



## **Barking Marsh Frog** *Limnodynastes fletcheri*

### **DESCRIPTION AND CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **Adults**

The adult Barking Marsh Frogs are of small to moderate size. They have large irregular edged brownish-olive green blotches on their back, as well as a reddish-orange patch on their upper eyelid. Skin on its back is smooth with low round warts, while the underside is white and smooth. The base of their toes are webbed. Adults are usually between 33 and 55mm in length.



Barking Marsh Frog. Source: David Kleinhert (<http://davidkphotography.com/index.php>)

#### **Tadpoles**

Tadpoles are moderately large with an ovoid body shape. They can range in colour from translucent white-gold with a tint of olive to opaque grey-brown or olive brown. When disturbed these tadpoles can move very quickly.

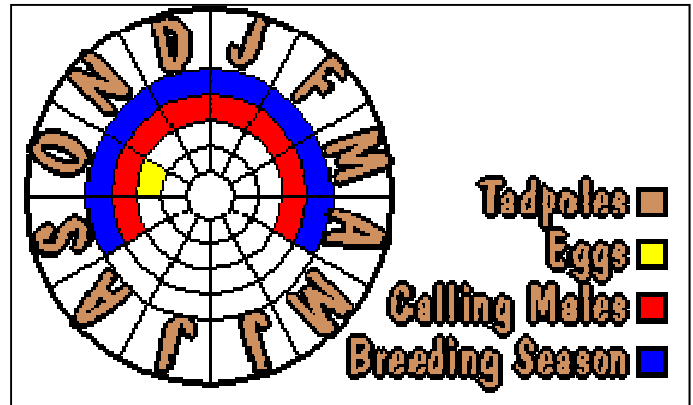
#### **Eggs**

Approximately 300 pigmented eggs are laid by the female frog, in a floating foam mass which is often partly attached to grasses. Eggs hatch three days after being laid.

## LIFE CYCLE AND MATING CALL

Male Barking Marsh Frogs call from amongst concealed floating vegetation within waterbodies. Their call is a short modulated note which sounds similar to that of a distant barking dog. This sound is repeated every few seconds- "whrup.....whurp....."

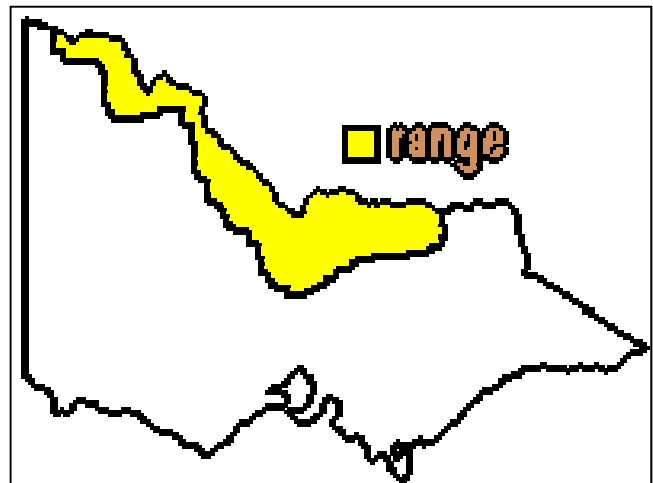
Breeding usually occurs between spring and autumn after heavy rains. Females become reproductively mature at around 2 years of age.



Life History Cycle (Source: [www.frogs.org.au](http://www.frogs.org.au))

## HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION

Barking Marsh Frog adults are most often associated with water, in woodlands and the floodplains of rivers. They can often be found under rocks, logs and in yabby burrows. Both the tadpoles and eggs of this species are commonly found in slow to still waters of isolated ponds, dams, lakes and sometimes rivers. In Victoria the Barking Marsh Frog's distribution is largely restricted to the floodplains of the Murray River.



Victorian Distribution (Source: [www.frogs.org.au](http://www.frogs.org.au))

## IMPORTANCE AND POTENTIAL THREATS

This species is not listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* as a threatened species. Population sizes and overall distribution of the Barking Tree Frog are not thought to be declining. Like most frog species of frog, the Barking Marsh Frog is believed to be af-

ected by human impacts such as urbanisation and tourism; inappropriate catchment management, including water quality deterioration and habitat modification due to clearing of vegetation and weed infestation.