UK priority species pages – Version 2

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SPECIES PAGES FOR 2007 UK BAP PRIORITY SPECIES
(see endnotes for an explanation of the various components of this compilation).

Triturus cristatus (Laurenti, 1768)

Great Crested Newt

1 General information

Level 1	Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles)
Level 2	amphibian
On 1997 UK BAP list	Species Action Plan

2 UK BAP criteria[i]

1. International threat	2. International responsibility (2a) + moderate decline in UK (2b)	3. Marked decline in the UK	4. Other important factor(s)
False	False	False	True

3 Evidence for Criteria[ii]

Criterion 1	
Criterion 2a	
Criterion 2b	
Criterion 3	
Criterion 4	An existing `old` Priority Species, where factors that caused the original decline are still operating or the species population has not recovered to long term viability. Massive historic decline; continuing gradual decline; serious recent decline in some regions. Continued theat from development, habitat fragmentation, fish introductions and lack of habitat management as well as pond loss.Pond loss fi

4 Distribution by Country

England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	International Waters
Y	Y	Y	N	

5 Distribution Information

Distribution data source	Stage 1 information
Distribution data notes	
number of sites (where less than or equal to 10)	

Units used for number of sites	

6 Actions identified by experts[iii]

Action number	Action text	Reporting category
1	WIDER ACTION- AGRI-ENV: Declines in this species are linked to changes in agricultural practices. Hence, the reversal of this situation and restoration of great crested newt populations lies within wider measures, notably targetted agri-environment strategies that will protect and restore breeding ponds and enhance terrestrial habitat. A landscape scale approach needs to be taken so that the benefits of such schemes are maximised and the viability of the targeted populations are maintained.	Wider "landscape" action
2	HABITAT ACTION- EXTENT AND CONDITION: Loss and degradation of ponds (primarily as in 1, but also loss of post industrial pond sites) coupled with fish introduction/ invasive alien plant species have exacerbated habitat losses. Management to restore and create aquatic and terrestrial habitats to suitable conditions is required. A landscape approach needs to be taken so that the benefits of such schemes are maximised and the viability of the targeted populations are maintained.	Priority habitat action
3	WIDER ACTION-PLANNING: Taking account of/ or determining its presence during the early stages of local authority development plans, land allocation (especially of `brownfield sites`) and then development schemes, could significantly enhance its current conservation status.	Wider "landscape" action
4	MONITORING: Monitoring and surveillance is required to allow for species status assessments to be made, including measurements towards the achievement of the SAP targets and the success criteria. Dissemination of the monitoring and surveillance work to all relevant groups (LRCs, planners etc.) is essential.	Species-specific monitoring/survey

7 Signpost to Priority Habitat[iv]

Priority Habitat Name
Boundary features: Hedgerows
Inland Rock: Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land
Stding Open Water: Ponds

8 Additional information from specialists[v]

Attribute	Value
NBN current scientific name	Triturus cristatus
NBN common name	Great Crested Newt
classification level 1	Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles)
classification level 2	amphibian
Latest UK Population/extent Estimate	18300
Units of measurement	populations
Proportion left	1
decline	0
over observed years	0
decline over 25 years	0
Additional comments/ information	Historical pond losses prior to 1980s accounts for much of decline. Various surveys show annual population losses of up to 5%, in various areas in Britain. See local studies for details of declines. Pond loss estimates vary e.g. 68.6% loss over 119 years
Crit2 satisfied Yes/No/ Unknown	no
Crit3 satisfied Yes/No/ Unknown	unknown
Factor	An existing `old` Priority Species, where factors that caused the original decline are still operating or the species population has not recovered to long term viability. Massive historic decline; continuing gradual decline; serious recent decline in some regions. Continued theat from development, habitat fragmentation, fish introductions and lack of habitat management as well as pond loss.Pond loss fi
Crit4 satisfied (Yes/ No/ Unknown)	yes
Confidence in assesment crit 4	high
1st source	Hilton-Brown & Oldham (1991)
2nd source	English Nature (2001)
3rd source	Langton, Beckett & Foster (2001)
Other sources	Swan & Oldham (1999), Gaywood, (1998), Arnold (1995), Swan & Oldham (1993)

9Additional information for species listed under the Habitats Directive[vi]

