

This amphibian – loved for its legs – threatens its Calif. cousins

By Jane Braxton Little, Sacramento Bee

Quincy American bullfrogs, native to the eastern United States, are hopping around Northern California ponds, gobbling up lizards, snakes, bats and birds – anything that fits in their mouths.

Among their prey are the adults and tadpoles of endangered native amphibians: Sierra Nevada and foothill yellow-legged frogs, said Colin Dillingham, a wildlife biologist with the Plumas National Forest.

He has applied for a state permit to eradicate bullfrogs in Snake Lake, Spanish Creek and other aquatic sites in the Meadow Valley area 16 miles west of Quincy. The plan is to use nets, hooks and air guns several nights a month over three or four years.

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