



Bullfrog Control in California

Field Workshop 2026

OVERVIEW

This field-based workshop will take place in 2026 (May 22 and 23 - dates may change). We will be working on the Blue Oak Ranch Reserve (BORR), a UC Field Station owned and operated by UC Berkeley. The site has California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, Pacific treefrog, western toad, and American bullfrogs, among other species. Our workshop will not only offer a training experience for attendees but will contribute to control of bullfrogs in an area that supports native amphibians.

This workshop will highlight the specific technique of the use of an air rifle for take of bullfrogs. We will also discuss and include other techniques approved for collecting bullfrogs (gigging, and Hawaiian sling). You need not have any experience using an air rifle. Our workshop will include an opportunity to learn to shoot small targets on the ground before working on invasive bullfrogs in aquatic habitat. Our technique includes a two-person team so groups will be paired up with a spotter and a shooter, then the roles will be reversed. We will try to collect all bullfrogs which will also be used as part of a predation study of bullfrogs.

We will have air-rifles for your use, or you can bring your own. There will be opportunities to learn to sight in a scope as well (see recommended equipment below).

The general program will include our meeting in the afternoon, during which time you can (if needed) learn to shoot, learn to sight your scope, or warm up on land-based targets. Those who need extra help can meet earlier in the day for extra attention. Times to be determined.

Participants will be offered a dinner but should bring their snacks. Bottled water is always a great idea, but BORR has well water. Daylight work will end prior to dinner. Night work will begin following dinner and end at approximately 11:30 PM. Due to the remoteness of the site, participants will be allowed to sleep in the facilities at the field station, more on those conditions and logistics later. Breakfast will be available at no extra cost and participants can leave the morning after the workshop or elect to drive home that night (after 11:30 PM).



INSTRUCTORS

Instructors **Jeff Alvarez and Jeff Wilcox** have conducted bullfrog control for decades and have had very effective results. The instructor-to-participant ratio will be approximately 8:1, allowing for close interaction at all stages of the course.

FIELD EQUIPMENT

We **HIGHLY** recommend the 0.177 (4.5mm) caliber air rifles below, or something very similar. We also recommend and will provide the tin-based 0.177 caliber pellets (non-lead). Other non-lead pellets are substandard, and do not hit with consistency or precision. If you're serious about this task, we very strongly urge you to get an after-market scope (see below) and toss the one that comes with the gun. A quality scope is going to save you many nights of frustration.

You should bring:

Binoculars, safety glasses, rubber boots or water-proof hiking boots, a flashlight (see below), head lamp for navigation only, sleeping bag, and an extra change of clothes. There are areas with poison oak, so be ready for that.

You do NOT need to have your own equipment, but it is beneficial to have it before the workshop so that you learn on your own weapon.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Flashlight

Coast PX1 315-Lumen LED Flashlight (or similar) (\$30)

Pellets

H&N Field Target Trophy Green 0.177 Cal, **Lead-free**, 5.56 Grains, Domed, 300 ct

Air rifle

The rifle should be single pump, break-barrel style that shoots at 1,200 feet per second or more. (about \$130 to \$400). They are available at most places like Sportman's Warehouse, Bass Pro Shops, Cabella's, Airgun Depot, and other places.

We like:

- Gamo "Raptor Whisper" (light weight, but loud) - \$140
- Gamo "Varmit" (smaller size, light weight) - \$100
- Gamo "Wildcat Whisper" (good all around) - \$130

A gun case (soft or hard, it doesn't matter) will save/protect your gun and scope.

VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Scope

Leapers UTG 1" BugBuster Scope AO Mil-dot Reticle (about \$140)

- You do not need quick release rings, but if that is what comes with it, no problem. We use the rings that come with the cheap scope that comes with your gun.



IMPORTANT NOTE:

NO rim-fire or center-fire rifles or handguns allowed. If you don't know what these items are, you likely don't have a problem.

We recommend you take a hunter safety course prior to the workshop:

<https://www.hunter-ed.com/california/>

Check with your own company about safety requirements. Each participant will be required to sign a waiver holding the instructors harmless in case of injury.

If you are interested in this workshop, please act soon as we are anticipating strong interest. Please feel free to sign-up by using the registration sheet below. If we fill the first course we may add additional dates, and perhaps additional locations. Locations may include Southern California (TBD). These additional sites are being planned. If you have an interest in the workshop, be sure to sign up rather than waiting for us to generate one in your area.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

Fill out all sections of the registration form. Complete a separate form for each registrant.

PAYMENT:

Make checks payable to “The Wildlife Project”, or fill out credit card information on the registration form. Only VISA or MasterCard credit is accepted. We accept Zelle—See QR code, or add the following number as a recipient (209-815-5660). If you need to use Venmo, PayPal, or other methods, please email us to make arrangements. No cryptocurrency payments are accepted.

Registration and payment must be submitted three days prior to the event, to avoid being removed from the workshop list.

Email or snail-mail registration form with your payment to:

Email: Workshops@TheWildlifeProject.com

Mailing address:

The Wildlife Project Workshops – Bullfrog
PO Box 188888
Sacramento, CA 95818

Send Money with Zelle®
JEFFREY ALVAREZ



Confirmation: Confirmation of registration will be sent within two weeks via email or regular mail. The confirmation letter will indicate which time slot you may have received. A follow-up email will include reading materials, meeting locations of field trips, and suggestions about field gear.

Workshop Questions: For questions on registration, email:
Workshops@TheWildlifeProject.com



