

# Saving our Species project 2015-2016 annual report card

## Yellow-spotted Tree Frog

### Species attributes

Scientific name:	<i>Litoria castanea</i>
NSW status:	Critically endangered
Commonwealth status:	Endangered
Management stream:	Site-managed



Photographer: David Hunter

### Overall project status\*



Populations at all sites are on target.



Populations at one or more sites were not monitored this year, but threat management is on target.  
Populations at remaining sites are on target.



Populations at one or more sites were not monitored this year, but threat management is not on target.  
Populations at remaining sites are on target.



Populations at one or more sites are not on target.

\* For SoS priority management sites (may not include all locations where the species occurs in NSW)

### Project summary

Priority management sites:	Survey; Taronga Captive Program; Yass Population
Action implementation:	6 of 6 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$69,770 (\$20,000 cash; \$49,770 in-kind)
Project partners:	Central Tablelands Local Land Services; NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage; Taronga Conservation Society Australia

# Management site 1: Yass Population

LGA: Yass Valley

Project partners: Central Tablelands Local Land Services; NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage

Estimated species population size: 2

## Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

**Not on target**

Baseline

Long term target	Annual target	Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
By 2036 the abundance and occupancy of wetlands by calling males is equal to or greater than levels recorded in 2009.	The abundance and occupancy of wetlands by calling males increases; in 2014 three calling males were recorded.	Species abundance	One calling male found at one wetland/pond.	Moderate	Office of Environment and Heritage

## Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$4,800

## Threat status

*This table includes critical threats that were monitored at this site, this financial year.*

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
Domestic stock; direct disturbance from cattle and sheep.	The habitat condition of each wetland increases from levels recorded in the previous year; measured qualitatively with regard to stock as the presence or absence of stock and evidence of stock disturbance within and on the immediate margins of wetlands.	Not on target	Moderate
Tussock and gorse encroaching on suitable habitat, limits availability of open space habitat used by the frogs.	The habitat condition of each wetland increases from levels recorded in the previous year; measured qualitatively with regard to weeds as the presence or absence of weeds within and on the immediate margins of wetlands.	Not on target	Moderate
Loss or modification of wetlands, swamps and slow-flowing creeks and the adjacent vegetation.	The habitat condition of each wetland increases from levels recorded in the previous year; measured as the proportion of each wetland containing different submergent and emergent plant species.	Not on target	Moderate

## Site summary

Monitoring of the known population was undertaken on three occasions as planned.

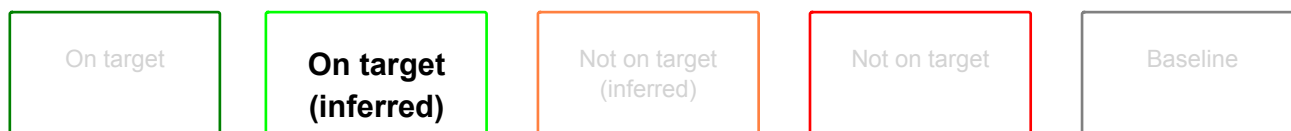
## Management site 2: Taronga Captive Program

LGA: Mosman

Project partners: NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage; Taronga Conservation Society Australia

Estimated species population size: 10

### Population status



Species population monitoring was not conducted at this site this financial year (not required annually). The species population is inferred to be on target based on threat management being on target.

### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$2,000
Taronga Conservation Society Australia	\$0	\$40,000

### Management actions

The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Restricted in-situ distribution / population size.	Maintain a captive population of the species at Taronga Sydney and promote the breeding and production of progeny for population augmentation and translocation. Undertake breeding trials with a captive population of the more numerous Southern Bell Frog ( <i>Litoria raniformis</i> ) to inform efforts for the <i>Litoria castanea</i> .	Yes

### Site summary

Captive Yellow-spotted Tree Frogs maintained (population currently three females and five males); breeding trials commenced in newly-built outdoor enclosure at Taronga Sydney with 19 male and 19 female Southern Bell Frogs (*Litoria raniformis*).

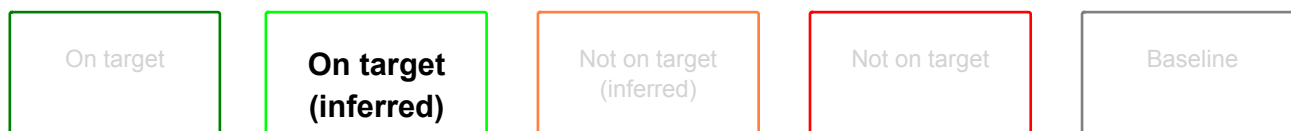
## Management site 3: Survey

LGA: Upper Lachlan; Yass Valley

Project partners: Central Tablelands Local Land Services; NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage

Estimated species population size: 0

### Population status



Species population monitoring was not conducted at this site this financial year (not required annually). The species population is inferred to be on target based on threat management being on target.

### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$20,000	\$2,970

### Management actions

*The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.*

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Lack of knowledge of additional populations, extent of suitable habitat or distribution of the species in the surrounding area.	Undertake targeted surveys to identify new populations and other areas of potential habitat that are suitable for future translocations. Initially focus on catchments including and adjacent to the known population; expand surveys to investigate the entire predicted distribution of the species and its habitat.	Yes

### Site summary

Intensive targeted surveys were undertaken in the vicinity of and including the catchment of the known wild population. This also provided further opportunities for engagement with local landholders.