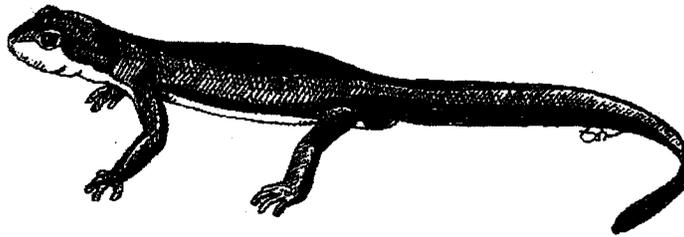


Red-bellied Newt

Taricha rivularis
Family Salamandridae



Global Rank: G4

State Rank: S5 (CA)

Distribution: Coastal region of California from the Russian River area, Sonoma County, and lower Lake and Kelsey Creeks, and north to Honeydew, Humboldt County.

Description: Range up to 3 1/4 in. (8.1 cm.) in snout-vent length. A dark-eyed newt, eyes are larger, head narrower, and snout longer than in other western species. Coloration is brown to nearly black above and tomato-red below. Dark color is conspicuous on undersides of the limbs. There is a prominent dark band across the vent, especially broad in males. There is less sex difference in skin texture than in other species.

Reproduction: Generally breeds in flowing water. They enter the water as early as the first week in February, and breed from late February to May in rivers and creeks.

Food: Believed to be similar to other newts in that it eats earthworms, slugs, snails, insects, and amphibian eggs and larvae.



Current range of the red-bellied newt

Habits: A stream- or river-dwelling newt of coastal woodlands.

Management Implications: No known management concerns.

Important References: Stebbins, R.C. 1985. A field guide to western reptiles and amphibians. The Peterson Field Guide Series. Houghton Mifflin Company, New York, NY.