

Report under The Conservation of Habitats and  
Species Regulations 2017 (as amended),  
Regulation 9A

**2019-2024**

Conservation status assessment for the species:

**S1166 - Great crested newt**

***(Triturus cristatus)***

**England**



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### **Important note - Please read**

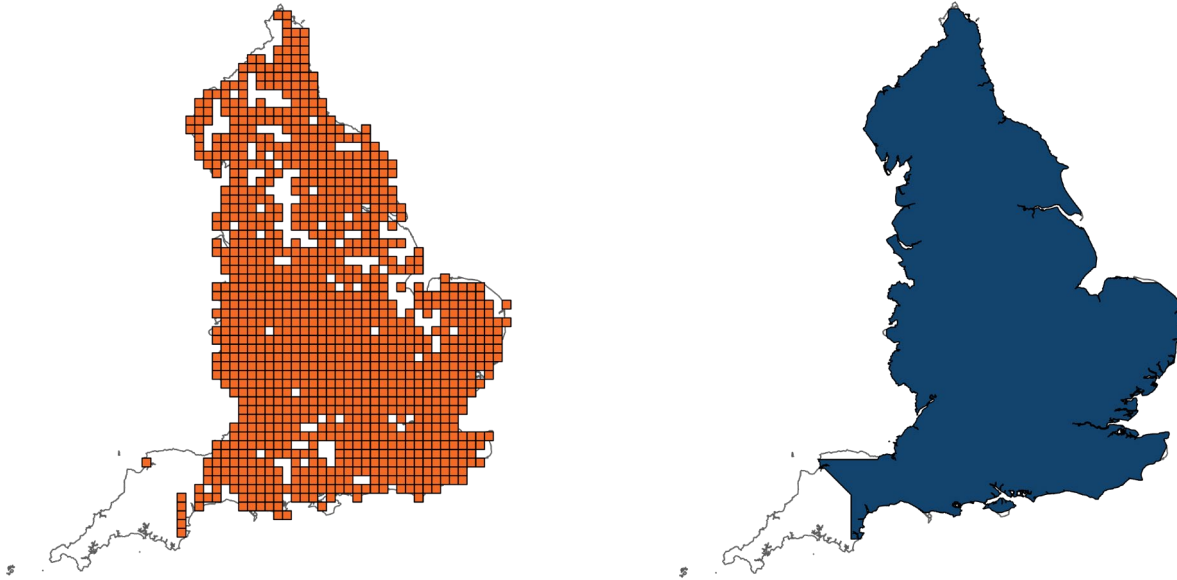
- The information in this document represents the England Report under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Regulation 9A, for the period 2019-2024.
- It is based on supporting information provided by Natural England, which is documented separately.
- The Habitats Regulations reporting 2019-2024 Approach Document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.
- Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included.
- Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country reports.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 National Site Network coverage for Annex II species).

Further details on the approach to the Habitats Regulations Reporting 2019-2024 are available on the [JNCC website](#).

## Assessment Summary: Great crested newt

### Distribution Map

### Range Map



**Figure 1:** England distribution and range map for S1166 - Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority. The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period.

**Table 1:** Table summarising the conservation status for S1166 - Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*). Overall conservation status for species is based on assessments of range, population, habitat for the species, and future prospects.

### Overall Conservation Status (see section 11)

**Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)**

### Breakdown of Overall Conservation Status

**Range** (see section 5)

**Favourable (FV)**

**Population** (see section 6)

**Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)**

**Habitat for the species** (see section 7)

**Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)**

**Future prospects** (see section 10)

**Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)**

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## National Level

### 1. General information

1.1 Country	England
1.2 Species code	S1166
1.3 Species scientific name	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name	Great crested newt
Annex(es)	II, IV

### 2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	Yes
2.2 Year or period	2014-2024
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map; Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

#### 2.5 Additional information

No additional information

### 3. Information related to Annex V Species

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild / exploited?

