

# Great Crested Newt

*Triturus cristatus*

## Species Action Plan

### 1. Introduction

The great crested newt was listed as





Marginal pond vegetation used for egg-laying can be destroyed by animals, including dogs and livestock, entering the water. This can also cause bankside erosion and increased rates of siltation in a pond.

Drainage and water abstraction leads to an increase in pond desiccation. Great crested newts require pond water to be present for a four month period during spring and summer. The lowering of the water table will reduce the ability of newts to breed in some sites and may threaten the viability of others.

The **Freshwater Habitats Trust** runs a number of practical survey projects to gather information about the condition of ponds and the species they support, many of which are accessible to volunteers or the owners of individual ponds.

The **Worcestershire Reptile and Amphibian Group** undertakes survey work and community engagement activities, particularly within Worcester city, to promote and conserve amphibians, reptiles and their habitats.

## 5. Associated Plans

Urban, Ponds and Lakes.

## 6. Conservation Aim

The county continues to be held in national regard for the significance of its great crested newt populations and the pondscape habitat mosaic across our countryside is valued and enhanced whenever opportunity allows.

## 7. Conservation Objectives

*Also refer to objectives within H16 Ponds and Lakes Habitat Action Plan*

Planning decisions by Worcestershire's District, Borough and County Planning Authorities will seek to achieve no net loss of great crested newt ponds and will look to create or restore high quality ponds with enhanced terrestrial connectivity for great crested newts in new development schemes wherever appropriate

Green Infrastructure Concept Plans will identify and advocate for strategic developments to contribute meaningfully towards the defragmentation of the county's network of great crested newt ponds to enhance the favourable conservation status of the species locally

## References and further information

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation <https://www.arc-trust.org/>

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National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme [www.narrs.org.uk](http://www.narrs.org.uk)

Natural England publications relating to the European Site Conservation Objectives for the Lyppard Grange Ponds SAC can be s.v84(g)-6(l)3(a)4(n)-6(d)4( )JTJET( )-2(R)30