

**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

IMPORTANT NOTE - PLEASE READ

- The information in this document represents the UK Report on the conservation status of this species, submitted to the European Commission as part of the 2019 UK Reporting under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive.
- It is based on supporting information provided by the geographically-relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, which is documented separately.
- The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.
- The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.
- Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included (where available).
- Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the UK assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country-level 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 Natura 2000 coverage for Annex II species).
- The UK-level reporting information for all habitats and species is also available in spreadsheet format.

Visit the JNCC website, <https://jncc.gov.uk/article17>, for further information on UK Article 17 reporting.

Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

NATIONAL LEVEL

1. General information

1.1 Member State	UK
1.2 Species code	1166
1.3 Species scientific name	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name (in national language)	Great crested newt

2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	1982-2018
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
2.5 Additional maps	No

3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?	No																
3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?	<table> <tr> <td>a) regulations regarding access to property</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species</td><td>No</td></tr> <tr> <td>h) other measures</td><td>No</td></tr> </table>	a) regulations regarding access to property	No	b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation	No	c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens	No	d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations	No	e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas	No	f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens	No	g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species	No	h) other measures	No
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h) other measures	No																

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

a) Unit

b) Statistics/ quantity taken	Provide statistics/quantity per hunting season or per year (where season is not used) over the reporting period					
	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
Min. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Max. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	No

3.4. Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5. Additional information

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

Atlantic (ATL)

4.2 Sources of information

England

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5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km ²)	164322.02
5.2 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
5.3 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)
5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum
5.5 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
5.6 Long-term trend Period	
5.7 Long-term trend Direction	
5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum
5.9 Long-term trend Method used	
5.10 Favourable reference range	<p>a) Area (km²) 156257</p> <p>b) Operator</p> <p>c) Unknown</p> <p>d) Method</p> <p>The FRR is the same as in 2013. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no lower than the range estimate when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further information see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.</p>
5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	<p>Improved knowledge/more accurate data</p> <p>Use of different method</p> <p>The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data</p>

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5.12 Additional information

6. Population

6.1 Year or period	1989-2018
6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)	a) Unit number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1) b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value 22280
6.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate
6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)	a) Unit b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value
6.5 Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
6.8 Short-term trend Direction	Stable (0)
6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.10 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.11 Long-term trend Period	
6.12 Long-term trend Direction	
6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.14 Long-term trend Method used	
6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)	a) Population size b) Operator More than (>) c) Unknown d) Method The FRP has changed since 2013. The FRP is no more than 25% above the current population. An FRP operator has been used because it had not been possible to calculate the exact FRP value. See the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document for further information.
6.16 Change and reason for change in population size	Improved knowledge/more accurate data Use of different method The change is mainly due to: Use of different method

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6.17 Additional information

The FRP has been updated from 'Unknown' to 'More than' to take account of improved knowledge regarding the UK population. Comprehensive survey of the great crested newt is difficult as the species is widespread but cryptic.

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat

a) Are area and quality of occupied habitat sufficient (for long-term survival)? No

b) Is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality (for long-term survival)? No

7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.3 Short-term trend Period

2007-2018

7.4 Short-term trend Direction

Decreasing (-)

7.5 Short-term trend Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.6 Long-term trend Period

7.7 Long-term trend Direction

7.8 Long-term trend Method used

7.9 Additional information

Evidence from England, which holds 98% of the total UK resource, states that habitat area and quality are not sufficient. Ponds are widely degraded with c.80% of ponds surveyed in England in Poor or Very Poor quality.

