

# Adult amphibian identification on Haida Gwaii

## Don't be distracted by colour

Adults come in many colours. For the **toads**, look for the *warts* and the *pale line* down the back of the toads (can be very pale/almost absent for juvenile toads), for the **Tree frog** look for the *bandit mask* and for the **Northern red-legged frog**, look for the *raised ridges* running down each side of their back. NB Sunscreen and insect repellent harm amphibian's skin.

**Western toad – *Anaxyrus boreas*** - only indigenous amphibian on Haida Gwaii – *warts* and *pale line* down centre of their back



**Tree frog/Pacific chorus frog – *Pseudacris regilla*** – introduced to Haida Gwaii in the 1930s & 1960s – *bandit mask*



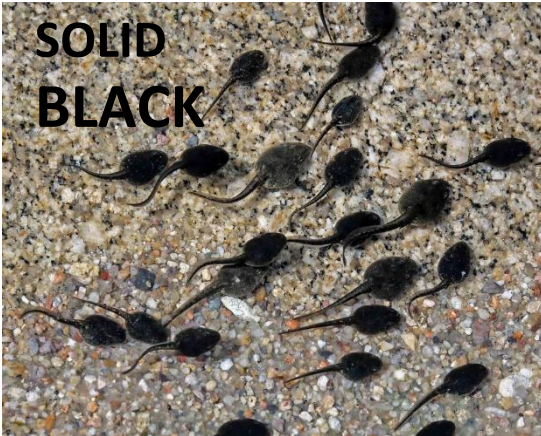
**Northern red-legged frog – *Rana aurora*** – introduced - likely in 1990s - *raised ridges* running down each side of back



Made by Roseanna Gamlen-Greene (PhD student studying amphibians on Haida Gwaii) – for more info contact [roseanna.gamlen.greene@gmail.com](mailto:roseanna.gamlen.greene@gmail.com). If you see toad adults, juveniles, tadpoles or eggs please let Roseanna know.

# Amphibian tadpole and egg identification on Haida Gwaii

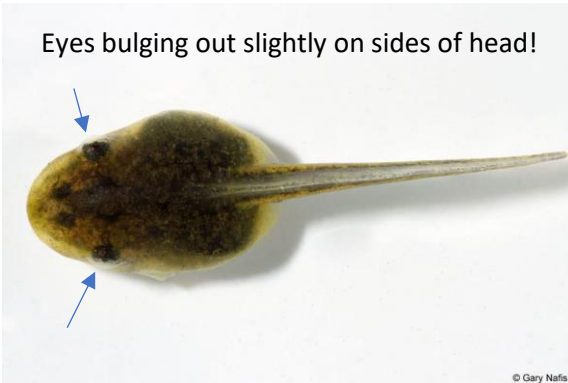
Western toad - *Anaxyrus boreas* - only indigenous amphibian on HG - don't touch eggs or move/take tadpoles/eggs



- Solid black tadpoles until they get bigger and then they can be a bit mottled. Hard to see their eyes.
- Far less skittish than frog tadpoles - toad tadpoles aren't very phased by humans
- Usually cluster in large groups when small
- Usually in warm shallow water
- Eggs are laid all together in long strands in shallow water – get huge mass of many strings wound around vegetation
- Egg embryos black. White embryos means they died.



Tree frog/Chorus frog - *Pseudacris regilla* - introduced – don't move tadpoles/eggs around



Eyes bulging out slightly on sides of head!

Tadpoles DARK or PALE yellow/brown. **Oval** shaped body.

Tadpoles smaller than red-legged frog tadpoles

Tadpoles are skittish.

Eggs around the size of a adult person's **thumb**



Eggs usually on blades of grass underwater

Egg embryo can be black or yellow dots depending on development stage. White egg embryo means they died.

Northern red-legged frog – *Rana aurora* – introduced – don't move tadpoles/eggs around



Eyes more central on head

Tadpoles brown/red and sparkly.

Largest of the three species.

Egg masses usually the size of a rock melon

Eggs can get dirty appearance.

White egg embryo means they died.



Tadpoles very skittish – they move away very fast when you go near.

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