

# Rare Animals of Louisiana



## Ornate Chorus Frog

*Pseudacris ornata*

**Rarity Rank:** S1/G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure



### Identification:

- Stout frog, overall body color varies from green, gray to reddish brown
- Pronounced black stripe runs from nose through the eye and extends down the side to about the shoulder
- There are black markings on its side and low in back as well as a pronounced black triangle between the eyes

### Habitat:

Longleaf pine forest, pine flatwoods, and cypress ponds

### Food habits:

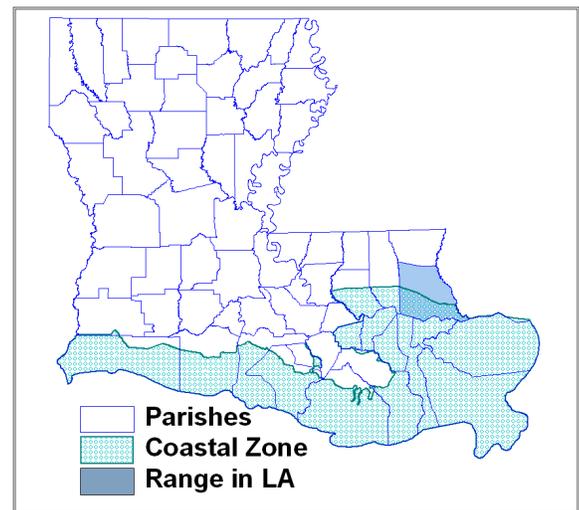
Small insects and worms

### Range:

- Coastal Plain from North Carolina to eastern Louisiana
- South through much of Florida

### Reproduction:

- Reaches sexual maturity at 1 year of age
- Breeding occurs during the winter in translucent pools surrounded by grass, swampy pools surrounded by sphagnum moss, and occasionally drainage ditches
- Eggs are laid in groups of 10 to 100 along twigs submerged in the water
- Hatching and transformation times are temperature dependent: the colder the temperature, the longer it takes to complete maturation
- The eggs hatch in a week or so after being laid and tadpoles transform to little frogs in two or three months



Range based on occurrences in Natural Heritage database

### Threats:

- Habitat destruction resulting from urban development
- Species has been historically rare in Louisiana

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## ***Beneficial Management Practices:***

Use smart growth practices, such as developing retention ponds and developing on less space

## ***LA River Basins:***

Pearl, Pontchartrain

## ***References:***

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