

Arroyo Toad



California Native Toad

2003 Series

ARROYO TOAD... *Bufo californicus*



FEDERAL STATUS - Endangered

HABITAT - Restricted to sandy or gravelly margins of large streams from San Luis Obispo County south to Baja California, from sea level to 6,000 feet elevation. Habitat includes riparian terraces with oaks, willows, or cottonwoods, and shallow, gravel-bottom pools in streams.

IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS - Small, squat, short-legged and normally pale, white, tan, dark brown or grey on top with small brown olive or grey blotches. A dark V-shaped mark connects the front edges of the eyelids. Dorsal stripe is weak or absent (and more prominent in western toad). Active at night and hop instead of walk.

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 9/30/98 by J. Vindum
Photo Credit: Chris Brown, USGS.