Attribute	Value
Conclusions - overall assessment	(U1) - Inadequate
Conclusions - range	(FV) - Favourable
Conclusions - population	(U1-) - Inadequate and deteriorating
Conclusions - habitat	(XX) - Unknown
Conclusions - future prospects	(FV) - Favourable
Published sources and/or websites	ATKINS, W. & HERBERT, C.1995. Crested Newt, Survey of Greater London Breeding Sites. Unpublished. BIGGS, J., WILLIAMS, P., WHITFIELD, M., NICOLET, P. & WEATHERBY, A. 2005. 15 years of pond assessment in Britain: results and lessons learned from the work of Pond Conservation. Aquatic Conservation-Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems, 15: 693-714. BEEBEE, T.J.C.1975. Changes in the status of the <I>Triturus cristatus</I> in the British Isles. British Journal of Herpetology 5: 481-490. BEEBEE, T.J.C.1997. Changes in dewpond numbers and amphibian diversity over 20 years on chalk downland in Sussex, England. Biological Conservation 81, no.3, 215-219. BEEBEE, T.J.C. & GRIFFITHS, R.A. 2000. Amphibians and reptiles: A natural history of the British herpetofauna. The New Naturalist series. London: HarperCollins. BOOTHBY, J.1997. Ponds and other small water-bodies in North-West England: an audit. In: BOOTHBY, J.ed. 1997. British pond landscapes. Proceedings of the UK conference of the Pondlife Project held at University College, Chester, 7th-9th September 1997. Liverpool: PondLife Project. COOKE, A.S. & SCORGIE, H.R.A. 1983. The status of the commoner amphibians and reptiles in Britain. Huntingdon: Nature

	Conservancy Council. GENT, A.H. & BRAY, R. eds. 1994. Conservation and management of <I>T. Cristatus</I>: proceedings of a symposium held on 11 January 1994 at Kew Gardens, Richmond, Surrey. English Nature Science Series no. 20. Peterborough: English Nature. T. cristatus SAP SG 2006. T. cristatus SAP targets review. Unpublished. URL: www.ukbap.org.uk LANGTON, T.E.S., BECKETT, C.L. & DUNSMORE, I.1993. UK herpetofauna: a review of British herpetofauna populations in a wider context. Report 99F2AO69 to Joint Nature Conservation Committee. Peterborough: Joint Nature Conservation Committee. LANGTON, T., BECKETT, C. & FOSTER, J. 2001. <I>T. cristatus</I> conservation handbook. Froglife, Halesworth. NICHOLSON, M. & OLDHAM, R.S. 1986. Status of the warty newt <I>Triturus cristatus</I>. Nature Conservancy Council, CSD Report no. 703. SWAN, M.J.S. & OLDHAM, R.S. (1993) Herptile sites volume 1: national amphibian survey final report. English Nature Research Report No. 38. Peterborough: English Nature. SWAN, M.J.S. & OLDHAM, R.S. (1989) Amphibian communities final report. Unpublished report. Peterborough: Nature Conservancy Council. Map Data Sources Records complied by Scottish Natural Heritage (1996-2006) (J. .McKinnell pers. comm) Records complied by the Countryside

	Council for Wales (2006) (L. Howe pers. comm.) Herpetofauna Conservation Trust Rare Species Database; Reptiles and Amphibians Dataset; HBRG Fish and Herptiles dataset; Dorset SW Pilot species dataset; SW Pilot Project BAP Species Inventory 2002; and the Wiltshire BAP Priority Species Distribution Records (via the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway).
surface area of range in km2	157749
surface area of range in km2 EU	157749
Date of range determination	1980-2006
Quality of data concerning range	Moderate
Range trend	Stable (=)
Range trend magnitude (%)	Not applicable
Range trend period	1994-2006
Range trend reasons 0 - Unknown	False
Range trend reasons 1 - Improved knowledge/more accurate data	False
Range trend reasons 2 - Climate change	False
Range trend reasons 3 - Direct human influence	False
Range trend reasons 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence	False
Range trend reasons 5 - Natural processes	False
Range trend reasons 6 - Other (specify)	False
Reasons for reported trend in range specify	Not applicable
Population_min	75000
Population_min EU	75000
Population_max	75000
Population_max EU	75000
Population units	Localities
Population date	2006
Population method	2 - Extrapolation from surveys of part of the population
Population quality	Poor
Population trend	Decreasing (-)
Population magnitude (%)	less than 5
Population period	1994-2006
Pop trend reasons 0 - Unknown	False
Pop trend reasons 1 - Improved knowledge/more accurate data	False
Pop trend reasons 2 - Climate change	False
Pop trend reasons 3 - Direct human influence	True

