Pondwatch JE

a new scheme for surveying Jersey’s pondlife

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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
• 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.
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.
• 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 (ARC)
# How can you get involved?

**Pondwatch** is made up of 3 levels. Choose the one that suits your experience and available time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Surveys</th>
<th>Experience Required</th>
<th>Training Required</th>
<th>Methods</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>1 survey</td>
<td>No experience required</td>
<td>No training required</td>
<td>Visual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>30‒60 mins</td>
<td>5 surveys</td>
<td>No experience required</td>
<td>Training is required</td>
<td>Visual, net, torch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>60+ mins</td>
<td>Many surveys</td>
<td>Experience required</td>
<td>Training is required</td>
<td>Visual, net, torch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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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