3.2 What measures have been taken?

a) Regulations regarding access to property

b) Temporary or local prohibition on the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation

c) Regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens

d) Application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations

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**e) Establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas**

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**f) Regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale, or transport for sale of specimens**

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**g) Breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species**

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**Other measures**

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**Other measures description**

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### **3.3: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)**

#### **a) Unit**

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**Table 2:** Quantity taken from the wild during the reporting period (see 3.3a for units). For species with defined hunting seasons, Season 1 refers to 2018/2019 (autumn 2018 to spring 2019), and Season 6 to 2023/2024. For species without hunting seasons, data are reported by calendar year: Year 1 is 2019, and Year 6 is 2024.

	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
<b>b) Minimum</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>c) Maximum</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>d) Unknown</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-

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### **3.4: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild; Method used**

### **3.5: Additional information**

No additional information

## Biogeographical Level

### 4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs ATL

#### 4.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

### 5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km<sup>2</sup>) 122,627.71

5.2 Short-term trend; Period 2019-2024

5.3 Short-term trend; Direction Stable

5.4 Short-term trend;  
Magnitude

a) Estimated minimum

b) Estimated maximum

c) Pre-defined range

d) Unknown

e) Type of estimate

f) Rate of decrease

5.5 Short-term trend; Method used Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate used

5.6 Long-term trend; Period

5.7 Long-term trend; Direction

5.8 Long-term trend;  
Magnitude

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

c) Rate of decrease

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**5.9 Long-term trend; Method used**

**5.10 Favourable Reference Range (FRR)**

**a) Area (km<sup>2</sup>)**

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**b) Pre-defined increment** Current range is less than 2% smaller than the FRR

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**c) Unknown** No

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**d) Method used** Expert opinion

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**e) Quality of information** moderate

**5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range**

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**a) Change** No

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**b) Genuine change**

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**c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data**

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**d) Different method**

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**e) No information**

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**f) Other reason**

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**g) Main reason**

**5.12 Additional information**

PondNet (Freshwater Habitats Trust) has provided additional information on occupancy.

**6. Population**

**6.1 Year or period** 2019-2024

**6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)**

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**a) Unit** number of map 1x1 km grid cells

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**b) Minimum**

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**c) Maximum**

<b>d) Best single value</b>	66,442
<b>6.3 Type of estimate</b>	Best estimate
<b>6.4 Quality of extrapolation to reporting unit</b>	moderate
<b>6.5 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)</b>	
<b>a) Unit</b>	
<b>b) Minimum</b>	
<b>c) Maximum</b>	
<b>d) Best single value</b>	
<b>e) Type of estimate</b>	
<b>6.6 Population size; Method used</b>	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
<b>6.7 Short-term trend; Period</b>	2019-2024
<b>6.8 Short-term trend; Direction</b>	Stable
<b>6.9 Short-term trend; Magnitude</b>	
<b>a) Estimated minimum</b>	
<b>b) Estimated maximum</b>	
<b>c) Pre-defined range</b>	
<b>d) Unknown</b>	
<b>e) Type of estimate</b>	
<b>f) Rate of decrease</b>	
<b>6.10 Short-term trend; Method used</b>	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data
<b>6.11 Long-term trend; Period</b>	
<b>6.12 Long-term trend; Direction</b>	

## 6.13 Long-term trend; Magnitude

a) Minimum

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b) Maximum

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c) Confidence interval

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d) Rate of decrease

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**6.14 Long-term trend; Method used**

**6.15 Favourable Reference Population (FRP)**

ai) Population size

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aii) Unit

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b) Pre-defined increment	Current population is between 5% and 25% smaller than the FRP
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c) Unknown	No
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d) Method used	Expert opinion
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e) Quality of information	moderate
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**6.16 Change and reason for change in population size**

a) Change	No
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b) Genuine change

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c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data

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d) Different method

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e) No information

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f) Other reason

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g) Main reason

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**6.17 Additional information**

This estimate of population is based on modelling undertaken by Natural England.

