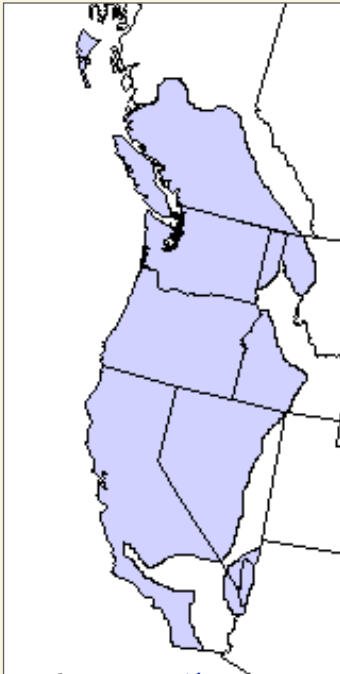


Distribution



Map from www.squidoo.com

Pseudacris regilla, the Pacific Chorus Frog, ranges from Baja California and Mexico, north to British Columbia, Canada. They also stretch as far inward as Arizona, Utah, and Montana. In addition, they have been introduced to southeastern Alaska. The species occurs from sea level to approximately 3000 meters above sea level.

Above information from www.natureserve.org/explorer

INTRODUCED SPECIES

Introducing amphibians is illegal in Alaska and can have detrimental, even dire repercussions on the native species. Introduced invasives compete for the same resources as native species and in some cases they will even eat them!

Help us protect our native species by helping to limit the spread of exotic invasive amphibians such as these!



Photo from natureid.blogspot.com

ALASKA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY



The Alaska Herpetological Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the field of Herpetology in the State of Alaska. Our mission is to promote sound research and management of amphibians and reptiles in the North, to foster responsible pet ownership and to provide opportunities in outreach, education, and citizen science for individuals who are interested in these species.

WEB:

WWW.AKHERPSOCIETY.ORG

FACEBOOK:

ALASKA HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PACIFIC CHORUS FROG

INTRODUCED

Pseudacris regilla



Ward Lake specimen captured in 2010.

Photo by Joshua Ream

INFORMATION

This information on the Pacific Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris regilla*) has been provided by the Alaska Herpetological Society.

You can help locate this species on our website, via a voucher or via the epicollect app. See www.akherpsociety.org for more information.

Pacific Chorus Frog Information

ADULT

Adults are 2-5cm (1-2.2in) long. A dark eye stripe runs from the tip of the nose to the shoulder. The tip of each toe has a round, sticky toe pad. Their belly is white and unmarked.

TADPOLE

The tadpoles are greenish grey and flecked with fold markings. Viewed from above, the eyes extend to the outline of the head. The Red-legged Frog tadpole appears similar but with inset eyes.

EGGS

The eggs are laid in masses that are usually attached to underwater vegetation. The egg mass is small (less than 4cm) and round, and the eggs are enclosed in a thin layer of jelly. Eggs number from 12-60.

FACTS

This frog was once called the Pacific Treefrog (*Hyla regilla*). It is found in a variety of habitats from pristine mountainous areas to farmland. Primarily a ground dweller in low vegetation close to water.

Adults move to shallow pools and ponds to breed in early spring but will wander away to forage in low bushes and trees for insects.

The round pads at the tips of their toes stick to minute irregularities, enabling these frogs to climb almost any surface. They are the only frogs that will have these in Alaska.

The two-note male mating call is repeated continuously and amplified by large round vocal sacs inflated beneath the chin. For being so small they are quite loud! The round vocal sac at the throat can be up to three times the size of their

head when calling. A group of calling males is known as a "chorus".



Photo from blog.nwf.org

HANDLING AMPHIBIANS

It is actually illegal in the State of Alaska to handle or remove Native amphibians from their habitat without a scientific collection permit.

Handling them can increase the spread of disease and allows deadly chemicals like bug spray and sunscreen to easily penetrate their permeable skin. Removing them can hurt populations and change their genetic structure. Never move amphibians from place to place.

When possible, scrub boots, waders, nets and other equipment with a 5% bleach solution between sites or when you return home. This helps to stop the spread of diseases like chytrid fungus which has been identified in Alaska and can cause mass amphibian mortality.

Also, never release a pet amphibian into the wild!



Photo from www.projectnoah.org



Photo from www.kingcounty.gov

HOW WAS THIS SPECIES INTRODUCED?

A Ketchikan resident brought the first Pacific Chorus Frogs to Alaska in a 5-gallon bucket from the state of Washington*. The resident claims to have released the frogs around 1960 at a small pond near Ward Lake in Ketchikan. To date, the only viable population of this species known to exist in the state occurs at this release location.

The Pacific Chorus Frog has also shown up in Christmas trees imported to Alaska from Oregon and Washington. None of these are known to have established viable populations in Alaska.

*Waters, et.al. (1998) Bull. Chicago Herp Society 53(6):124-127