Pop trend reasons 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence	True
Pop trend reasons 5 - Natural processes	True
Pop trend reasons 6 - Other (specify)	False
Surface area of the habitat in km2	Unknown
Date of area estimation	05/2007
Quality of data on habitat area	Poor
Habitat trend	Unknown (X)
Habitat trend period	1994-2006
Hab trend reasons 0 Unknown	False
Hab trend reasons 1 Improved knowledge	False
Hab trend reasons 2 Climate change	False
Hab trend reasons 3 Direct human influence	False
Hab trend reasons 4 Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence	False
Hab trend reasons 5 Natural processes	False
Hab trend reasons 6 Other (specify)	False
Reasons for reported trend in Hab specify	Not applicable
Justification of % thresholds for trends	Not applicable
Future prospects	Good prospects_Species expected to survive and prosper
Favourable reference range	157749
Favourable reference range EU	157749
Favourable reference population	100000
Habitat name	This species shows preference for shallow edged ponds, with abundant vegetation and no fish. Such ponds may be located within farmland, woodland, grasslands, dunes, quarries, brown-field sites, and residential gardens, provided that local habitat structure is varied, and there are suitable 'refuges' available. Connectivity between suitable ponds and associated terrestrial habitat is important to maintain metapopulations.
Other relevent information	See audit trail documents for further information.

10 Species designations[vii]

Abbreviation	Reporting Category	Designation	Designation description	Year	Source	Comment
HabReg:Sch2	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	Schedule 2	Schedule 2: European protected species of animals.	1994	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	
Bern:A2	Bern Convention	Appendix 2	Special protection (`appropriate and necessary legislative and administrative measures`) for the animal taxa listed, including: all forms of deliberate capture and keeping and deliberate killing; the deliberate damage to or destruction of breeding or resting sites; the deliberate disturbance of wild fauna, particularly during the period of breeding, rearing and hibernation, insofar as disturbance would be significant in relation to the objectives of this Convention; the deliberate destruction or taking of eggs from the wild or keeping these eggs even if empty; the possession of and internal trade in these animals, alive or dead, including stuffed animals	1979	Bern Convention	

			and any readily recognisable part or derivative thereof, where this would contribute to the effectiveness of the provisions of this article.			
HabDir:A2*	Habitats Directive	Annex 2 - non-priority species	Animal and plant species of Community interest (i.e. endangered, vulnerable, rare or endemic in the European Community) whose conservation requires the designation of special areas of conservation. Note that the contents of this annex have been updated in April 2003 following the Treaty of Accession.	1992	Habitats Directive	
HabDir:A4	Habitats Directive	Annex 4	Animal and plant species of Community interest (i.e. endangered, vulnerable, rare or endemic in the European Community) in need of strict protection. They are protected from killing, disturbance or the destruction of them or their habitat. Note that the contents of this annex have been updated in April 2003 following the Treaty of Accession.	1992	Habitats Directive	
England NERC S.41	Biodiversity Lists - England	England NERC S.41	Species “of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity” covered under section 41 (England) of the	2008	Natural Environment and Rural Communities	Geographic constraint=Listing is for England only

			NERC Act (2006) and therefore need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions with a view to conserving biodiversity.		Act 2006 - Species of Principal Importance in England (section 41) and Wales (section 42)	
Scottish Biodiversity List	Biodiversity Lists - Scotland	Scottish Biodiversity List	The Scottish Biodiversity List is a list of flora, fauna and habitats considered by the Scottish Ministers to be of principal importance for biodiversity conservation. The development of the list has been a collaborative effort involving a great many stakeholders overseen by scientists from the Scottish Biodiversity Forum. Completion of the list is the first time such a stocktake has been done in Scotland. The Scottish Biodiversity List is a tool for public bodies and others doing their Biodiversity Duty. The publication of the Scottish Biodiversity List satisfies the requirements of Section 2(4) of The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.	2005	Scottish Biodiversity List of species of principal importance for biodiversity conservation	Geographic constraint=Listing is for Scotland only
Wales NERC S.42	Biodiversity Lists	Wales	Species “of principal importance	2009	Natural	Geographic

