amphibian and reptile conservation

Grants for Great Crested Newt Conservation Projects

Guidance for Applicants: Objectives and Conditions

Projects eligible for funding

- Field survey (maps, fuel expenses, survey equipment)
- Pond creation
- Pond restoration
- Pond management
- Terrestrial habitat management

Associated work which cannot be funded

- Staff time
- Reporting costs
- Land purchase
- Work outside the natural range of the species

Priorities for funding

- Projects working towards national great crested newt SAP and LBAP targets
- Projects involving local Amphibian and Reptile Groups and volunteer groups
- Survey projects informing local authorities and landowners of location of newt sites
- Projects to link or enlarge meta-populations, including habitat management work
- Projects in areas where the species has suffered the greatest declines

Likely maximum grant awarded: £500

Conditions for applying

1. Reporting

Survey projects

A full report must be submitted to Amphibian and Reptile Conservation on completion of the work, for field survey this should include all survey information, including a table of all ponds visited (6 fig grid refs), a summary of all amphibians and reptiles recorded, and a map showing position of ponds with any reference numbers.

Habitat management and creation projects

A full report must be submitted to Amphibian and Reptile Conservation on completion of the work, for practical work, this must include "before and after" photos and an account of the work undertaken; receipts for equipment/machinery used etc.

All projects

The outcome of all projects should be entered on BARS http://www.ukbap-reporting.org.uk/ (Biodiversity Action Reporting System). If you are unfamiliar with this system help can be provided by the Great Crested Newt Conservation Officer at Amphibian and Reptile Conservation, so don't let this prevent you from applying!

2. Habitat Creation and management projects

- The value of any new ponds created must be recognised in any management plan for the site with a commitment to maintain suitable conditions for the species
- New ponds should not be created at the expense of other important wildlife habitats and be capable of being colonised naturally by great crested newts, or be suitable to have a population introduced from an appropriate source (where translocation is proposed, agreement needs to be obtained from Natural England (NE), Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) or Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) before a grant can be considered.)
- Before pond restoration work is undertaken, a survey should be carried out to establish the nature conservation interest of the site (including the presence of great crested newts.) Check with NE/CCW or SNH concerning site interests/ designations to determine whether a licence is required for the planned work.
- Pond restoration projects may require planning permission- check with the District or Borough Council.

Monitoring

All pond creation and restoration projects should be monitored for a number of years to determine their success.

Publicity

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation's contribution should be acknowledged in any interpretation or publicity material.

Data

All data collected, as part of the project should be sent to the appropriate local record centre(s).

If you have any questions concerning the grant, please contact Dorothy Wright.

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Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

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