

27 April 2009

## Featured Species

Pacific chorus frog (*Pseudacris regilla*)



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Pacific chorus frog (PCF) near lizard (above); PCF eggs (below) Beth Pratt photos taken outside Yosemite National Park.



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### **Pacific Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris regilla*)**

The Pacific chorus frog may be found as far north as southern British Columbia, south to Baja California, and east to Montana, Idaho, and Nevada. The Pacific chorus frog has large toe pads, a black stripe through the eye, and varies greatly in color from green to light tan to black. This species is active in both the day and night and can be found in grass and shrubs close to water. Pacific chorus frogs breed from January to August, depending on location. The mating call of the Pacific chorus frog is a high pitched, two part musical note. This frog is currently being heard in many parts of the country.

## News From Around the Country

### What FrogWatchers are Hearing

- Valerie from northern Vt. heard her first spring peepers of the season on 15 April and saw wood frog eggs in the water-filled ditch in front of her house.
- Mandy in western Mass. saw wood frog eggs and spotted salamander eggs in a vernal pool, along with a red back salamander, in the forest on 21 April.
- Lou in R.I. is seeing a few early green frogs.
- Kelsey in Maryland is hearing spring peepers, Fowler's toads, southern leopard frogs, chorus frogs, and has seen Fowler's toads and American toads crossing the road.

### UPCOMING TRAINING SESSIONS

Learn more about FrogWatch USA or hone your FrogWatching skills at these upcoming training sessions. Contact the listed facilitator for training session start times and locations.

Edmonds Backyard Wildlife  
Habitat Project (Wash.) 4/28/09  
[www.reczone.org](http://www.reczone.org)

Send us your FrogWatch training dates and we'll add them to the list!

### Frog-girl in New Jersey

Keira is a seven-year old who is known as "frog-girl" in her neighborhood. She loves frogs and is very insistent on sharing her love of frogs with everyone. She even wants to educate her 2nd grade peers on the importance of saving these animals and is currently working on a presentation to share with her classroom, along with organizing a local pond clean-up. Keira has several pet frogs and toads and belongs to multiple nature centers.

### Endangered Species Day is Coming Up!

Twenty-two amphibians are listed as "threatened" or "endangered" under the Endangered Species Act by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Endangered Species Day is celebrated on 15 May; look for Endangered Species Day activities at your local AZA-accredited zoo or aquarium ([www.aza.org/FindZooAquarium/](http://www.aza.org/FindZooAquarium/)) or read more about these listed species at [www.fws.gov/endangered/](http://www.fws.gov/endangered/).

### Photos by FrogWatchers



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A wood frog pokes his head out from underneath a leaf in a pond in Oxford, Conn (above).

### Attract Amphibians to Your Yard: Tip #4

#### Build a Backyard Pond

Attract amphibians and other wildlife to your backyard by building a backyard pond. Not only will this attract wildlife to your backyard but you can enjoy the beauty and peace a pond will add to your yard. Learn more at: [http://www.nwf.org/FrogwatchUSA/content\\_askexpert-06-04.cfm](http://www.nwf.org/FrogwatchUSA/content_askexpert-06-04.cfm)

Other tips can be found in earlier issues of the FrogWatch USA newsletter, which are available at [www.aza.org/frogwatch](http://www.aza.org/frogwatch).

#### AZA's Special Digital Edition of CONNECT.

Published annually, the special digital edition of CONNECT highlights AZA accredited zoo and aquarium conservation and education efforts. Whether it's saving amphibians in Panama or Western pond turtles in Oregon, you can read about the cutting edge work being done by zoo and aquarium professionals to save a wide range of species. Visit [www.azaconnect.com/aza/200904/](http://www.azaconnect.com/aza/200904/).

#### We Want to Hear From You!

Please share your FrogWatching experiences or any of your frog-related Earth Day activities with us and your fellow FrogWatch Volunteers! Send stories and photos to [mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org](mailto:mgaudreau@rwpzoo.org), and you may see yourself in an upcoming FrogWatch newsletter! The newsletter will be published twice a month throughout the FrogWatching season.