



# Pondwatch JE

a new scheme for surveying Jersey's pondlife

**Nina Cornish**

Research Ecologist, Government of Jersey



# Pondwatch JE training 2020

**10-15 – 10:30** What is Pondwatch and how can you get involved?

**10:30 –11:30** Pond Life identification

**Comfort break**

**11:30-12:00** Level 1 – Pondwatch

- Pond survey methods including, health & safety, and biosecurity
- Data recording

**12:00-13:00** Level 2 - Pondwatch

- Pond survey methods including habitat assessment, health & safety and
- Field Session
- Data recording
- **13:00 14:00** Summary, site discussion and allocation and lunch



# NARRS

## National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme



Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

RESEARCH REPORT 19/01A

### Analysis of Jersey

### National Amphibian and

### Reptile Recording

### Scheme (NARRS) Data

### 2007–2018 (Report A)

R.J. Ward and J.W. Wilkinson

ARC Science Team, 2019

States  
of Jersey

amphibian and reptile  
conservation



- Jersey Carried out a 12 year recording scheme (2007 and 2018)
- In 2018-2019 ARC carried out an analysis of Jersey's NARRS data, in order to determine changes in occupancy and distribution of Jersey's native amphibian and reptiles
- Provide recommendations on the effectiveness and future monitoring efforts in Jersey.



Pondwatch...JE

# Results

- In a nut shell...
- Palmate newt have increased in estimated occupancy
- western toad little change in occupancy rates between two cycles
- Agile Frog no change in occupancy

## Overall

- The western toad, palmate newt is considered as being widespread and the agile frog has a restricted distribution.



# Recommendations for future monitoring efforts:

- Develop separate monitoring efforts for widespread (western toad, palmate newt, and restricted or difficult to monitor (agile frog, wall lizard, grass snake) species.
- Employ site-based population monitoring of restricted and rare species.
- Increase the number of repeat surveys for widespread amphibians to five.
- Carry out water quality monitoring.
- Carry out amphibian disease screening.





Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

RESEARCH REPORT 19/01B



**Development of future  
reptile and freshwater  
monitoring schemes in  
Jersey (Report B)**



R.J. Ward and J.W. Wilkinson

*ARC Science Team, 2019*

States  
of Jersey

amphibian and reptile  
conservation 

- Existing monitoring efforts for amphibians and freshwater were explored and developed.
- The schemes needed to use robust and repeatable methods to generate data for future analyses of population status and trends, whilst maximising the data collected by volunteers and improving our overall knowledge on Jersey's biodiversity.
- Previous monitoring schemes have focused on single taxonomic groups the new schemes needed to offer greater variety in the species that can be recorded and the methods that can be applied.

# What is Pondwatch?

An **island-wide effort to record Jersey's pondlife** with the aim of detecting changes in their conservation status.

Pondwatch *replaces* the National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme (NARRS) and Jersey Toadwatch.

By taking part, you will be helping us to improve our knowledge on the distribution and habitat requirements of Jersey's pond-dwelling wildlife.

*(It's also a good opportunity for you to spend some time in nature too!)*



# What is Pondwatch?

A **partnership** between



Jersey Amphibian and Reptile Group (JARG)



The Government of Jersey



Jersey Biodiversity Centre (JBC)

amphibian and reptile  
conservation



Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC)





# How can you get involved?

**Pondwatch** is made up of 3 levels.

Choose the one that suits your experience and available time.

Level			Methods
1	30 minutes 1 survey	No experience required No training required	Visual
2	30–60 mins 5 surveys	No experience required Training is required	Visual, net, torch
3	60+ mins Many surveys	Experience required Training is required	Visual, net, torch



# Questions??

Do you have your own pond?

Do you know someone who has a pond and would be happy for you to survey it 5 times from now to May?

Would you like a pond allocated to you?

Sign up, volunteer working agreements and landowner agreement forms.



# Thank you

