USGS
science for a changing world

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
Frogwatch USA Frog and Toad Monitoring Program

Over the past 150 years, rapid growth in agriculture, industry, and urban development has resulted in dramatic changes in our environment. These changes pose significant challenges for animals and plants, as seen with the decline of frogs, toads and salamanders.

Amphibians: Biological Indicators in Decline

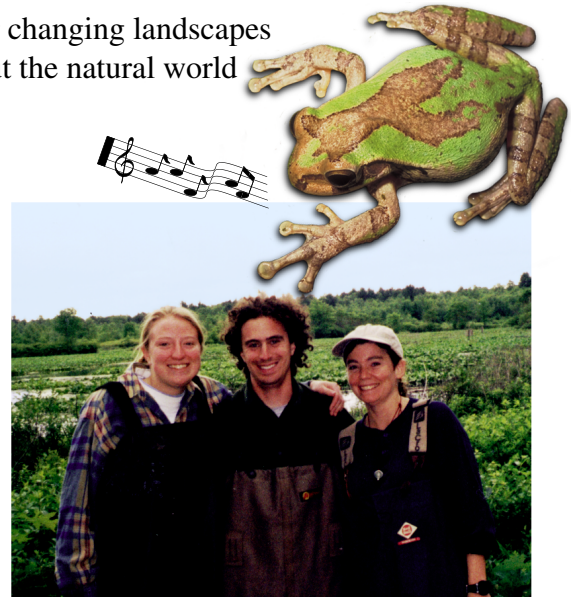
It is well recognized among scientists that amphibian populations have declined. Several species are now extinct and once-thriving populations have diminished in numbers. Habitat loss, exposure to contaminants, ultraviolet radiation, introduced species, parasites, and fungal diseases are some of the factors identified as having caused amphibian declines.

Understanding the decline of amphibian populations is crucial in uncovering how people's activities are affecting water quality, wildlife habitat, and other aspects of our environment. We share our environment with amphibians and their decline may foreshadow challenges we will have to face in the 21st Century.

What is Frogwatch USA?

Frogwatch USA is a long-term frog and toad monitoring program that complements other ongoing amphibian monitoring efforts across the USA. Frogwatch USA:

- Collects important information about frog and toad populations
- Promotes an appreciation for diversity of frogs and toads
- Fosters an understanding of the importance of wetlands within our changing landscapes
- Provides an opportunity for children and adults to learn more about the natural world



How does Frogwatch USA Work?

Frogwatch USA is a National Wildlife Federation/USGS Partnership that relies on volunteers across the nation to collect valuable data. Volunteers participate by:

- Learning the life histories and the voices of their local frogs
- Choosing safe and convenient wetlands to monitor; often in backyards or local parks
- Periodically monitoring sites by listening three minutes for frogs and toads after dusk
- Registering and submitting findings via the Frogwatch USA website

Volunteers are Part of the Solution

Data collected by volunteers of Frogwatch USA provide important information about:

- Distributions of frog and toad populations
- Population trends at individual wetlands
- Yearly patterns of frog and toad breeding activity

Let a Frog Sing to You Tonight!

Be Part of the Solution:
www.frogwatch.org

Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Biological Resources Division

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