



## Habitats

Mississippi River; interior rivers and streams; constructed lakes, ponds, and reservoirs; temporary water supplies; bottomland forests, natural lakes and prairies marshes; wet prairies and fens

## Iowa Status

common; native

## Iowa Range

southeast Iowa

## Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001. *Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats* CD-ROM.

## Fowler's toad

*Bufo woodhousei fowleri*

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

## Features

Fowler's toad averages two to three inches long. The body most often is brown or gray, but may be greenish or brick red. A light stripe usually is present in the middle of the back. It has three or more warts or bumps in each of the largest dark spots on the back. The chest and belly are not spotted. The parotoid glands (seen as lumps under the skin) on the upper back touch the ridges behind the eyes.

## Natural History

Fowler's toad lives anywhere it can have access to shallow bodies of water for breeding, moist hiding places, and plenty of food, such as in gardens, lawns, timber, or fields. It eats insects and worms. It is active mainly at night. It breeds from late April through June. The male's call is a prolonged nasal scream. Each female may deposit up to 25,000 eggs in long strings. Hatching occurs in about one week. Tadpoles transform into land-based toadlets from late June through July.