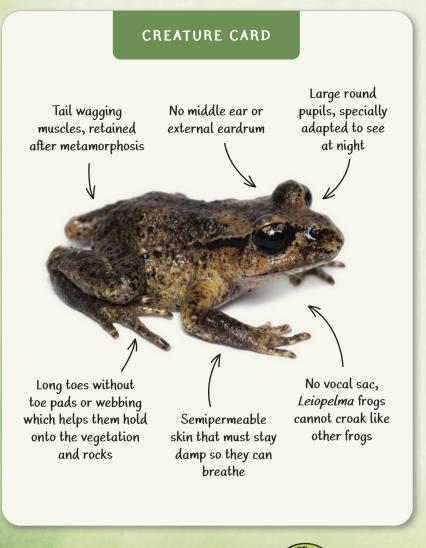
Hamilton's Frog Pepeketua

Hamilton's frog was historically found across the northern South Island. Since human arrival, the distribution of Hamilton's frogs has shrunk massively! Hamilton's frogs are only found naturally on two small islands in the Marlborough Sounds: Takapourewa Stephens Island and Te Pākeka Maud Island. Translocated populations are found on Nukuwaiata, Motuara Island and at Zealandia Ecosanctuary.



There are many consequences for species with such small populations. We can use an 'extinction vortex' to visualise how humans can trigger a downward spiral towards extinction.

Introduced predators

Disease Small, fragmented

populations have less genetic diversity

> Small populations are more vulnerable to random weather events and further human impacts

)) Habitat loss

Human impacts lead to small, fragmented populations

Low genetic diversity reduces the ability to reproduce and survive, making it hard to adapt to new environments

This vicious cycle continues until there is no population growth, and the few remaining individuals die off



CURIOUS MINDS +

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