



## **UK priority species pages – Version 2**

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## SPECIES PAGES FOR 2007 UK BAP PRIORITY SPECIES

(see endnotes for an explanation of the various components of this compilation).

**Pelophylax lessonae (Camerano, 1882)****Pool Frog****1 General information**

Level 1	Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles)
Level 2	amphibian
On 1997 UK BAP list	Species Action Plan

**2 UK BAP criteria<sup>i</sup>**

1. International threat	2. International responsibility (2a) + moderate decline in UK (2b)	3. Marked decline in the UK	4. Other important factor(s)
False	False	True	False

**3 Evidence for Criteria<sup>ii</sup>**

Criterion 1	
Criterion 2a	
Criterion 2b	
Criterion 3	100% decline over 25 years (1980-2005): First re-introduction took place in August 2005 to 1 site. Population not yet proven to have re-established.
Criterion 4	

**4 Distribution by Country**

England	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	International Waters
Y	N	N	N	

**5 Distribution Information**

Distribution data source	Stage 1 information
Distribution data notes	Re-introduced to 1 site in England under current BAP action plan
number of sites (where less than or equal to 10)	1
Units used for number of sites	Site(s) / population(s)

**6 Actions identified by experts<sup>iii</sup>**

Action number	Action text	Reporting category
1	SINGLE SPECIES ACTION: Continue releases from Swedish stock. Continue habitat management at release site, expanding pond numbers by tree clearance / thinning and managing the terrestrial habitat.	Species-specific management action
2	SINGLE SPECIES ACTION: Implement full species action plan including release protocol, search for further sites for releases, monitor success of re- introduction scheme.	Species-specific management action
3	SINGLE SPECIES ACTION: Seek to improve the condition of suitable habitat in former range for further releases	Species-specific prescriptive habitat action

**7 Signpost to Priority Habitat<sup>iv</sup>**

Priority Habitat Name
Fen/swamp: Lowland Fens

**8 Additional information from specialists<sup>v</sup>**

Attribute	Value
NBN current scientific name	Pelophylax lessonae
NBN common name	Pool Frog
classification level 1	Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles)
classification level 2	amphibian
Latest UK Population/extent Estimate	1
Units of measurement	Populations
Start date (year)	1980
Starting estimate	1
End date (year)	2005
Ending estimate	0
Proportion left	0
decline	100
over observed years	25
decline over 25 years	100
Additional comments/ information	First re-introduction took place in August 2005 to 1 site. Population not yet proven to have re-established
decline over 25% in UK	yes
Crit2 satisfied Yes/No/ Unknown	no
Crit3 satisfied Yes/No/ Unknown	yes
Comments on UK decline and confidence in assessment	100% decline- Extinction took place in the 1990s at the last known native site, following progressive loss of the species in eastern

	England, largely due to fen drainage. The northern clade of this species, restricted and threatened at a European level, was represented in the UK. Animals from the populations in Sweden have been chosen for the re-introduction project in Norfolk.
1st source	Beebee et al (2005)



## 10 Species designations<sup>vi</sup>

Abbreviation	Reporting Category	Designation	Designation description	Year	Source	Comment
HabReg:Sch2	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	Schedule 2	Schedule 2: European protected species of animals.	1994	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	
Bern:A3	Bern Convention	Appendix 3	Special protection through 'appropriate and necessary legislative and administrative measures', of the listed wild fauna species.	1982	Bern Convention	Note on status=Queried, some populations probably native natural range includes GB
HabDir:A4	Habitats Directive	Annex 4	Animal and plant species of Community interest (i.e. endangered, vulnerable, rare or endemic in the European Community) in need of strict protection. They are protected from killing, disturbance or the destruction of them or their habitat. Note that the contents of this annex have been updated in April 2003 following the Treaty of Accession.	1992	Habitats Directive	
England NERC S.41	Biodiversity Lists - England	England NERC S.41	Species “of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity” covered under section 41 (England) of the NERC Act (2006) and therefore need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions with a view to conserving biodiversity.	2008	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 - Species of Principal Importance in England (section	Geographic constraint=Listing is for England only

					41) and Wales (section 42)	
BAP:2007	Biodiversity Action Plan UK list of priority species	Priority Species	The UK List of Priority Species and Habitats contains 1150 species and 65 habitats that have been listed as priorities for conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP).	2007	UK list of Priority Habitats and Species	status on former BAP list: Species Action Plan

## UK BAP 2008 reporting<sup>vii</sup>

(nb this only applies to species on the original 1997 UK BAP priority species list)

