



Bibrons Toadlet *Pseudophryne bibroni*

SURVEY NOTES

Where do we look?

Bibron's toadlets are found in areas we might not necessarily associate with frogs. They occur in dry forest, woodland, shrubland and grasslands, sheltering in moist soaks or small depressions, puddles, roadside ditches, small dams and channels. The water bodies they associate with can be quite small, only filling up after rain. They spawn in small burrows made from leaf litter and other debris in low areas close to water. Therefore, any site that has a small damp depression or ditch, with sufficient surrounding vegetation and vegetation litter, is worth surveying

What are we looking for?

The recommended survey technique for the Bibron's toadlet doesn't actually involve *looking* for the frog; but rather, listening for it. Bibron's toadlets are quite small animals that have a fairly cryptic life style, making them pretty hard to locate by eye.

Luckily for us, they can be pretty noisy when looking for a mate! This makes breeding season the best time, by far, to search for these little frogs. Although it is reported that they



Ventral view (Source: Peter Robertson/ frogs.org.au)

can be heard calling at any time of the year, February to June is when they are most likely to be heard.

We recommend you visit locations that you think may contain suitable habitat for the toadlet during the calling season. The best time to listen for the toadlet is dusk or during the evening, just after rain. The toadlet will still call during the day, so it's worth having a look then if you don't want to survey after dark.

If you don't hear the toadlet at a site, you can try imitating their call (a tape or CD is fine as well). A bit of potential competition may get them calling!

Make sure you fill out a site survey form whether you hear a toadlet or not. If you hear a toadlet, try and get a recording of its call.

If you do hear a toadlet, **please do not try and locate its burrow/nest**. They are very fragile and hard to find (you may step on the nest before you find the toadlet). It's best not to pick up the toadlets, as we may inadvertently transfer disease or harmful chemicals to the individual.



Dorsal view (Source: Peter Robertson/ frogs.org.au)