

Amphibians and Reptiles of Britain and Ireland Taxon Expert Group: Data sub-group Terms of Reference

1. Role and scope

The Amphibians and Reptiles of Britain and Ireland Taxon Expert Group (ARBITEG) produces strategic-level advice on the conservation of herpetofauna. Its geographic scope is Britain and Ireland. The ARBITEG data-sub group has been set up to take forward key issues relating to data / monitoring as filtered down from the ARBITEG main group. It comprises representatives from statutory and non-statutory organisations.

2. Functions

The ARBITEG data sub-group will have the following functions:

- To act as a focus for discussing herp data requirements. In particular, this involves *defining* and *measuring* conservation status.
- To define roles/ responsibilities of all parties (within and outside of the group) relating to herpetofauna data collection, mobilisation and analysis.
- Take forward monitoring and surveillance topics (such as definition of FCS and metrics), including assisting with or instigating new projects/ activities/ actions as appropriate.
- Via the main group (ARBITEG), feed into BAP (HAPS and SAPS) and other policy/ legislation, picking up on and reacting to any changes in thinking
- Feed into target setting
- Identify data deficiencies/ future research needs.

3. Membership

The following organisations are represented on the ARBITEG data sub-group:

- Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust
- Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK
- Countryside Council for Wales
- Natural England
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- JNCC
- LRC representatives.

4. Ways of working

- Meeting frequency: The ARBITEG data sub-group will meet twice per year, with additional meetings to address specific projects, as and when required.
- ARBITEG data sub-group Chair: The Chair will normally be an officer of ARC.
- Contact: The point of contact will be John Wilkinson of ARC (johnw.wilkinson@arc-trust.org)
- Papers and minutes will be distributed by email.

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