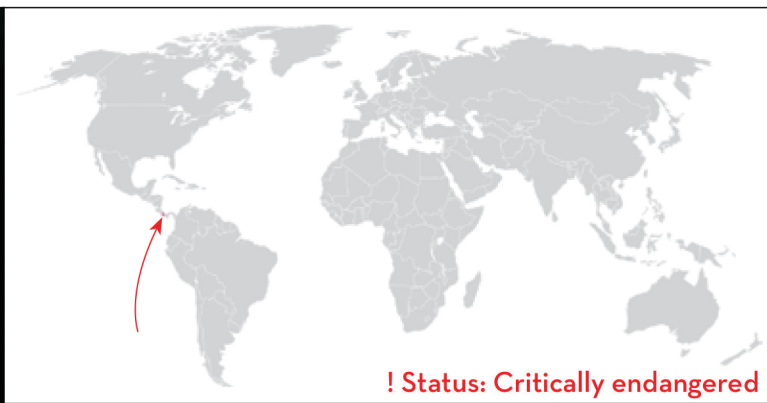


PANAMANIAN GOLDEN FROG

updated 03/17



Range	Cordilleran Mountains of western-central Panama
Habitat	Both wet rain forests and dry cloud forests: prefer a fast-flowing streams
Diet (wild)	Insects and other small invertebrates.
Diet (captivity)	
Description	Length 1½–2½ inches. Adult males and females have similar coloring: a light yellowish green to bright gold. Sometimes have several black splotches on their back and legs, sometimes none at all. The females are 25 percent longer and heavier than males.
Lifespan	Wild: unknown. Captivity: 9 years
Reproduction	Mating season is between November and January, during the late rainy and early dry season. Males attract females by hand waving. When he finds a receptive female, he will attach himself to her back (amplexus) for weeks until she finds a suitable place to releases eggs, preferably a shallow pool of stream water out of sunlight. The female will release a single stream of eggs (200–600) into the water and the male will immediately fertilize them. Tadpoles hatch after 9 days and spend 6–7 months in the stream. The young frogs are tiny and brown and eventually build up the toxins in their skin.
Behavior	These frogs are diurnal, active during the day. Known to make a whistling sound as well as a couple other loud calls. They use a “waving” form of communication to greet, attract mates, and defend territory.
Our animals	1 undetermined sex. Born: 01/01/2016
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Panamanian golden frog is a national symbol of Panama and is considered to be one of the most beautiful frogs in Panama. • The larger the variety of food they eat, the more toxic the Panamanian golden frog’s skin secretions become. • The nerve toxin Panamanian golden frogs produce is called zetekitoxin, after their scientific name. The skin of an individual frog contains enough toxin to kill 1,200 mice. • These frogs are also called golden arrow poison frogs, golden frogs, or Zetek’s golden frogs. They are considered a sign of good luck and prosperity. Project Golden Frog connects organizations and conservation efforts in Panama and the U.S. • Panamanian golden frogs are classified in the family Bufonidae, which are considered “true toads.” True toads are toothless and generally have warty, dry skin. They have a pair of parotid glands on the back of their heads that contain a poison which they excrete when stressed. Male toads also possess a Bidder’s organ: Under the right conditions, the organ becomes an active ovary and the toad, in effect, becomes female.

Phylum
Chordata

Class
Amphibia

Order
Anura

Family
Bufonidae

Genus
Atelopus

species
A. zeteki