<b>6.18 Age structure, mortality and reproduction deviation</b>	No deviation from normal
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## 7. Habitat for the species

### 7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat (for long-term survival)

a) Is area of occupied habitat sufficient? Yes

b) Is quality of occupied habitat sufficient? Unknown

c) If No or Unknown, is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality? Yes

### 7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat; Method used

a) Sufficiency of area of occupied habitat; Method used Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

b) Sufficiency of quality of occupied habitat; Method used Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.3 Short-term trend; Period 2019-2024

7.4 Short-term trend; Direction Uncertain

7.5 Short-term trend; Method used Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data

7.6 Long-term trend; Period

7.7 Long-term trend; Direction

7.8 Long-term trend; Method used

### 7.9 Additional information

The great crested newt is predominantly a lowland species in Britain, where it uses a wide range of habitats, including woodland, grassland, parkland, farmland, mineral extraction sites, fens and mires, and uses small landscape features including drystone

walls and hedges. Aquatic habitats include ponds, ditches, quarries, ox-bow lakes, reed beds, pingos, dewponds and pools in sand dune slacks. The species typically prefers medium to large ponds, devoid of fish, with large amounts of aquatic vegetation. (Foster

et al., 2021). It is the opinion of Natural England that favourable national population for this species should be higher than the current population given the historical declines and to ensure thriving meta-populations throughout the natural range. The favourable population for England is defined here as the number high-quality occupied ponds.

## 8. Main pressures

### 8.1 Characterisation of pressures

**Table 3:** Pressures affecting the species, including timing and importance/impact ranking. Pressures are defined as factors acting currently and/or during the reporting period (2019–2024). Rankings are: High (direct/immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Pressure	Timing	Ranking
PA04: Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.)	Ongoing	Medium (M)
PA17: Agricultural activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters (including marine)	Ongoing	High (H)
PA02: Conversion from one type of agricultural land use to another (excluding drainage and burning)	Ongoing	High (H)
PK01: Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial)	Ongoing	High (H)
PL05: Modification of hydrological flow (mixed or unknown drivers)	Ongoing	Medium (M)
PM07: Natural processes without direct or indirect influence from human activities or climate change	Ongoing	High (H)
PE01: Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure	Ongoing	Medium (M)
PF01: Conversion from other land uses to built-up areas	Ongoing	High (H)
PJ10: Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change	Ongoing	Medium (M)
PI04: Plant and animal diseases, pathogens and pests	Ongoing	High (H)

PJ01: Temperature changes and extremes due to climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PJ03: Changes in precipitation regimes due to climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)

## 8.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

## 8.3 Additional information

PA04: It is now clear that climatic conditions in the UK and elsewhere have changed as a result of human activities. There is strong evidence that further change will take place and that the projected scale and rate of climate change as well as how change interacts with other environmental pressures, will have significant implications for the natural environment. Some habitats are particularly vulnerable to climate change, particularly wetlands due to the increased frequency and extent of drought and flooding, coastal habitats from sea-level rise, heathland from wildfire and montane habitats due to warming. Climate change is likely to have significant influences on the UK population of Great Crested Newt. At the northern edge of its range, advancing spring conditions may encourage an earlier emergence from hibernation and extend the breeding period, potentially increasing recruitment and juvenile dispersal opportunities (Derovo and others 2016). In the south and west, milder and wetter winters may reduce the viability of newt populations, lowering survival rates due to waterlogged soils and depletion of individual energy reserves whilst animals are active during what ought to be the hibernation period (Griffiths and others 2010). Hotter and drier summers are also likely to have an adverse effect on populations, reducing the availability of suitable aquatic habitats and invertebrate prey due to the increased frequency of periodic drying events (Préau and others 2020). This could seriously impact recruitment levels if breeding ponds dry out before metamorphosis. Disease risks, such as that caused by the chytrid fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, may also change with shifts in temperature (Pounds et al and others 2006). Landscape-scale wetland restoration, the reduction of over-abstraction, increasing connectivity between wetlands by creating new pools and increasing pond depth and diversity should all help build resilience.

