

# Luis Castillo

📍 Country	PERU
✉️ Email	<a href="mailto:lcastillo.rana@gmail.com">lcastillo.rana@gmail.com</a>
📷 Field photo(s) upload:	
💡 Fun facts about this species:	<p>It is the largest strictly aquatic frog in the world. It is consumed by local communities for its meat, which has become one of its main threats. It inhabits the second-largest lake in Peru, Lake Junín, also known as Lake Chinchaycocha.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I agree that ASA may use my text and photos in The Ribbit Report (with credit).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
📝 Optional quote:	<p>I am writing a book about my experiences with frogs, reptiles, and my personal journey in conservation biology. I will share more information about myself and the project soon. But above all, you should do what you love, always with respect for nature.</p>
= Photo captions & credits:	<p>The photo showing only the frog was taken by Roberto Elías Piperis in 2018, underwater in the Palomayo River, Ondores District, within the Junín National Reserve. The next two photos were taken in the Huayllay National Sanctuary, Rock Forest, by Miguel Manrique. These encounters occurred ten years after I first discovered this species, thanks to Peace Corps volunteers Andrew Watson and Austin Fitzgerald. It was a special moment because I helped a new volunteer, Alexis, find these frogs. I would definitely give my life to protect this species.</p>

≡ Primary species that you work with:	Lake Junin Frog, <i>Telmatobius macrostomus</i>
♂ Species photo(s) upload:	
⤤ What do you love most about your work?	Searching for and finding them in the field, in rivers and lagoons, is what excites me the most, especially in places where they are unlikely to be found or are difficult to see. One of my favorite ways to look for them is by snorkeling. The other thing I enjoy most is finding funding to keep doing what we do: continue protecting the species until it is no longer endangered.
⤤ Why is this amphibian special to you?	Es la rana estreicamente acuática más grande del mundo. Es consumida por las comunidades locales por su carne, lo cual se convierte en una de sus principales amenazas. Habita en el segundo lago más grande del Perú, el lago Junín o también llamado lago Chinchaycocha.