8. Main pressures and threats

8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.) (A05)	M
Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters (A25)	H
Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g. bridges, viaducts, tunnels) (E01)	M
Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F01)	H
Conversion from other land uses to commercial / industrial areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F03)	M
Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial) (J01)	H
Modification of hydrological flow (K04)	H
Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices) (L02)	H

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Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change (N05)	M
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Threat	Ranking
Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.) (A05)	M
Agricultural activities generating point source pollution to surface or ground waters (A25)	M
Roads, paths, railroads and related infrastructure (e.g. bridges, viaducts, tunnels) (E01)	M
Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F01)	H
Conversion from other land uses to commercial / industrial areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F03)	H
Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial) (J01)	H
Modification of hydrological flow (K04)	M
Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices) (L02)	H
Interspecific relations (competition, predation, parasitism, pathogens) (L06)	H
Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change (N05)	M

8.2 Sources of information

8.3 Additional information

It should be noted that such a geographically and ecologically widespread animal is subject to a wide range of pressures and threats.

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures

a) Are measures needed?	Yes
b) Indicate the status of measures	Measures identified and taken

9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

Increase the population size and/or improve population dynamics (improve reproduction success, reduce mortality, improve age/sex structure) (related to 'Population')

9.3 Location of the measures taken

Both inside and outside Natura 2000

9.4 Response to the measures

Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2019-2030)

9.5 List of main conservation measures

Restore small landscape features on agricultural land (CA02)

Manage the use of natural fertilisers and chemicals in agricultural (plant and animal) production (CA09)

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Reduce/eliminate point pollution to surface or ground waters from agricultural activities (CA10)

Reduce impact of transport operation and infrastructure (CE01)

Manage conversion of land for construction and development of infrastructure (CF01)

Early detection and rapid eradication of invasive alien species of Union concern (CI01)

Reduce impact of mixed source pollution (CJ01)

Restore habitats impacted by multi-purpose hydrological changes (CJ03)

Management of habitats (others than agriculture and forest) to slow, stop or reverse natural processes (CL01)

Implement climate change adaptation measures (CN02)

9.6 Additional information

10. Future prospects

10.1 Future prospects of parameters

a) Range	Good
b) Population	Poor
c) Habitat of the species	Poor

10.2 Additional information

Future trend of Range is Overall stable; Future trend of Population is Positive - increasing $\leq 1\%$ (one percent or less) per year on average; and Future trend of Habitat for the species is Positive - slight/moderate improvement. For further information on how future trends inform the Future prospects conclusion see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

11. Conclusions

11.1. Range

Favourable (FV)

11.2. Population

Unfavourable - Inadequate (U1)

11.3. Habitat for the species

Unfavourable - Inadequate (U1)

11.4. Future prospects

Unfavourable - Inadequate (U1)

11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status

Unfavourable - Inadequate (U1)

11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status

Deteriorating (-)

11.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend

a) Overall assessment of conservation status

Improved knowledge/more accurate data

The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data

b) Overall trend in conservation status

Improved knowledge/more accurate data

The change is mainly due to: Improved knowledge/more accurate data

11.8 Additional information

Conclusion on Range reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is stable; and (ii) the current Range surface area is not less than the Favourable Reference Range.

Conclusion on Population reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is stable; and (ii) the current Population size is not more than 25% below the Favourable Reference Population.

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Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) the area of occupied and unoccupied habitat is not sufficiently large and (ii) the habitat quality is not adequate for the long-term survival of the species; and (iii) the short-term trend in area of habitat is decreasing.

Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Population are poor; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are poor.

Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-term trends for Range - stable, Population - stable, and Habitat for the species - decreasing.

The Overall assessment of Conservation Status has changed between 2013 and 2019 because the conclusion for Population has changed from Unknown to Unfavourable-inadequate, the conclusion for Habitat for the species has changed from Unknown to Unfavourable-inadequate and the conclusion for Future Prospects has changed from Unknown to Unfavourable-inadequate.

The Overall trend in Conservation Status has changed between 2013 and 2019 because the the Population trend has changed from unknown to stable, the Habitat for the species trend has changed from unknown to decreasing.