	- Wales	NERC S.42	for the purpose of conserving biodiversity" covered under Section 42 (Wales) of the NERC Act (2006) and therefore need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions with a view to conserving biodiversity.		Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 - Species of Principal Importance in England (section 41) and Wales (section 42)	constraint=Listing is for Wales only
BAP:2007	Biodiversity Action Plan UK list of priority species	Priority Species	The UK List of Priority Species and Habitats contains 1150 species and 65 habitats that have been listed as priorities for conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP).	2007	UK list of Priority Habitats and Species	status on former BAP list: Species Action Plan
WACA:Sch5_sect9.4b	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Schedule 5 Section 9.4b	Section 9.4 Animals which are protected from intentional disturbance while occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection.	1981	Wildlife and Countryside Act Schedules 1,5 and 8 (protected birds, animals and plants)	Geographic constraint=Designation does not apply in Scotland since 15/02/2007.
WACA:Sch5Sect9.4c	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Schedule 5 Section 9.4c	Animals which are protected from their access to any structure or place which they use for shelter or protection being obstructed.	2007	Wildlife and Countryside Act Schedules 1,5 and 8 (protected birds, animals and plants)	Geographic constraint=Does not apply to Scotland
WACA:Sch5_sect9.5a	Wildlife and Countryside Act	Schedule 5 Section 9.5a	Section 9.5 Animals which are protected from being sold,	1981	Wildlife and Countryside Act	Geographic constraint=Designation

	1981		offered for sale or being held or transported for sale either live or dead, whole or part.		Schedules 1,5 and 8 (protected birds, animals and plants)	does not apply in Scotland since 15/02/2007.
WACA:Sch5_sect9.5b	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Schedule 5 Section 9.5b	Section 9.5 Animals which are protected from being published or advertised as being for sale.	1981	Wildlife and Countryside Act Schedules 1,5 and 8 (protected birds, animals and plants)	Geographic constraint=Designation does not apply in Scotland since 15/02/2007.

UK BAP 2008 reporting[viii]

(nb this only applies to species on the original 1997 UK BAP priority species list)

11 General status

Country	Attribute	Value
England		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	66000
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Some
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	The status value represents a recalculation of estimated abundance rather than any real increase on previous estimates. Insufficient data is available to make precise, high confidence assessments. This remains a data-deficient species, with no significant gains in information for the species since the last reporting round. Further survey work is required to determine the accuracy of these assessments. The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme has been launched to start to address these data issues.
	Edits made by reporting group	
Scotland		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	500
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Best guess

	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	No
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	The status value represents a recalculation of estimated abundance rather than a significant decrease on previous estimates. Insufficient data is available to make precise, high confidence assessments. This remains a data-deficient species, with no significant gains in information for the species since the last reporting round. Further survey work is required to determine the accuracy of these assessments.The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme has been launched to start to address these data issues.
	Edits made by reporting group	
UK		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	71000
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No but likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Some
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	The status value above, represents a recalculation of estimated abundance rather than any real increase on previous estimates (as per the last reporting round).The great crested newt remains a data-deficient species where precise, high confidence assessments cannot be made with the data currently available. This status figure reflects the assessments in the Article 17 Report, which has only been adjusted to reflect the recent re-calculation of great crested newt status in Scotland. Further survey work is required to determine the accuracy of these assessments. The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme (NARRS) has been set up to address these data issues; its aim is to monitor the conservation status of all UK amphibians and reptile species. In 2007 the NARRS- National Amphibian Survey was launched with the purpose of measuring the trends in the conservation status of our widespread amphibians.

	Edits made by reporting group	
Wales		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	4500
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Unknown
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	The status value represents a recalculation of estimated abundance rather than any real increase on previous estimates. Insufficient data is available to make precise, high confidence assessments. This remains a data-deficient species, with no significant gains in information for the species since the last reporting round. Further survey work is required to determine the accuracy of these assessments.The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme has been launched to start to address these data issues.
	Edits made by reporting group	

