



## Illinois chorus frog

*Pseudacris streckeri illinoensis*

Kingdom: Animalia  
Division/Phylum: Chordata - vertebrates  
Class: Amphibia  
Order: Anura  
Family: Hylidae

### FEATURES

The Illinois chorus frog averages one to one and one-half inches in length. It has stout forelimbs. A dark, masklike stripe is present from the snout to the shoulder. The upper jaw is light with a dark spot found under each eye. A dark "V"- or "Y"-shaped marking is present between the eyes. The body is brown or olive.

### BEHAVIORS

The Illinois chorus frog lives in sand prairies and sandy floodplains. Unlike toads, the Illinois chorus frog digs with its forelimbs. It burrows head first into the sand. This frog is terrestrial but is seldom seen above ground except during the breeding season. Breeding occurs February through April. The male's call is a series of short, loud, birdlike whistles. The female deposits about 200 to 400 eggs. Transformation occurs from May through June. The Illinois chorus frog eats small arthropods (spiders, insects, mites and others).

### HABITATS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bottomland forests        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> rivers & streams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lakes, ponds & reservoirs | <input type="checkbox"/> swamps                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Michigan             | <input type="checkbox"/> temp water supplies         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marshes                   | <input type="checkbox"/> wet prairies & fens         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> peatlands                 |  |

### ILLINOIS STATUS

- |  |                                     |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> common            | <input type="checkbox"/> endangered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> threatened |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> native | <input type="checkbox"/> exotic     |  |

The Illinois chorus frog is threatened due to its restriction to sand areas and the threat of destruction to these areas, particularly from cultivation.

### ILLINOIS RANGE

west central + southern tip + southwest

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.  
*Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.