## 9. Conservation measures

### 9.1: Status of measures

a) Are measures needed? Yes

<b>b) Indicate the status of measures</b>	Measures identified and taken
<b>9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken</b>	Increase the population size and/or improve population dynamics (related to 'Population')
<b>9.3 Location of the measures taken</b>	Both inside and outside National Site Network
<b>9.4 Response to measures</b>	Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2025–2036)

### 9.5 List of main conservation measures

**Table 4:** Key conservation measures addressing current pressures and/or anticipated threats during the next two reporting periods (2025–2036). Measures are ranked by importance/impact: High (direct/immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Conservation measure	Ranking
MA02: Restore small landscape features on agricultural land	Medium (M)
MA09: Manage the use of natural and synthetic fertilisers as well as chemicals in agricultural for plant and animal production	Medium (M)
MF01: Managing the impacts of converting land for construction and development of infrastructure	High (H)
MK01: Reduce impact of mixed source pollution	High (H)
MI01: Early detection and rapid eradication of invasive alien species of Union concern	High (H)
MA10: Reduce/eliminate point or diffuse source pollution to surface or ground waters (including marine) from agricultural activities	High (H)
MK03: Restoration of habitats impacted by multi-purpose hydrological changes	High (H)
MM01: Management of habitats (others than agriculture and forest) to slow, stop or reverse natural processes that occur without direct or indirect influence from human activities or climate change	Medium (M)
ME01: Reduce impact of transport operation and infrastructure	Medium (M)
MJ02: Implement climate change adaptation measures	Medium (M)

## 9.6 Additional information

The main pressures encountered by this species continue to be habitat loss and fragmentation, predominantly through land being converted for development (Jehle et al., 2011; JNCC, 2019c), as well as other long recognised reasons for losses of suitable breeding ponds, including pond senescence (due to absence of management) (Langton et al., 2001; Jehle et al., 2011; JNCC 2019c) and through the introduction of fish (Beebee, 1997; Gent & Gibson, 1998; Langton et al., 2001; Jehle et al., 2011). Disease is also a considerable concern, particularly *B. salamandrivorans*, as urodeles are particularly susceptible to this fungus. Pollution of both aquatic and terrestrial habitats by a wide range of chemicals, including agricultural sources is likely to have a range of negative effects on the species.

## 10. Future prospects

### 10.1 a Future trends of parameters

<b>ai) Range</b>	Overall stable
<b>bi) Population</b>	Overall stable
<b>ci) Habitat for the species</b>	Negative - slight/moderate deterioration

### 10.1 b Future prospects of parameters

<b>aii) Range</b>	Good
<b>bii) Population</b>	Good
<b>cii) Habitat for the species</b>	Unknown

## 10.2 Additional information

Targeted habitat creation and ongoing management are required to maintain sites in suitable condition, particularly at scale, for this widespread species. Conservation measures include pond management and restoration to provide optimal conditions, typically including removal of trees and/or scrub from the southern perimeter of ponds, de-silting and under certain circumstances, deepening the profiles of ponds. Species measures are also important, in particular, the removal of fish introduced into breeding ponds, and activities to prevent further introductions. Surveillance activities for the species needs to be substantially improved on both protected sites and the wider countryside, and better site protection is warranted (more representative in both number and range of habitats). GCN frequently feature in planning and licensing casework. Although strategic approaches through district level licensing are in place to

mitigate this, there is a case for further improvement to habitat protection through land use planning, and improvements to mitigation processes. Appropriate surveillance for early disease detection in the wild and apposite action as required (Foster et al., 2021)

## 11. Conclusions

<b>11.1 Range</b>	Favourable (FV)
<b>11.2 Population</b>	Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)
<b>11.3 Habitat for the species</b>	Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)
<b>11.4 Future prospects</b>	Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)
<b>11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status</b>	Unfavourable-inadequate (U1)
<b>11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status</b>	Stable

