



What is it?

- Some say it sounds like a sheep with a long "W-A-A-A-H-H-H" call.
- It eats insects and snails and is about the size of a baseball.
- It wears three to five warts within dark spots on its back. And it has a white throat and belly.

Where is it?

It begins life in the wetlands and then moves to the woods and foredunes near the beach at Indiana Dunes National Park. It hangs out below ground during the day and hunts at night.

It's a Fowler's Toad!

One of the 15 reasons to Save our Dunes

nps.gov/indu/learn/nature/15reasons.htm

A Scientist's Perspective

After a big restoration project at Cowles Bog, Dr. Bob Brodman found Fowler's toads are doing well. Dr. Bob calls the toads an "indicator" species. When they are doing well, it is a sign that the wetlands are healthy and other frogs and salamanders are also thriving.

If you were a Fowler's toad...

Like other amphibians, you would change shape from tadpole swimmer with teeth to scrape off algae to an insect-eating four-legged toad. You could make musical sounds to win a mate. If you were female you could lay up to 20,000 eggs in a year. If a snake or small mammal attacked, you could let out a yucky substance from the large warts on your back to poison the predator.

Read more about the Fowler's toad:
nps.gov/indu/learn/nature/fowlers-toad.htm

See a video of Dr. Bob in action at
Cowles Bog: vimeo.com/305098203

