

# Frog Awareness Campaign



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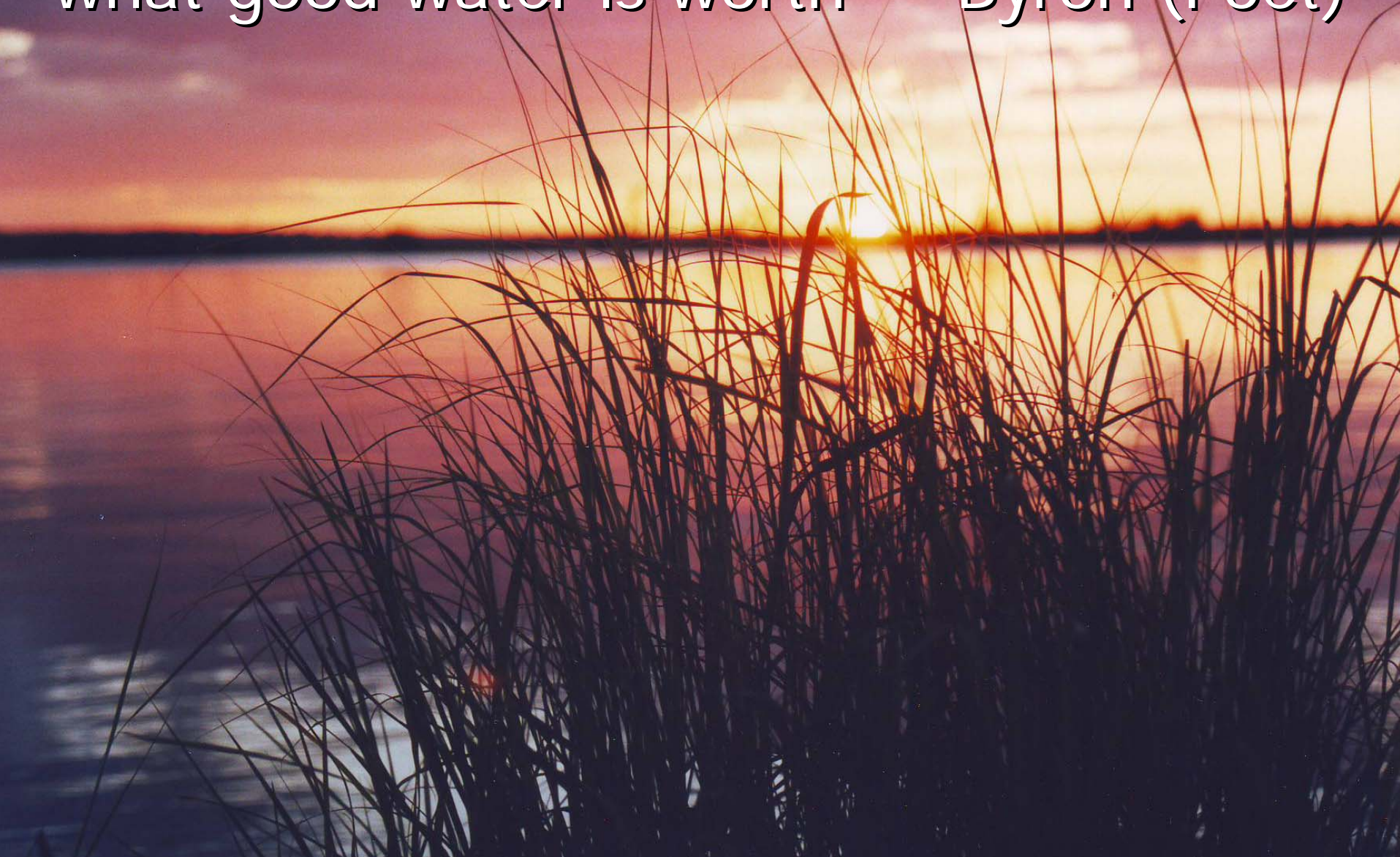
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“Till taught by pain, men really know not  
what good water is worth” – Byron (Poet)





Bullfrog - *Pyxicephalus adspersus*

# FROGS IN GENERAL

- Most animals have hair and scales to protect them, but frogs have nothing. Their skins are unprotected and highly permeable.
  - Wetland dries up – and pollution
  - Threat to their habitats-Expanding cities, farmlands, roads, developments, forests
  - Impact on health and life
  - To understand health of wetland – frogs
  - Life stages – eggs – tadpoles –little frogs.
  - Most frogs spend 99% on and 1% in water

IF FROG SONGS DISAPPEAR AT NIGHT?

# TREATS TO FROGS IN BENONI

Sand was excavated from Sandpan and Bullfrog pan in the 1950' s for building purposes

- In 1960's permission was granted to use excavated site of Bullfrogpan for a dumping site

\* *In the* late 1960' s and early 1970's frogs migrate from Bullfrog and Sandpan to the East of Benoni.

# Survey of Wetlands



- Survey of wetlands on the East Rand
- Came across dead birds, fish and frogs
- Pan water was polluted with leachate.
- Highest breeding place of the Bullfrog was destroyed

# Rehabilitation of Bullfrog Pan



- Frogs were reintroduced into the pan



# Doom and Gloom for Frogs

- Newspaper article 10 September 2007 stated: one third of all amphibians face extinction
- 2008 was declared the "Year of The Frog"
- An international Task force was established to investigate the world wide decline in frogs
- The first sign of danger to the human race is the decline in frog populations



# Action

- Gauteng Conservancy / Stewardship Association also raised their concern and started an Awareness Campaign in January 2008 and ran until January 2009
- There was great public interest and the campaign was extended until April 2010



# Positive Outcome

- Several visits were done to various locations to see what species were there
- Phone calls and emails were received about frog sightings
- Talks were presented to various organisations (schools, clubs, boy scouts etc)
- Information booklets on frogs were compiled
- Frog Awareness Exhibitions were held
- The Awareness received media coverage
- Public Awareness was generated
- Additional conservancies were established

# Problem Identified during Campaign

- Exotic plant life
- Developments near and in wetlands
  - Building of roads
- Dumping of rubbish in and around wetlands
- Pumping raw sewerage into wetlands
  - Lack of funding

# Bully Bullfrog

- Another chance was given to Bully



# How?

Change in attitude  
behaviour  
& action

Environmental  
Education

Environmental  
Conservation



# Environmental Education

- Education for survival begins with education around you
- Changing attitudes, thoughts and actions of people
- Bringing understanding and appreciation for people's dependence and relationship with the physical environment

# Environmental Conservation

- Protection of wetlands
- Conservation of animal life
- Conservation of unique and useful plants
- Grasslands surrounding wetlands of great ecological importance



“You must be the  
change you wish  
to see in the  
world” – Ghandi

Thank you!