Bullfrog

Non-native Predator Frog 2003 Series

BULLFROG... Rana catesbeiana

FEDERAL STATUS - None... Invader!

HABITAT - An exotic, non-native species which eats other frogs. Originally from southeastern U.S. and transplanted in the west by human introductions. Upper elevation limit is 9,000 feet.

IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS - Largest frog, up to 8 inches. Conspicuous eardrum (tympanum) behind eye. No dorsolateral folds. These two characteristics separate them out from all large native CA frogs. Olive-green or brown above, sometimes with dense spotting on the top. Legs banded. A deep-pitched bellow sounding like *jug-o-rum* or *br-wum*.

Reference: USDA. 1991. Monitoring frogs and toads on Region 5 National Forests. R-5 Fish Habitat Relationship Technical Bulletin. Number 4. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region.
Stebbins, Robert C. 1998. A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
Map: California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System, revised 9/19/96 by J. Vindum
Photo Credit: Ken DeCamp, USFS