### 11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

### 11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status trend

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

### 11.8 Additional information

Targeted habitat creation and ongoing management are required to maintain sites in suitable condition, particularly at scale, for this widespread species. Conservation measures include pond management and restoration to provide optimal conditions, typically including removal of trees and/or scrub from the southern perimeter of ponds, de-silting and under certain circumstances, deepening the profiles of ponds. Species measures are also important, in particular, the removal of fish introduced into breeding ponds, and activities to prevent further introductions. Surveillance activities for the

species needs to be substantially improved on both protected sites and the wider countryside, and better site protection is warranted (more representative in both number and range of habitats). Although strategic approaches through district level licensing are in place to mitigate this, the species would benefit from further measures to deliver habitat improvement. Appropriate surveillance for early disease detection in the wild and apposite action as required (Foster et al., 2021).

## 12. UK National Site Network (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex II species

### 12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network

<b>a) Unit</b>	number of map 1x1 km grid cells
<b>b) Minimum</b>	282
<b>c) Maximum</b>	282
<b>d) Best single value</b>	282
<b>12.2 Type of estimate</b>	Best estimate
<b>12.3 Population size inside the network; Method used</b>	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
<b>12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Direction</b>	Stable
<b>12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Method used</b>	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
<b>12.6 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Direction</b>	Stable
<b>12.7 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Method used</b>	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

### 12.8 Additional information

No additional information

## **13. Complementary information**

### **13.1 Justification of percentage thresholds for trends**

No justification information

### **13.2 Trans-boundary assessment**

No trans-boundary assessment information

### **13.2 Other relevant information**

No other relevant information

## 14. References

### Biogeographical and marine regions

#### 4.2 Sources of information

Foster, J., Driver, D., Ward, R. & Wilkinson, J. (2021). IUCN Red List assessment of amphibians and reptiles at Great Britain and country scale. Report to Natural England. ARC report. ARC, Bournemouth.

Jehle, R., Thiesmeier, B. & Foster, J. (2011) The Crested newt. A Dwindling Pond-Dweller. Laurenti-Verlag, Bielefeld.

JNCC (2019c). European Community Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC) Fourth Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17 on the implementation of the Directive from January 2013 to December 2018, Conservation status assessment for the species: S1166- Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) UNITED KINGDOM. JNCC.

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Beebee, T.J. (1997). Changes in dewpond numbers and amphibian diversity over 20 years on chalk downland in Sussex, England. *Biological Conservation*, 81, 215-219.

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BATES, K.A., SHELTON, J.M.G., MERCIER, V.L., HOPKINS, K.P., HARRISON, X.A., PETROVAN, S.O. & M.C. FISHER. Captivity and exposure to the emerging fungal pathogen *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* are linked to perturbation and dysbiosis of the amphibian skin microbiome. <https://doi.org/10.1101/339853>.

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Foster, J., Driver, D., Ward, R. & Wilkinson, J. (2021). IUCN Red List assessment of amphibians and reptiles at Great Britain and country scale. Report to Natural England. ARC report. ARC, Bournemouth.

## Main pressures

### 8.2 Sources of information

PA04: Griffiths, R. A., Sewell, D. & McCrea, R. S. (2010). Dynamics of a declining amphibian metapopulation: survival, dispersal and the impact of climate. *Biological Conservation*. 143 2 485-491.

