.



Boreal Chorus Frog

Pseudacris maculata

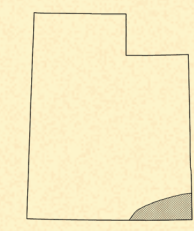
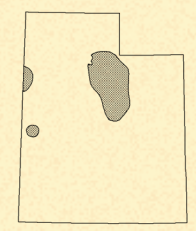
- Small frog with three dark stripes on back, highly variable color (gray, brown, green, olive, or reddish) and no toe pads.
- Common throughout wetlands of the Wasatch and Uinta mountain ranges.
- Call resembles rubbing teeth of a comb with a finger (similar to the sound of a cricket).



Columbia Spotted Frog

Rana luteiventris

- Belly is an orange or salmon color; back typically has dark spots.
- Species has benefited from habitat restoration and preservation efforts.
- Call sounds like a rapid tap on a hollow log.



Plains Spadefoot

Spea bombifrons

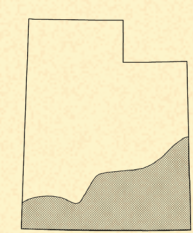
- Features a prominent boss (bump) between its eyes and has a profile that resembles a pug dog.
- Like most spadefoots, commonly breeds during heavy summer rains.
- Call is a rapid trill that resembles a quacking duck.



Canyon Tree Frog

Hyla arenicolor

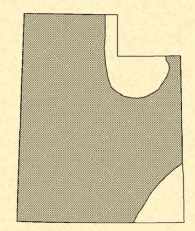
- Enlarged toe pads for sticking to terrain; skin is rather rough for a frog.
- Well-camouflaged, stream-dwelling frog that commonly occurs near water on boulders and cliffs.
- Call resembles a loud rivet gun.



Great Basin Spadefoot

Spea intermontana

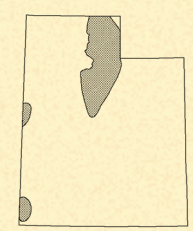
- Large boss (bump) between its eyes protects the head while burrowing.
- Most common amphibian in Utah.
- Call resembles a low-pitched snore.
- All spadefoot toads have vertical, cat-like pupils.



American Bullfrog

Lithobates catesbeianus

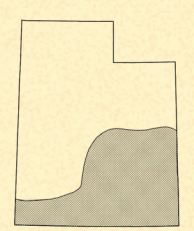
- Large round tympanum (ear) with mottled green-and-white belly.
- Non-native and can cause significant damage to native amphibian populations. Illegal to possess, collect, import, or propagate.
- Call resembles the sound of a lightsaber or a deep-pitched bellow ("jug-o-rum" or "br-wum").



Red-Spotted Toad

Anaxyrus punctatus

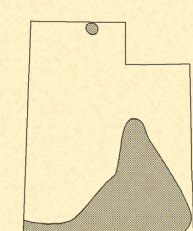
- Small, flat toad with raised round parotoid glands and many red or orange warts on a light-gray, olive, or reddish-brown body.
- Known to breed with other toad species.
- Call resembles a high-pitched musical trill.



Great Plains Toad

Anaxyrus cognatus

- Large pale-bordered dark blotches on back occur in symmetrical patterns.
- Rarely seen in Utah.
- Call resembles a jackhammer (almost deafening when multiple males call).



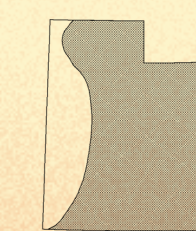
AMPHIBIAN FACTS

- Amphibians are members of the class Amphibia, which means "dual life," based on the animals' use of both land and water. Amphibians include frogs, toads, salamanders, newts, and caecilians. They are cold-blooded and can breathe through their skin. There are 15 species of amphibians native to Utah.
- Why are amphibians important?
 - Amphibians play important roles within their ecosystems. Their diet includes many insects (like mosquito larvae) that are a nuisance to humans. They also serve as a source of food for many other animals, including cranes, otters, and fish.
 - Amphibians also help preserve human health. For example, a promising new cancer drug is based on enzymes found within the eggs of the Northern Leopard Frog, a species native to Utah. The cure to cancer may very well be living in your backyard.
- Disease: A fungus known as chytrid (pronounced "ki-trid") has caused population declines and extinctions of amphibians worldwide.
 - Some species of amphibians have natural immunity to chytrid, while others appear to be developing a resistance to the fungus.
 - Chytrid can be spread by infected amphibians or through contaminated equipment (such as boots and waders).
- Amphibians in Utah are best left in their natural environment. Some are protected by law, and it may be illegal to collect or possess them.
- If you see an amphibian in Utah, please take a photo. Record the location where you observed the species, preferably with a GPS device or by noting nearby landmarks. Also record the date and time of the sighting, and then use the link or QR code below to submit your report.



Scan this code with your smartphone or visit <http://www.hoglezoo.org/utah-amphibians> to view an **Amphibians of Utah Field Guide**. This guide includes frog and toad vocalizations, regulations, additional species information, and a way to report amphibian sightings.

The amphibians on this poster are depicted at their average adult sizes.



Tiger Salamander

Ambystoma tigrinum

- Color and pattern may vary greatly, depending on age and locality; they are generally olive in coloration.
- Utah's only salamander species, commonly found in wetlands throughout the state.
- Does not vocalize or call.