

Saving our Species project 2013-14 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: Jugungal Wilderness Area
LGA:
Project partners: OEH
 Taronga Conservation Society Australia
 Zoos Victoria
 Amphibian Research Centre
 Murray Local Land Services
 James Cook University
 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, were released into the artificial pools in April 2014. The tadpoles are expected to reach metamorphosis in late November, and are expected to reach sexual maturity in January 2018. Cohorts of eggs will be released into the pools each year for the following 4 years to adequately assess the merits of this technique.

Total expenditure = \$15,000

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	Expenditure	Key outcomes
Jugungal Wilderness Area	\$15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitoring results suggest that wild populations are continuing to decline. Only six male frogs were observed across non-manipulated sites. Across the four reintroduction sites where eggs have been released into artificial pools, 12 males returned during the January 2014 breeding season. While this is promising, the rate of return suggests this technique may not be an efficient approach to maintaining this species in the wild.• Five artificial ponds have been installed at each of three sites. Given the location of each pond, and the absence of other frog species in the area, we anticipate that the potential for frogs to be infected with the Amphibian Chytrid Fungus is very low.• Captive bred eggs were released into the 15 artificial pools in April 2014. Thirty eggs were released into each pool, and the level of survivorship to metamorphosis will be assessed in early November.