PA17: Alan Pounds, J., Bustamante, M., Coloma, L. et al. Widespread amphibian extinctions from epidemic disease driven by global warming. Nature 439, 161–167 (2006). <https://doi.org/10.1038/nature04246>

PA02: Préau, C., Grandjean, F., Sellier, Y. et al. Habitat patches for newts in the face of climate change: local scale assessment combining niche modelling and graph theory. Sci Rep 10, 3570 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-60479-4>

PK01: Dervo, B.K., Bærum, K.M., Skurdal, J. and J. Museth. Effects of temperature and precipitation on breeding migrations of amphibian species in southeastern Norway . Scientifica Volume 2016, Article ID 3174316, 8 pages

## 15. Explanatory Notes

Field label	Note
2.5: Additional information	The Great Crested Newt has a widespread distribution across lowland Britain, found throughout most of England, although it is absent or rare in parts of Devon and Cornwall. It has a more restricted distribution in Wales, where it is mainly absent from central and western areas. The species also has a limited distribution in Scotland, where it is principally located in southern areas and the central belt, with smaller numbers of populations in the Highlands.
6.2: Population size	Modelling indicates that there are 58,618 monads and 18 hectads within the Extent of Occurrence with suitable habitat but no recorded presence of great crested newt (expert opinion). Many of these may be expected to have great crested newts but have not been surveyed. Therefore, assuming that all the unoccupied monads and hectads within the EOO are actually occupied, the current range and distribution of great crested newt is taken as 66,442 monads within 1,155 hectads. More refined data is currently being generated from PondNet surveillance. Best estimate from PondNet surveillance (Ewald et al., 2018; Ewald, 2018) is that 16-33% of 1 km grid squares in England are occupied by great crested newts (+8.5%). This calculation is only from 4 years of surveys, a longer monitoring period is required to have more confidence in estimates and the ability to detect change.
5.3: Short-term trend; Direction	No robust short-term trend data are available for the great crested newt in England for the period 2013-2024. PondNet results suggest that in the short term 1km square occupancy isn't changing, but need more data to be certain.
5.7: Long-term trend; Direction	The long term population trend within the period of 1994-2024 is commonly thought to be one of declining GCN populations (e.g. Langton et al, 2001; Wilkinson et al, 2011).

2.4: Distribution map; Method used	Recent country-wide occupancy data is not available for this species in England. The data used to generate the distribution map were primarily drawn from the NBN gateway and include data available under appropriate license from a range of contributing monitoring schemes. Records from a 10 year period (2014-2024) have been used for this reporting round.
7.1: Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	PondNet have recorded declines in Habitat Suitability Index quality due to fish introduction and a reduction within a square occupancy due to the proximity to development (both direct development and pressure being adjacent to new development).
6.9: Short-term trend; Magnitude	Historic declines can be assumed. Since the 1960's, there have been continuing losses, with a consistent pattern of decline estimated from local case studies to be around 2% every five years (Nicholson & Oldham 1986). More recent data suggests that, in the short term at least, this downward trend is stabilising or has plateaued (JNCC 2019).
6.17: Additional information	The number of high-quality occupied ponds is chosen as a proxy for viable great crested newt populations. It is chosen because counts of individuals are too inaccurate to define the status of populations except at a small (site) scale. The favourable range and distribution of great crested newt is considered to be 81,647 monads and 1,343 hectads, which is the current number of squares with suitable habitat in the EOO plus the additional squares with suitable habitat outside the EOO. This represents an increase of 23% in the number of monads and a 16% increase in the number of hectads. Mostly as per the Great Britain level assessment. The Extent of Occurrence (in the region of 150,000km <sup>2</sup> ) and number of populations (tens of thousands) exceed the thresholds for reduction rates in the Threatened categories, and there is unlikely to be a significant deterioration in the

	short term. The IUCN Red List assessment is therefore Least Concern in England (Foster et al., 2021).
6.15: Favourable Reference Population (FRP)	Given that the short term population trend is thought to be stable, the operator from the previous reporting round has been retained.
7.1: Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	At a national scale, this is primarily considering area of habitat but there is also evidence to suggest that habitat quality is not sufficient in many parts of the country. The 2007 Countryside Survey found that ponds in England were widely degraded with around 80% of ponds Poor or Very Poor quality (Williams et al 2010), with a number of pressures on small water bodies generally (Riley et al., 2018) as well as at GCN SAC sites.
7.4: Short-term trend; Direction	Addition habitat creation through NE's District Level Licensing programme has increased suitable habitat for this species in the long term.