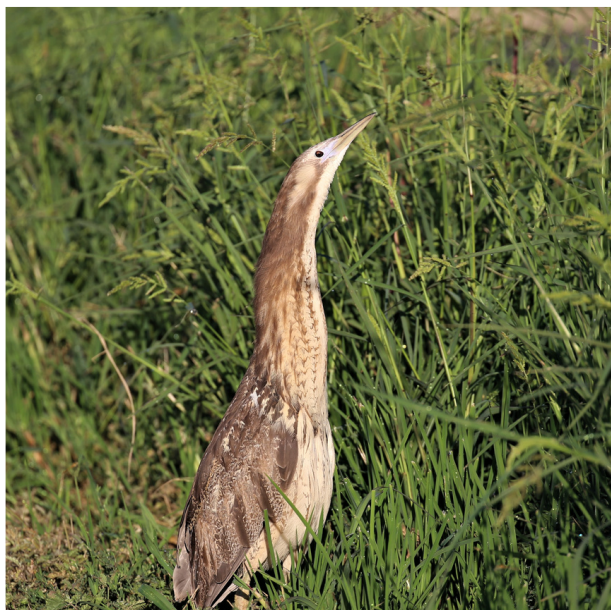


Threatened Species of the Riverina Education Program



**Name: Australasian Bittern
/ Botaurus poiciloptilus**

- Height: 75cm. Weight: up to 2kg.
- Males are about twice as large as females.
- Australasian Bitterns are well camouflaged with brownish-yellow bill.
- It has a thick body and pale neck, with yellow eyes and olive green legs.
- The chicks are fluffy and spikey with big green feet.
- The male's make a 'booming' call at night to find a friend to build a family with. This call can be heard during spring and summer.
- They often have 3 or 4 eggs.
- Australasian Bitterns prefer freshwater wetland habitat with sedges, rushes and reeds. They also like to live and breed in Rice.
- It feeds at night along the edges of wetlands for fish, crayfish, frogs, insects and reptiles.