

Media release

For immediate release

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Drought breaking rainfall – calling all Perth citizens to listen out for the moaning frogs!

With the first major downpour in Perth since August 12, this morning's rainfall is a welcome relief for everyone, including the moaning frogs.

Now that the rain has finally arrived, researchers from The University of Western Australia (UWA) and ClimateWatch, a national citizen science monitoring program, are calling on citizens to listen out for the moaning frogs in Perth, to find out where they are living.

Richard Weatherill, ClimateWatch program manager says “These evasive burrowing frogs are hard to find but can easily be heard during their breeding season as they call out to attract a mate with their distinctive long low moan”.

“Their breeding season starts with the first rains of autumn so now is an ideal time to listen out for them in your garden, local park or wetlands”, he says.

Historically, moaning frogs have lived throughout the Perth region however UWA researchers are concerned their populations are being significantly affected by urbanisation and climate change.

“If the general public can help us find out where the moaning frog communities still are, we can investigate the resilience of these enclaves and assess whether or not they are being affected by Perth's changing landscape and climate,” explains Assistant Professor Nicki Mitchell at the School of Animal Biology at UWA.

“If you have a moaning frog living in your area, we would love to know about it.”

Anyone can help as you don't need to be an expert in identifying frogs. All you need to do is listen out for the distinctive call of the moaning frog as you are out and about over the next

few weeks. To familiarise yourself with the call of the moaning frog visit the ClimateWatch website link <http://www.climatewatch.org.au/species/frogs/moaning-frog>

If you are lucky enough to hear or see a resident moaning frog in your area, record your observation on the **ClimateWatch** website, along with other local wildlife sightings.

Other information

ClimateWatch Website www.climatewatch.org.au

To listen to the call of the moaning frog visit -
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