

Saving our Species project 2014-15 annual report card

Southern Corroboree frog

Species attributes

Scientific name:	<i>Pseudophryne corroboree</i>
NSW status:	Critically endangered
Commonwealth status:	Critically endangered
Management stream:	Iconic



Photographer: D. Hunter

Key management site:	Jungungal Wilderness Area
Project partners:	Office of Environment and Heritage Taronga Conservation Society Australia Zoos Victoria Amphibian Research Centre Murray Local Land Services Wollongong University

Summary of outcomes

The objectives of this project have been successfully achieved to this stage. Artificial pools have been established in habitat that does not contain the Common Eastern Froglet (*Crinia signifera*), which is the reservoir host for the Amphibian Chytrid Fungus. The first cohort of captive bred eggs, from Taronga Zoo and Melbourne Zoo, reached metamorphosis in November 2014. A second cohort of eggs were released in April 2015 and are expected to reach metamorphosis in late November 2015. To adequately assess the merits of this technique, cohorts of eggs will be released into the pools each year until 2018. It is expected that the first cohort of eggs will reach sexual maturity in January 2018.

Office of Environment and Heritage expenditure: \$105,000

Partner contributions: \$275,000

Project objectives (from NSW Recovery Plan)

- Prevent the extinction of the southern corroboree frog in the wild
- Increase the viability of populations so they are self-sustaining in the longer term

Management site outcomes

Site	Key outcomes
Jugungal Wilderness Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the January 2015 breeding season only two male frogs were observed across 25 non-manipulated monitoring sites, whereas 17 males were recorded across four reintroductions sites. While this is a promising result, it is likely that greater survivorship will be achieved by releasing animals into habitat where the Common Eastern Froglet does not occur.• High survivorship and breeding has been observed for adult and juvenile frogs released into disease-free field enclosures. The two large and five small field enclosures currently support approximately 300 frogs.• In April 2015, a second cohort of captive bred eggs were released into the 15 artificial pools located in habitat not supporting the Common Eastern Froglet. Average survivorship to metamorphosis for the first cohort released in April 2014 was 60 per cent, which is consistent with the objectives of this project.