

Saving our Species project 2013-14 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 key management sites are generally stable or increasing
- All management is being implemented as planned; too early to detect response to management at some sites
- Management at some sites requires review/amendment to ensure that the project is likely to meet its objectives
- Major review of / changes to the project required to ensure long-term objectives are likely to be met

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

Project summary

Key management sites:	Yass Population; Taronga Captive Program; Survey
Action implementation:	4 of 5 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$67,380 (cash and in-kind)
Project partners:	Office of Environment and Heritage; South East Local Land Services; Taronga Conservation Society Australia

Management site 1: Yass Population

LGA: Yass Valley

Project partners: Office of Environment and Heritage; South East Local Land Services

Species population monitoring action

Reported trends are based on best available information

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted	Conducted by	Trend
Unknown - very few	Yes	Office of Environment and Heritage	Decreasing

Investment

This includes cash and in-kind contributions

Project participant	Investment
South East Local Land Services	\$2,370
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$21,310

Project actions

The project actions below are those identified as being required in 2013-14 to secure the species in the wild

Threat	Management/monitoring action description	Implemented as planned?
Domestic stock; direct disturbance from cattle and sheep.	Install fencing (via incentive funding to landholder) to exclude grazers from key habitat areas during critical periods (winter). Any grazing should be periodic and strategic to manage weed densities.	Yes
Domestic stock; direct disturbance from cattle and sheep.	Liaise with landholder(s) about entering into a voluntary management agreement to maintain or enhance the riparian zone particularly with respect to grazing.	Yes
Tussock and gorse encroaching on suitable habitat, limits availability of open space habitat used by the frogs.	Physical and chemical control of weeds. Minimise off-target damage.	Yes

Site summary

Implemented riparian project with private landholders and excellent working relationship with South East Local Land Services who are keen to continue to assist in implementation. Active and interested landcare groups in area.

Management site 2: Taronga Captive Program

LGA: Mosman; Sydney Harbour And Botany Bay (Unincorporated)

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

Species population monitoring action

Reported trends are based on best available information

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted
10	No

Investment

This includes cash and in-kind contributions

Project participant	Investment
Taronga Conservation Society Australia	\$43,632

Project actions

The project actions below are those identified as being required in 2013-14 to secure the species in the wild

Threat	Management/monitoring action description	Implemented as planned?
Restricted in-situ distribution / population size.	Breeding facility custom built on site at Taronga Zoo. Using 12 individuals currently held in facility. Plans to collect more tadpoles from Yass population. Plan to release in 2013 in the Yass region.	No

Site summary

Despite implementing best science and drawing from past experience with other frogs, Yellow-Spotted Tree Frogs are yet to breed in captivity.

Management site 3: Survey

LGA: Upper Lachlan; Yass Valley

No actions were implemented at this site during 2013/14.