

Types of frog calls

The calls made by frogs are not just used to attract a mate. Other type of calls made by frogs include territorial calls, distress calls, warning calls and release calls.

- Territorial calls are calls made by male frogs to inform others that this is their patch and that intruders should 'back off! Often these calls are a low groan or are slightly different to the mating call. Territorial calls and mating calls are often classed as advertisement calls, letting other frogs know that they are present.
- Distress calls are very dramatic calls made by a frog that is being attacked by a predator. These calls are usually a high-pitched scream or wail that startles a predator causing it to release the frog, allowing it to escape. These calls are a clear sign of panic and can be quite distressing to hear.
- A warning call is a noise that is made by a frog that has been startled or disturbed. The frog may make a short grunt or squawk as it jumps away; probably letting other frogs know that there may be some danger. These calls are very much like the exclamation noises humans make when they have been surprised.
- Release calls are made by frogs that have been grabbed by another frog that is searching for a mate. If a male frog is unsuccessfully trying to attract a mate, he may grab hold of any frog that moves past him. If he grabs a male frog, a female frog that has already bred or a frog of a different species, the grabbed frog will make a release call to let him know that he is wasting his time and should let go. In Green Tree Frogs, these calls sound like the soft clucking of a chicken and they are sometimes made by the frog if it is being held too tightly in your hands!
- Territorial and mating calls are usually only made by male frogs searching for a mate. The other calls are made by both male and female frogs. Some people report that some frogs will also make a rain call at the onset of light rains. These may be a call of joy that the rains are on their way, but they are more likely a sign that the changing weather has jogged the frog into activity.

<http://www.waterwatchadelaide.net.au/index.php?page=frog-communication>

<http://waterwatchadelaide.net.au/index.php?page=other-frog-calls>