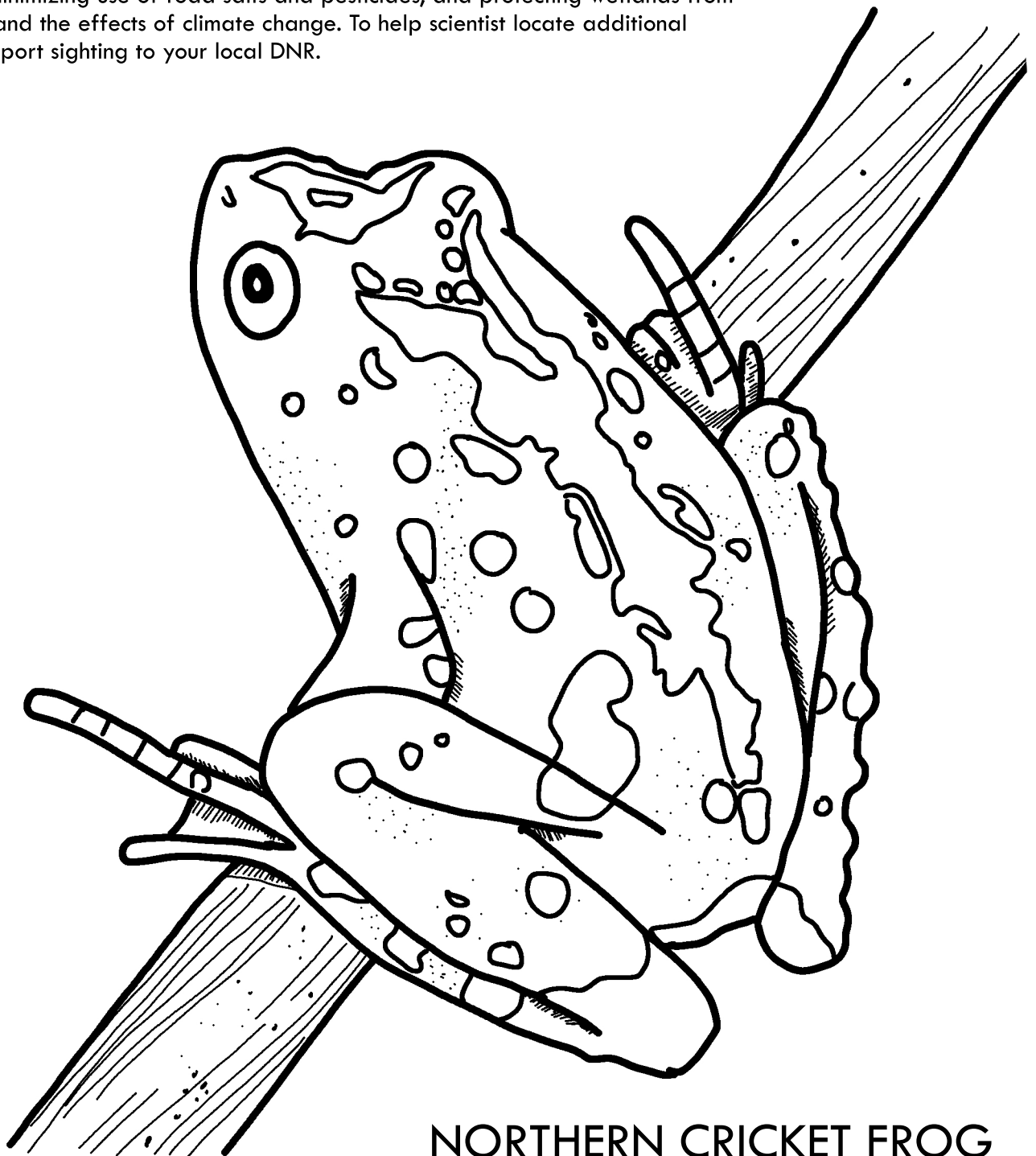


The northern cricket frog is listed as endangered in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Ontario, Canada. Once widespread in areas of southern Minnesota, today there are only two remaining populations in Bloomington and Winona. These small tree frogs lack sticky toes and are not adept climbers. Although, at only 0.5 – 1.5 inches long they can leap a full 5 – 6 feet! As adults they dine on crickets and other small insects, including mosquitoes, and live along the muddy shores of marshes, drainage ditches, and other permanent waters. These bodies of water are where they lay their eggs, which hatch into tadpoles. Tadpoles live in the waters for up to 10 weeks eating plant and animal matter before they metamorphose into adults.

Unfortunately, pesticides, road salt and climate change have created poor conditions for metamorphosis and adequate food. Land drainage and habitat loss has removed suitable areas for northern cricket frogs to live and reproduce. The most important ways we can help them are by minimizing use of road salts and pesticides, and protecting wetlands from development and the effects of climate change. To help scientist locate additional populations report sighting to your local DNR.



NORTHERN CRICKET FROG