

FROGS & TOADS OF BC'S SOUTH COAST

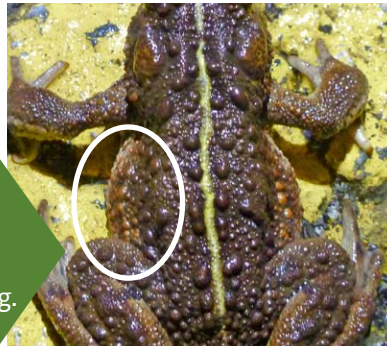
Does the frog have...

- many tough warts *and*
- a light-coloured line down its back?

Western Toad

Anaxyrus boreas

- Lives on land in sheltered areas like forests.
- Swarms of tiny toadlets migrate in the spring.



Warts and line



NO

- prominent adhesive toepads on the front feet *and*
- a bandit-like eye mask?

Pacific Chorus Frog

Pseudacris regilla

- Lives everywhere, even urban environments.
- Vocal frog whose colour ranges from brown to bright green.



Toepads and eye mask



NO

- skin ridges down either side of its back *and*
- no visible ear drum?

Northern Red-legged Frog

Rana aurora

- Lives in moist habitats like ponds and forests.
- Known for its long legs with red undersides.



Skin ridges down back



NO

- eyes set back on the head *and* facing upward?

Oregon Spotted Frog

Rana pretiosa

- Lives in water year round.
- Rarest frog in Canada.
- Easily confused with the Red-Legged Frog but lacks skin ridges on its back.



Eyes facing upwards



NO

FROGS & TOADS OF BC'S SOUTH COAST – continued from front

Does the frog have...

- a tail (males only)?
- vertical pupils (like a cat)?

Coastal Tailed Frog

Ascaphus truei

- Lives in or near fast moving mountain streams.
- Smallest frog in BC.



Vertical pupils



Photo: Chris Lee

Tail (males only)

NO

- a large visible ear drum *and*
- skin ridges down either side of its back?

Green Frog

Rana clamitans

- Lives in ponds and wetlands everywhere.
- Sounds like a banjo and calls in the summer.

INVASIVE!



Ear drum & skin ridges



NO

- a large visible ear drum *and*
- no skin ridges on the back?

American Bullfrog

Rana catesbeiana

- Lives in ponds and wetlands everywhere.
- Voracious predator – eats native frogs!

INVASIVE!

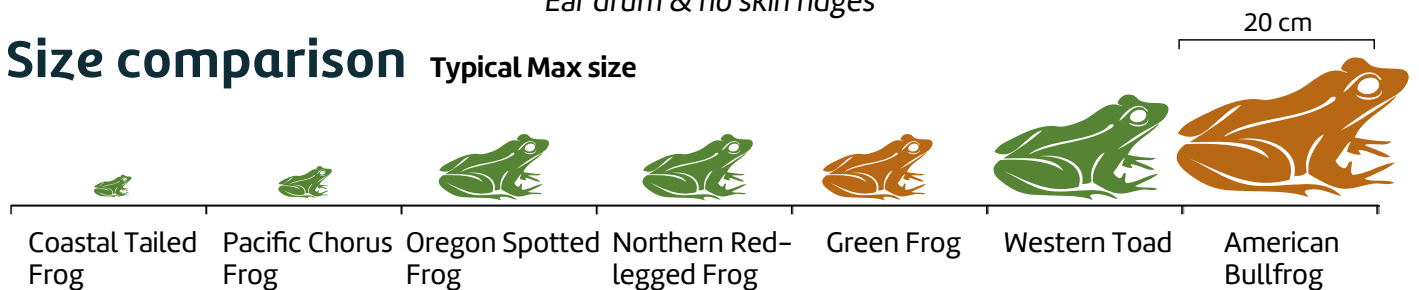


Ear drum & no skin ridges



Size comparison

Typical Max size



Don't be distracted by colour!

All these frogs come in different colours, so use the identifying features listed.



This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada. Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.



Fraser Valley Conservancy
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If you would like help identifying an amphibian, send a picture to outreach@fraservalleyconservancy.ca