

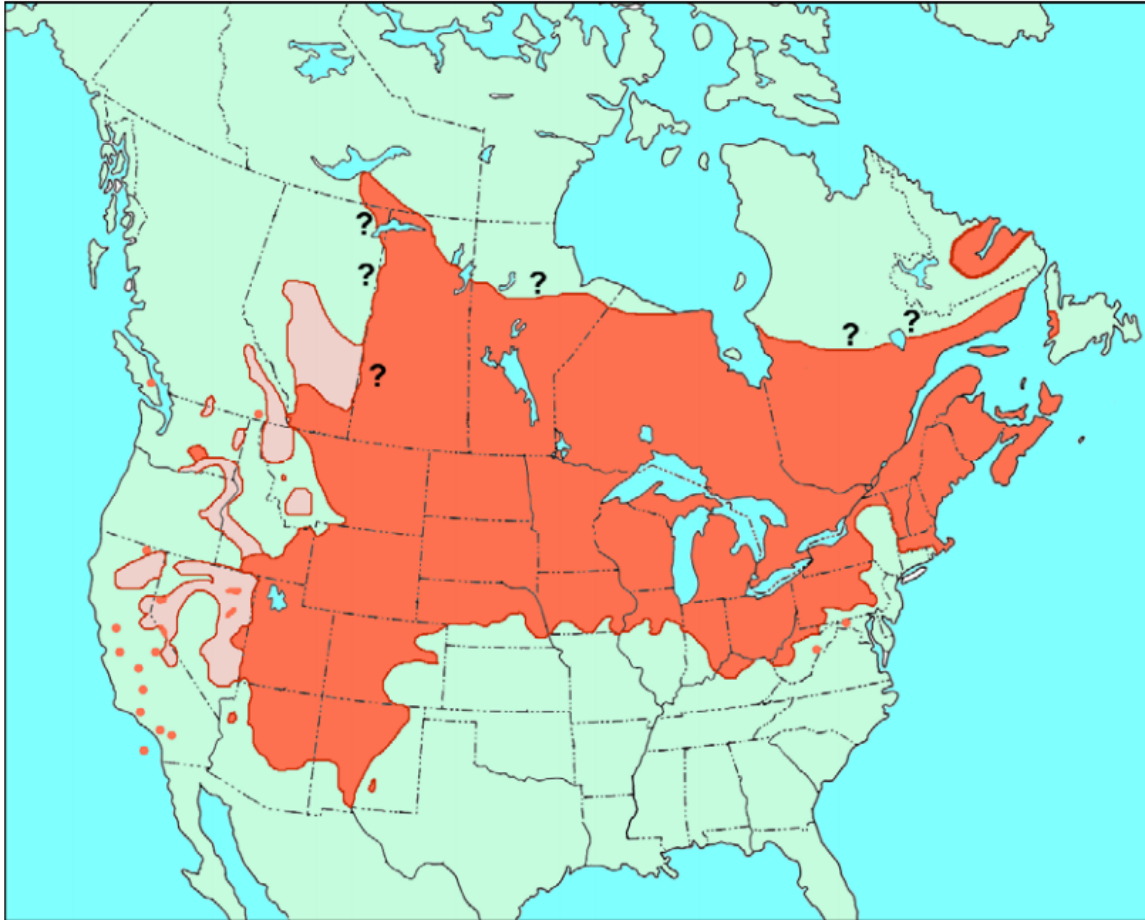


Species at Risk Profile Series: Northern Leopard Frog



- Northern Leopard Frogs on the prairies are listed as Special Concern in Canada.
- Look for a green or brown frog with dark spots on its back and legs.
- They overwinter in waterbodies that won't completely freeze, breed in shallow waterbodies, and use moist meadows over the summer.
- Males call to attract females in the spring, and females then lay up to 7,000 eggs.
- Embryos and tadpoles develop based on water temperature—warmer water allows faster development.
- They are associated with major river drainages and native grasslands.
- Their preferred foraging habitat is in native grass less than 30 cm (12 in) high.
- They emerge from hibernation when water temperatures reach about 7-10 degrees C.
- Each year, as many as 60% of adults and 90% of juveniles die, and their average lifespan is approximately 4-5 years.
- Although they will eat anything that is small enough to swallow, they primarily eat insects.





Conservation

- Northern Leopard Frogs in western Canada have experienced the greatest declines.
- Large-scale declines occurred in the 1970s.
- Emerging diseases have the potential to severely limit frog populations.
- Their diverse habitat needs makes habitat loss a particular concern, since removal of just one habitat type can make the landscape unsuitable.

Get involved

- Read the assessment and status report for Northern Leopard Frogs [here](#).
- You can help track frog population trends by participating in [FrogWatch](#).

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Range map credit: COSEWIC. 2009. COSEWIC assessment and update status report on the Northern Leopard Frog *Lithobates pipiens*, Rocky Mountain population, Western Boreal/Prairie populations and Eastern populations, in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. vii + 69 pp. (www.sararegistry.gc.ca/status/status_e.cfm).