



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Natural Heritage Program

Pseudacris streckeri Strecker's Chorus Frog



Identification: A stout frog, almost resembling a toad in form; coloration variable but includes green, dark green, gray, and light brown. There are irregularly shaped dark brown to black spots along back. A distinctive dark, mask-like stripe runs from the snout to the shoulder which may continue along the sides. Most have a dark triangle shaped spot on forehead between eyes.

Measurements: Adults: total length can be over 1.5 inches long.

Voice: Bell like repetitious notes or a "ka-week" sound, like a squeaky wheel.

Taxonomic comments: Populations in Louisiana are designated as the subspecies *Pseudacris streckeri streckeri*. A northern subspecies, *Pseudacris streckeri illinoensis*, the Illinois Chorus Frog is also recognized.

Status: Global rank is **G5** and state rank is **S1**.

Habitat: This species requires soils that are predominated by sand in both forested and grassland habitats.

Range: The range extends from southern Kansas and eastern Oklahoma through eastern Texas and the northeastern edge of Louisiana.

Food habits: small arthropods

Reproduction: These frogs breed in short-lived, fishless ephemeral ponds between November and May. Females lay between 400-700 eggs in smaller clusters on vegetation submerged under the water. Tadpoles take 2-3 months to transform.

Reason for decline: Temporary pools that dry out in the summer and have no predators (i.e., fish) are essential for the Strecker's chorus frog to breed. These pools are rare and frequently destroyed by humans developing land.

Interesting facts: This species uses its forelegs to burrow into the ground, an unusual behavior for frogs.

Known distribution in Louisiana:



Dates of documented observations are: 1968, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, and 1982

References

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Wilson, L. A. 1995. Land Manager's Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of the south. Nature Conservancy, Chapel Hill, North Carolina