12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)

a) Unit number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1)
b) Minimum
c) Maximum
d) Best single value 442

12.2 Type of estimate

Best estimate

12.3 Population size inside the network Method used

Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction

Unknown (x)

12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used

Insufficient or no data available

12.6 Additional information

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

13.3 Other relevant Information

Distribution Map

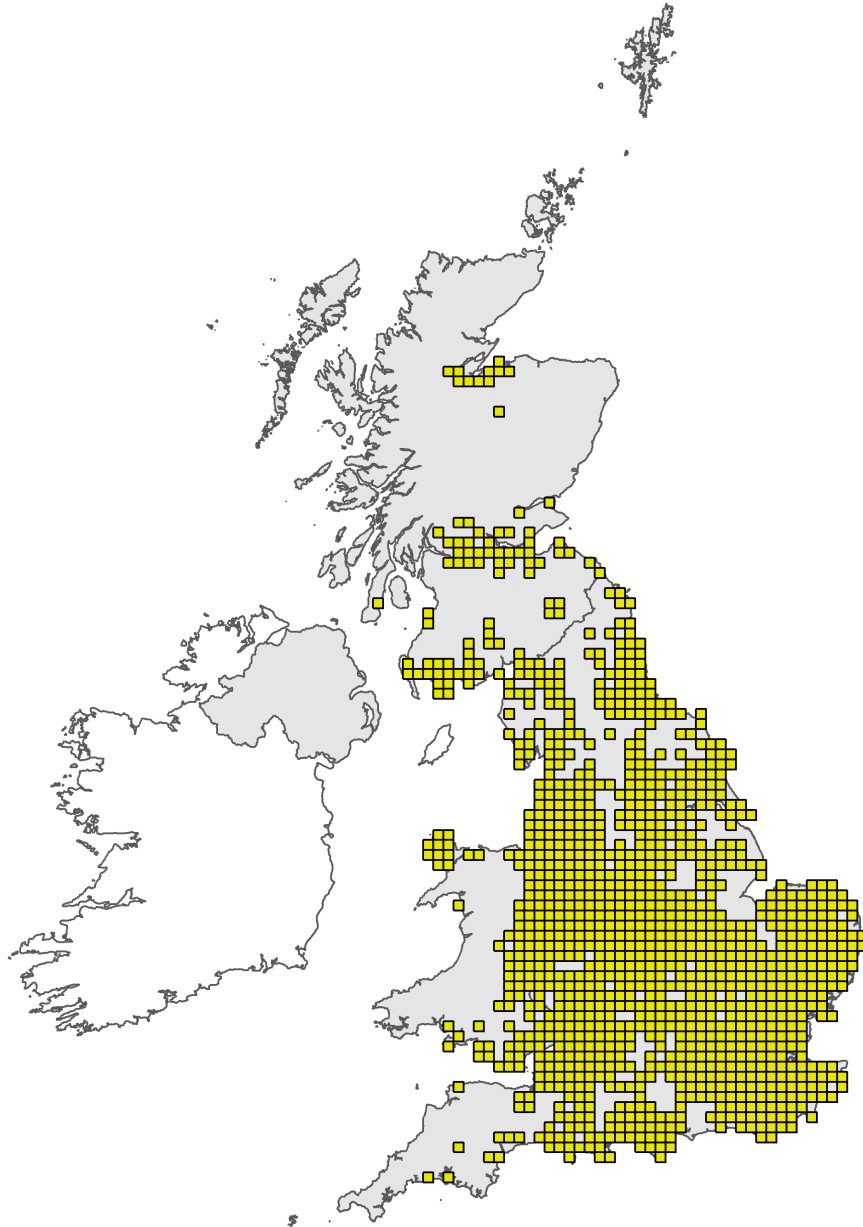


Figure 1: UK distribution map for S1166 - Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

Range Map



Figure 2: UK 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 range map has been produced by applying a bespoke range mapping tool for Article 17 reporting (produced by JNCC) to the 10km grid square distribution map presented in Figure 1. The alpha value for this species was 34km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.