

Zoos Victoria's Fighting Extinction Species

LARGE BROWN TREE FROG

Litoria littlejohni

Least Concern



Photo: Rohan Bilney

The Large Brown Tree Frog is the largest species of the *Litoria ewingii* complex with females measuring up to 72mm. They are considered rare with limited ecological data available, particularly in Victoria where detection records are limited.

The amphibian chytrid fungus is implicated in this species decline however timber harvesting, fire regimes and forest management practices are likely to play a significant role.

ZOOS
VICTORIA
Fighting Extinction

Zoos Victoria is committed to Fighting Extinction

We are focused on working with partners to secure the survival of our priority species before it is too late.

Photo: Michael McFadden



The Large Brown Tree Frog (*Litoria littlejohni*) is one of the most poorly understood amphibian species in Victoria. Until recently, the species had not been observed in our state since 1996 with only a handful of observations made at heavily disturbed sites. During the course of the next five years, we will build our current knowledge of this species within Victoria and develop in-situ habitat management to improve wild populations.

KEY PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Establish an effective long term monitoring program.
- Develop a deep understanding of the species captive biology and husbandry aligned with its natural history.
- Improve recruitment at known breeding sites.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

This is a newly prioritised Zoos Victoria Fighting Extinction species, we aim to achieve the objectives above and annually report on outcomes through Zoos Victoria communication channels.

THE SPECIES

The Large Brown Tree Frog extends along the south east coastal range of the great divide from Newcastle in NSW to East Gippsland in Victoria, however is only recorded from a small number of sites within its range.

It is considered rare with limited ecological data available, particularly in Victoria where detection records are limited with no detections between 1996 and 2015. Recent surveys in 2016 and 2017 have detected the species at 27 sites in Victoria, though successful reproduction is apparent at only two of these.

THE PLAN

Develop a long-term monitoring program from recently discovered populations.	\$180,000
Conduct in-situ habitat augmentation to improve recruitment.	\$260,000
Establish husbandry protocols for the Large Brown Tree Frog and secure individuals in our care.	\$80,000
Total cost over five years	\$520,000

How can I help?

We are currently working with partners to help secure a brighter future for the Large Brown Tree Frog. You can support our Wildlife Conservation Master Plan 2019-2024 by donating at: zoo.org.au/donate

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Arthur Rylah Institute
ari.vic.gov.au

Department of Environment,
Land, Water and Planning
delwp.vic.gov.au

NSW OEH
environment.nsw.gov.au

South Australian Museum
samuseum.sa.gov.au

University of Melbourne
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newcastle.edu.au

Wildlife Unlimited
wildlifeunlimited.net.au