

The dorsal (upper) surface of the bullfrog has an olive-green basal color, either plain or with a mottling and banding of grayish-brown. The ventral (under) surface is off-white blotched with yellow or gray. The eyes are prominent with brown irises and horizontal almond-shaped pupils.



Tadpoles initially have three pairs of external gills and several rows of labial teeth. Time of change from tadpole to frog ranges from a few months to three years, depending on water temperature.



Bullfrog males are usually smaller than females and have yellow throats. Males eardrums are larger than their eyes, whereas the eardrums in females are about the same size as the eyes.



American Bullfrog *Rana Catesbeiana*



The female chooses a site in shallow water among vegetation, and lays a batch of up to 20,000 eggs. The eggs form a thin, floating sheet which may cover an area of 5.4 to 10.8 sq. ft. Embryos hatch in 3-5 days

INVASIVE to San Juan Islands

This medium-sized to large toad has a blunt head, stout body, broad waist, short legs and “warty” skin. Adults range from 2”-5” snout-vent length. The back of the body color is usually brown or green, but can also be gray, reddish-brown, or olive. Warts are usually surrounded by dark blotches and may be reddish in color. A distinct, thin, light mid-back stripe is present on all except some of the smallest juveniles.



Prominent oval salivary glands, called parotid glands, are present on the head behind to the eyes.



Eggs are laid in late April-early May and are laid in long strings on bare sediments or intertwined in vegetation in shallow water near shore. Females lay an average of 12,000 eggs per clutch. Estimated counts range from 6,000 to 20,000 eggs. Embryos hatch in less than 2 weeks.



The tadpole is uniformly dark and appears black in the water. The body is flattened across the back with a low tail. The eyes are situated relatively high on the head. Development to metamorphosis takes approximately two months depending on temperature and food availability.

Western Toad

Bufo boreas

Also known as Boreas Toad

NATIVE to San Juan Island

A medium to large-sized stocky, brown salamander with a rounded snout, rough glandular skin, and bright orange underside. Adults are 6-9cm snout-vent length and 11-18 cm total length.



Larvae are pond-type with large gills and a high tail fin. The eyes are on the margin of the head. Metamorphosis takes place when larvae are about 3-7cm in total length.



*Rough-Skinned Newts are **POISONOUS**. The toxin is produced within the skin, not secreted. Newts can be handled safely but care should be taken with small children prone to putting things in their mouths. After handling any amphibian, one should avoid touching the mucus membranes of the eyes, nose and mouth until hands have been washed.*



The ova (eggs) are small (1.8 mm diameter), laid singly and are hidden by the female in vegetation. The ovum is tan above and cream below with a thin layer of jelly surrounding the capsule. The jelly retains its shape out of water.



When threatened, newts arch the head towards the tail. This posture reveals the bright orange coloration of the underside that warns predators of its toxicity.

Rough-Skinned Newt

Taricha granulosa

NATIVE to San Juan Island
POISONOUS

These frogs have shiny, smooth skin and long back legs. The coloration varies, depending on the background. They can be fluorescent lime green, brown, tan, or grey, and can change color to blend in with their surroundings. This is critical, because they have many predators, from snakes to raccoons to owls.



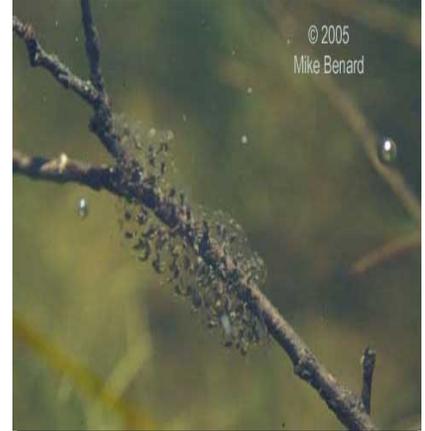
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Late summer or early fall, you may see groups of tadpoles hopping across roads to the forests on newly sprouted legs.



Also known as Pacific Tree Frog

Pacific Chorus Frog *Pseudacris Regalla*



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Spring is when you'll see tiny clusters of eggs—clear with dark specks—on sticks and grasses in shallow water.

Mostly nocturnal, you'll have to look closely during the day. They are usually found close to the ground, hidden in grasses and shrubs. They often climb stalks of grasses and reeds in search of prey.

NATIVE to San Juan Islands



Sticky toe pads help them climb grasses and reeds in search of prey.

These fairly large salamanders grow to 8.7 inches in length. It is found from southeastern Alaska on May Island, through Washington and Oregon south to the mouth of the Gulala River, Sonoma County, California. It occurs from sea level to the timberline, but not east of the Cascade Divide. Its range includes Vancouver Island in British Columbia and Cypress, Whidbey, Bainbridge, and Vashon Islands in Washington.



Egg masses are large (5–15 cm long, 5–8 cm wide), contain anywhere from 30–270 eggs, and generally have a firm jelly layer. Adults breed in semipermanent and permanent wetlands, lakes, and slow-flowing streams and rivers. Over time, symbiotic algae invade egg masses, providing eggs with oxygen.



Metamorphosed individuals have conspicuous parotid glands and poison glands along the tail. They assume a characteristic "head-down" defensive posture when challenged by predators. Rough-skinned newts have been observed attempting to eat northwestern salamander eggs.



Hatchlings average about 8 mm, and larvae 1–7 days old were 15–20 mm. Most larvae overwinter and metamorphose at 12–14 mo, but some overwinter a second year.



Northwestern Salamander

Ambystoma Gracile

NATIVE to San Juan Island

This is a medium-sized frog with a slender body, smooth skin, distinct dorsolateral (outer edges of the back) folds, and an eye mask. In Washington females rarely exceed 3.5" and males rarely exceed 2.73". The back color is tan, brown or olive-brown with varying amounts of black spotting and speckling.



The tadpole has an oval body with eyes on top. The tail tip is pointed and the dorsal fin is at least as high as the height of the tail musculature. At hatching, the tadpoles are dark brown but appear black in most light. They have long tails and short gills. .



The undersides of the legs and edges of the abdomen are brick to orange-red; a gray wash may be present. A distinct, contrastingly mottled, patch of black and cream to greenish-yellow coloration is present at the groin.



Egg masses are globular with jelly that is soft and pliable to the touch. Roughly the size of a grapefruit. They are attached to vegetation 1/2" or more below the water surface.



Northern Red-Legged Frog *Rana Aurora*

NATIVE to San Juan Islands