

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**

**Second Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17  
on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2001 to December 2006**


**Conservation status assessment for  
Species:**

**S1166 - *Triturus cristatus* - Great crested newt**

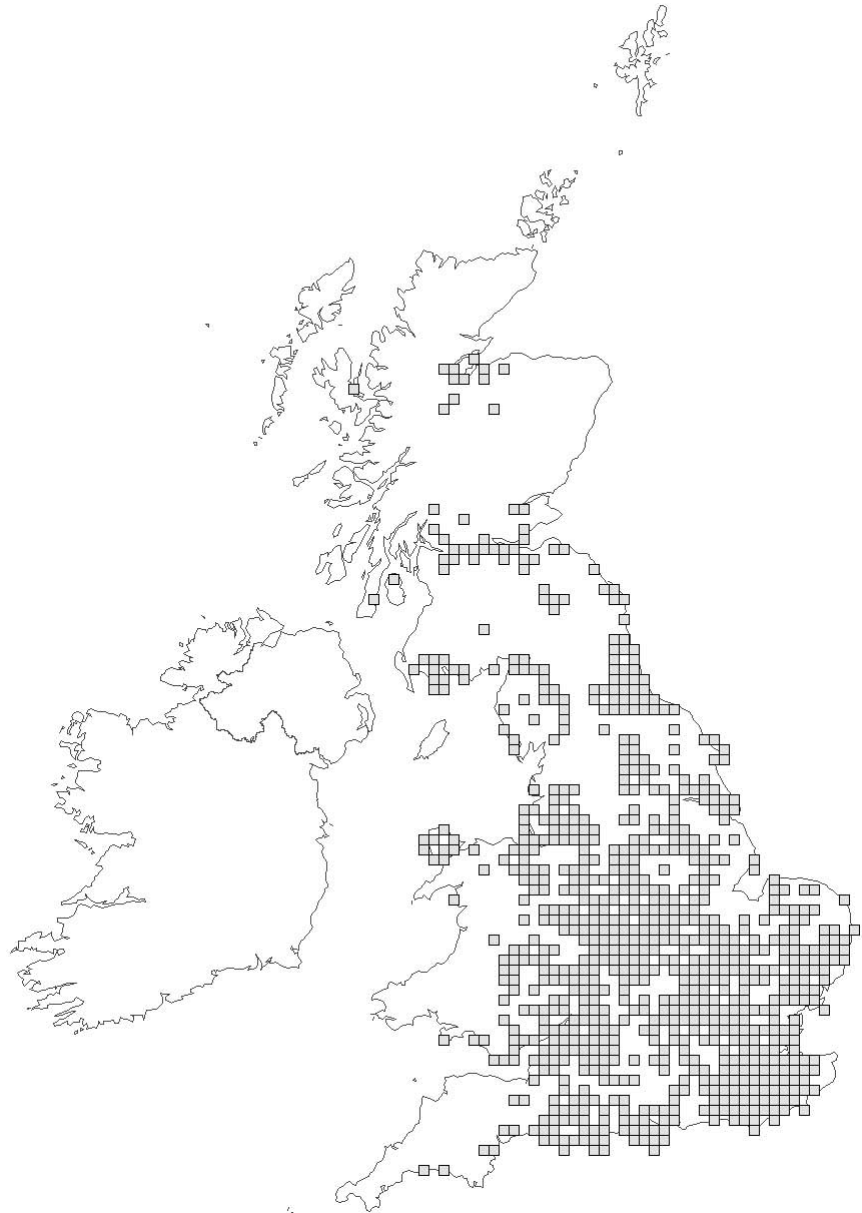
The information in this assessment corresponds to the "species fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

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**Species Name: *Triturus cristatus***

| <b>1. National level</b>                                |   |
|---|---|
| Species Code  | S1166   |
| Member State  | United Kingdom  |
| Biogeographic regions concerned within the Member state | ATL   |
| 1.1 Range map   |  A map of the United Kingdom showing the distribution of <i>Triturus cristatus</i> . The distribution is indicated by a grey shaded area that covers the majority of the island of Great Britain, including the Scottish Highlands, the English Midlands, and the southern half of England. The distribution also extends to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The map shows the outlines of the British Isles, with the shaded area representing the range of the species. |

## 1.2 Distribution map



## 2. Biogeographic level

### 2.1 Biogeographic region

ATL

### 2.2 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 Unpublished.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 *Triturus cristatus* 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 *T. cristatus*: 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](http://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. *T. cristatus* conservation handbook. Froglife, Halesworth.