### 11 General status

Country	Attribute	Value
England		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	1
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Sample or full survey
	Adequate data	Yes
	Data on NBN	No
	Refer to LBAP data	No
	Edits made by reporting group	
UK		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Value	1
	Units	Site(s) / population(s)
	Accuracy	Sample or full survey
	Adequate data	Yes
	Data on NBN	No
	Refer to LBAP data	No
	Data source / comments	Survey reports for the reintroduced population of northern clade pool frog have been produced each year since 2005 . Reports of the frog collection in Sweden and the subsequent release of frogs at the



		reintroduction site in England have also been produced each year since 2005.
	Edits made by reporting group	

## 8 Trends

Country	Attribute	Value
England		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Increasing
	Accuracy	Sample or full survey
	Adequate data	Yes
	Data on NBN	No
	Refer to LBAP data	No
	Edits made by reporting group	
UK		
	Date	2008
	Status unknown	No
	Trend	Increasing
	Accuracy	Sample or full survey
	Adequate data	Yes
	Data on NBN	No
	Refer to LBAP data	No
	Edits made by reporting group	

### 9 Successes

Success text	Success category 1	Success category 2	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Edits by reporting group
A small colony of northern clade pool frogs has become established at the reintroduction site in England as a result of releases of frogs from Sweden (2005 - 2008).	Species and habitat management	Species population size increase	Yes	No	No	No	
The main part of the reintroduction site has become an HCT reserve, this should facilitate long term management and funding.	Species and habitat management	Other	Yes	No	No	No	
As the pool frog is now listed on Schedule 9 of the .....Act (.....) it may not be deliberately released into the wild.	Policy, legislation and designation	Beneficial changes in UK legislation	Yes	No	No	No	

### 10 Threats

Threat category 1	Threat category 2	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Edits made by reporting group
Changes in native species dynamics	Predation	Yes	No	No	No	

Habitat loss / degradation - succession	Natural succession	Yes	No	No	No	
Harvesting	Collection - scientific/leisure	Yes	No	No	No	

## 15 Constraints

Rank	Constraint category 1	Constraint category 2	Constraint summary	England	NI	Scotland	Wales	Solution category	Solution summary
2	Species and habitat management	Habitat creation / restoration - not achieved	A range of other potential pool frog sites exist, but they require a series of restoration and habitat management measures.	Yes	No	No	No	Management	Increase effort to bring additional sites into favourable condition for northern clade pool frogs.
2	Species and habitat management	Habitat quality declining	Water abstraction appears to have been, and probably still is, a negative factor for pool frogs.	Yes	No	No	No	Legislation and policies	Better control of abstraction rates in The Fens/Breckland

## 11 State of Knowledge

State of knowledge category	Notes	Edits made by reporting group
Knowledge sufficient to effectively deliver the plan targets	Most knowledge required for SAP delivery exists, but some areas of knowledge and expertise need to be further developed (e.g. which features of the terrestrial habitat are most used by the frogs and how they should be maintained now that a grazing regime is in place).	

### ENDNOTES

<sup>i</sup> An explanation of these criteria is included at Annex 3 of [UK Biodiversity Action Plan: Report on the Species and Habitat Review](#). BRIG (ed. Ant Maddock) 2007. This review was organised in two stages. Stage 1 looked at the scientific evidence for selecting the UK List of Priority Species and Habitats while stage 2 considered the conservation action needed for these species and habitats and provided signposts to the means of implementing action.

<sup>ii</sup> The information on evidence and the species distribution is as presented on the UK BAP website. Users can download a spreadsheet of the [Stage 1 species evidence](#) from the home page of the UK BAP website.

<sup>iii</sup> Actions were assigned to each and every priority species by expert groups convened at Stage 2 of the Review process. These were subsequently categorised into “signpost categories”. This information is as shown on the UK BAP website See the link for [categorisation \(signposting\) of UK priority species](#).

<sup>iv</sup> Where a species action is clearly linked to a BAP priority habitat, the name of the relevant habitat or habitats was identified by the stage 2 expert group.

<sup>v</sup> This information has been derived from Stage 1 of the priority species review, and is presented in the “marine”, “terrestrial invertebrates” and “other terrestrial species” sheets within the spreadsheet of the [Stage 1 species evidence](#). The information presented here varies according to the taxonomic group. Please note that some of these data have been written for other Expert Group members and may not be of great value to a wider audience.

<sup>vi</sup> Information on conservation designations has been extracted from JNCC’s collation of information on [species designations](#). The designations shown in version 2 of these pages are as at December 2010.

<sup>vii</sup> As part of the 2008 UK BAP reporting round lead partners of national plans were asked to answer a number of specific questions. The data will be analysed and used for the UK and country level reports. All of the responses provided through BARS as part of the 2008 reporting exercise are available to [download](#). Note that in the December 2010 version of these pages (version 2) includes corrections to previously truncated text fields.