8 Trends

Country	Attribute	Value
UK		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Declining (slowing)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Unknown
	Refer to LBAP	Yes

	data	
	Data source / comments	Insufficient data is available to make accurate assessments, however through the work undertaken via the GCN Species Action Plan it appears that this species continues to decline. The 2007 Countryside Survey indicates that ponds have increased in Great Britain between 1998 and 2007, although plant species richness and overall pond condition deteriorated over this same period. Preliminary results from the National Amphibian and Reptile Scheme in 2007 indicate that the great crested newt continues to decline. Further Survey work is required to make accurate assessments.
	Edits made by reporting group	
Scotland		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Declining (slowing)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Unknown
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	Insufficient data is available to make accurate assessments, however through the work undertaken via the GCN Species Action Plan it appears that this species continues to decline. The 2007 Countryside Survey indicates that ponds have increased in Great Britain between 1998 and 2007, although plant species richness and overall pond condition deteriorated over this same period. Preliminary results from the National Amphibian and Reptile Scheme in 2007 indicate that the great crested newt continues to decline. Further Survey work is required to make accurate assessments.
	Edits made by reporting group	
England		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Declining (slowing)
	Accuracy	Best guess

	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	Insufficient data is available to make accurate assessments, however through the work undertaken via the GCN Species Action Plan it appears that this species continues to decline across England. A case-study which reflects these concerns is the re-survey of 50 known great crested newt ponds in Cheshire in 2006. The original survey (PondLife Project) undertook four critical Pond Biodiversity surveys in north west England, where overall over 1000 ponds were surveyed. Great crested newts were found to be present in nearly 30% of all ponds visited, with a higher occupancy rate in Cheshire- 35%. The results from the re-survey work (2006) recorded great crested newts at only 31 of the 50 ponds, representing a 38% decrease in recorded presence. (Reference: Hull, A, Guest. J; Ponds, Great Crested Newts and the passage of time (Great Crested News, Issue 9 January 2007)). The 2007 Countryside Survey indicates that ponds have increased in Great Britain between 1998 and 2007, although plant species richness and overall pond condition deteriorated over this same period. Preliminary results from the National Amphibian and Reptile Scheme in 2007 indicate that the great crested newt continues to decline. Further Survey work is required to make accurate assessments.
	Edits made by reporting group	
Wales		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Declining (slowing)
	Accuracy	Best guess
	Adequate data	No and not likely by 2011
	Data on NBN	Unknown
	Refer to LBAP data	Yes
	Data source / comments	Insufficient data is available to make accurate assessments, however through the work undertaken via the GCN Species Action Plan it appears that this species continues to decline across Wales. The 2007 Countryside Survey indicates that ponds have increased in Great Britain between 1998 and 2007, although plant species richness and overall pond condition deteriorated over this same period. Preliminary results from the National Amphibian and Reptile Scheme in 2007 indicate that the great

		crested newt continues to decline. Further Survey work is required to make accurate assessments.
	Edits made by reporting group	

9 Successes

Success text	Success category 1	Success category 2	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Edits by reporting group
The GCN SAP is working alongside the Pond Habitat Action Plan; a key habitat to target to achieve tangible gains for the species.	Partnership	Voluntary / charitable body involvement	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
As part of Pond Conservation's Million Ponds Project (funded by the Tubney Charitable Trust), we have worked with Pond Conservation to develop the herpetofauna element of this project. This project will develop and deliver a rolling programme of habitat creation (pond creation) and restoration work for our widespread and rare amphibians.	Funding and incentives	Charitable trust / organisation - grant secured	Yes	No	No	Yes	
The production of the leaflet- 'How great crested newts can gain Stewardship points for your farm'. Created to encourage farmers and their advisors to consider Environmental Stewardship options that will benefit great crested newts.	Communication	Advice to land managers / owners	Yes	No	No	No	
The Species Action Plan is being revised (due to be completed shortly) and the development of the SAP Implementation Guide is progressing.	Action plan process	Other	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	

10 Threats

Threat category 1	Threat category 2	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Edits made by reporting group
Habitat loss / degradation - infrastructure development	Housing infrastructure	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Pollution - freshwater	Agricultural (nutrient enrichment)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Invasive/non-native species	Predation	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Invasive/non-native species	Hybridisation	Yes	No	No	No	
Habitat loss / degradation - succession	Natural succession	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - management practice	Demise of traditional practices	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	

Pollution - freshwater	Agricultural (other agro-chemicals)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - infrastructure development	Infilling (e.g. of lakes / ponds / quarries)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - drainage/abstraction	Drainage (for agriculture)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture	Loss of set aside	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture	Loss of field margins	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - agriculture	Conversion to arable	Yes	No	No	No	
Changes in native species dynamics	Disease (pathogens / parasites)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	

