

## **Healthy Water on Healthy Farms: Threatened Frog Conservation in the Agricultural Landscape.**

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Global Frog Decline Phenomena

- Over the past three decades, 40% of all the worlds frog species have been in serious decline, 88 species may be extinct.
- These declines have been primarily due to disease caused by infection with the Amphibian Chytrid Fungus, and habitat degradation.

The Booroolong Frog: in the mid 1990's, this species was only known to be persisting along two streams.

Surveys on the Southwest Slopes of NSW found the Booroolong Frog persisting along many streams flowing through farms

The Booroolong Frog requires clean rock crevices, as this is where they lay their eggs.

Perfect river for the Booroolong Frog: lots of clean rocks, and native vegetation protecting the stream banks from erosion.

Cattle damaging Booroolong Frog habitat: trampling of rock banks reduces the number of suitable crevices.

Removal of native vegetation: causes stream bank erosion which smothers the rock crevices that the Booroolong Frog needs.

Weeds are also smothering Booroolong Frog habitat: particularly willows and blackberries

What does the Booroolong Frog need? Rural communities to care for the river environment where this frog lives.

Farmers and other property owners are helping to save the Booroolong Frog: nearly all sections of stream on private property where this frog occurs in the Murray Catchment is being protected.

Restricting stock access to rivers and managing weeds helps protect Booroolong Frog habitat. It also increases the quality of river habitats for other species like fish and birds.

Yellow-spotted Bell Frog: had not been seen in the wild for 30 years, and was recently found persisting on a farm.

What does the Yellow-spotted Bell Frog like: reeds, sedges, and other aquatic vegetation.