NICHOLSON, M. & OLDHAM, R.S. 1986. Status of the warty newt *Triturus cristatus*. 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 compiled by Scottish Natural Heritage (1996-2006) (J. McKinnell pers. comm)

Records compiled 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).  |            |         |       |
| <b>2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>        |   |            |         |       |
| 2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km)                                      | 157749  |            |         |       |
| 2.3.2 Date of range determination   | 1980-2006   |            |         |       |
| 2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range  | Moderate  |            |         |       |
| 2.3.4 Range trend   | Stable (=)  |            |         |       |
| 2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%)   | Not applicable  |            |         |       |
| 2.3.6 Range trend period  | 1994-2006   |            |         |       |
| 2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend  | Not applicable  |            |         |       |
| <b>2.4 Population</b>   |   |            |         |       |
| 2.4.1 Population size estimation  | Minimum   | 75000      | Maximum | 75000 |
|   | Units   | Localities |         |       |
| 2.4.2 Date of population estimation   | 2006  |            |         |       |
| 2.4.3 Method used for population estimation                                     | 2 - Extrapolation from surveys of part of the population  |            |         |       |
| 2.4.4 Quality of population data  | Poor  |            |         |       |
| 2.4.5 Population trend  | Decreasing (-)  |            |         |       |
| 2.4.6 Population trend magnitude (%)  | less than 5   |            |         |       |
| 2.4.7 Population trend period   | 1994-2006   |            |         |       |
| 2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend  | 3 - Direct human influence; 4 - Indirect anthropo or zoogenic influence; 5 - Natural processes;   |            |         |       |
| 2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional)                       | Not applicable  |            |         |       |
| 2.4.10 Main pressures   | 100 - Cultivation; 101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 141 - Abandonment of pastoral systems; 151 - Removal of hedges and copses; 164 - Forestry clearance; 390 - Mining and extraction activities not referred to above; 400 - Urbanised areas, human habitation; 410 - Industrial or commercial areas; 500 - Communication networks; 701 - water pollution; 800 - Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general; 853 - management of water levels; 910 - Silting up; 920 - Drying out; 952 - eutrophication; 965 - predation; |            |         |       |
| 2.4.11 Threats  | 101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 390 - Mining and extraction activities not referred to above; 400 - Urbanised areas, human habitation; 410 - Industrial or commercial areas; 500 - Communication networks; 800 - Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general; 853 - management of water levels; 910 - Silting up; 920 - Drying out; 965 - predation;  |            |         |       |
| <b>2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b> |   |            |         |       |
| 2.5 Habitats for the species  | 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.  |            |         |       |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 2.5.2 Area estimation (sq km)   | Unknown  |
| 2.5.3 Date of estimation  | 05/2007  |
| 2.5.4 Quality of data   | Poor   |
| 2.5.5 Trend of the habitat  | Unknown (X)  |
| 2.5.6 Trend period  | 1994-2006  |
| 2.5.7 Reasons for reported trend  | Not applicable   |
| <b>2.6 Future prospects</b>   |  |
| 2.6 Future prospects for the species  | Good prospects_Species expected to survive and prosper |
| <b>2.7 Complementary information</b>  |  |
| 2.7.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)  | 157749   |
| 2.7.2 Favourable reference population   | 100000   |
| 2.7.3 Suitable Habitat for the species  | Unknown  |
| 2.7.4 Other relevant information  |  |
| <b>2.8 Conclusions</b><br><i>(assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</i> |  |
| (2.3) Range   | (FV) - Favourable                                      |
| (2.4) Population  | (U1-) - Inadequate and deteriorating                   |
| (2.5) Habitat for the species   | (XX) - Unknown   |
| (2.6) Future prospects  | (FV) - Favourable                                      |
| Overall assessment  | (U1) - Inadequate                                      |