Accidental mortality	Road kills	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - drainage/abstraction	Drainage (for infrastructure / development)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Habitat loss / degradation - infrastructure development	Transport infrastructure	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	

15 Constraints

Rank	Constraint category 1	Constraint category 2	Constraint summary	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Solution category	Solution summary
2	Species and habitat management	Habitat quality declining	The habitat of the great crested newt continues to decline.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Management	Further targeting of agri-environment schemes (as well as additional resources). A sustained programme of targeted pond creation and management, which should be delivered via the Million Ponds Project.

2	Research, survey and information	Baseline survey - required	The great crested newt is a data deficient species; we need to establish accurate baseline data.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Survey/monitoring	
2	Research, survey and information	Data access/exchange - required		Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Communication/publicity	All data from LRCs, Amphibian and Reptile Groups and preferably from consultants and EIAs need submitting to the NBN.
2	Research, survey and information	Monitoring surveys required	Information is required to determine the status of the species, and progress towards the BAP targets, to help prioritise work and highlight where conservation measures are inadequate etc.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Survey/monitoring	Further information is required- sustained programme of survey work (NARRS), but also for BAP Status assessments to fit with the 6 yearly status assessments.

2	Funding and incentives	General lack of resources	Funding is required to sustain all aspects of the action plan process, however one of the key priorities is to sustain and further develop a monitoring programme for the great crested newt (and all widespread herpetofauna), and to facilitate a targeted programme of habitat creation and management work. This includes sufficient money within the agri-environment schemes, so that tangible benefits can be seen for the species.	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Funding, resources and incentive schemes	
2	Species and habitat management	Water quality decline		Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Legislation and policies	

11 State of Knowledge

State of knowledge category	Notes	Edits made by reporting group

Knowledge insufficient but research currently underway	The most important research need is to establish an accurate baseline dataset, to enable status assessments, and progress towards the GCN SAP targets. We have an implicit monitoring duty under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive; BAP monitoring should be integrated to provide information on status reporting for these assessments. The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme should help to address our fundamental data requirements; however this work needs to be sustained to be able to provide accurate status assessments for this species. We also need to improve our knowledge on the terrestrial habitat use by the species and the amount of terrestrial habitat required to sustain a viable population.	

ENDNOTES

[i] An explanation of these criteria is included at Annex 3 of UK Biodiversity Action Plan; Report on the Species and Habitat Review. BRIG (ed. Ant Maddock) 2007. This review was organised in two stages. Stage 1 looked at the scientific evidence for selecting the UK List of Priority Species and Habitats while stage 2 considered the conservation action needed for these species and habitats and provided signposts to the means of implementing action.

[ii] The information on evidence and the species distribution is as presented on the UK BAP website. Users can download a spreadsheet of the Stage 1 species evidence from the home page of the UK BAP website.

[iii] Actions were assigned to each and every priority species by expert groups convened at Stage 2 of the Review process. These were subsequently categorised into "signpost categories". This information is as shown on the UK BAP website See the link for categorisation (signposting) of UK priority species.

[iv] Where a species action is clearly linked to a BAP priority habitat, the name of the relevant habitat or habitats was identified by the stage 2 expert group.

[v] This information has been derived from Stage 1 of the priority species review, and is presented in the "marine", "terrestrial invertebrates" and "other terrestrial species" sheets within the spreadsheet of the Stage 1 species evidence. The information presented here varies according to the taxonomic group. Please note that some of these data have been written for other Expert Group members and may not be of great value to a wider audience.

[vi] This is only applicable to Species listed under the Annexes 2 4 and 5 of the Habitats Directive. The information presented here was collated by the UK Government in fulfilment of the requirement under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. For further information see the 2nd UK Report on the implementation of the Habitats Directive.

[vii] Information on conservation designations has been extracted from JNCC's collation of information on species designations. The designations shown in version 2 of these pages are as at December 2010.

[viii] As part of the 2008 UK BAP reporting round lead partners of national plans were asked to answer a number of specific questions. The data will be analysed and used for the UK and country level reports. All of the responses provided through BARS as part of the 2008 reporting exercise are available to download. Note that in the December 2010 version of these pages (version 2) includes corrections to previously truncated text fields.