

OBJECTIVE	TARGET	PROGRESS	PLAN STATUS	
			2008-2010	2011-2019
A. To create a functional network of ponds, focussing action on clusters.	2026	In progress. Warwickshire County Council and the Habitat Biodiversity Audit have mapped great crested newt - favourable habitat and the likelihood of finding their presence in 2019. This modelling incorporates pond clusters (via pond density). This is in preparation for a Warwickshire County Council Great Crested Newt District Level Licence.	↑	↑
B. To restore 142 degraded pond sites.	2026	12% achieved, through the efforts of 8 organisations and landowners.		
C. To expand the extent of the habitat by creating 142 new open water bodies.	2026	44% minimum achieved, through the efforts of 4 Local Authorities, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Warwickshire Amphibian & Reptile Team and landowners.		

**Key to status: 2010:** ↑ Any improvement ↔ No change ↓ Decline **2019:** ↑ Good progress ↑ Some progress ↔ No change ↓ Decline

PROPOSED ACTIONS	BY	REPORTED PROGRESS	NO.OF SITES/ ITEMS	TOTAL AREA/ LENGTH	% OF TARGET	ACTION STATUS ↑↑↔
<b>PL1.</b> Continue to <b>select all qualifying ponds as LWSs</b> and enter onto database.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>LWSP:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>designated sites are: Westwood Way Ponds in Coventry, and Millpool Spinney .</li> <li>several ponds been designated not in their own right but as part of a larger site.</li> <li>criteria for waterbodies / ponds are under review to include a wider range of species than just great crested newt (GCN).</li> </ul>	2 sites			↑
<b>PL2.</b> Ensure that the <b>protection of all ponds</b> is included in Local Development Plans, Neighbourhood Plans and any other relevant strategies, including targets for restoration and expansion for each Local Authority to maintain a functional network of ponds across the district.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>Warwickshire County Council (WCC)</b> looks to promote the retention of ponds where possible and that any compensatory pond is connected to other networks in the local vicinity.				↑
<b>PL3.</b> Ensure that new minor or major developments aim for <b>net biodiversity gain</b> through adherence to the mitigation hierarchy.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>WCC</b> leads on Biodiversity Offsetting within the Coventry and Warwickshire LPAs. It strictly promotes the mitigation hierarchy and employs the locally derived Defra Offsetting Metrics to seek net gains				↑

		through all minor and major planning applications.  <b>WCC</b> is not yet in a position to report on net gains and losses through the Biodiversity Offsetting metrics, but if resources can be secured will be able to in the future.				
<b>PL4.</b> Refresh and ensure implementation of <b>biosecurity policy</b> , re site visits and survey work.	2017	<b>No progress.</b>				↔
<b>PL5.</b> Promote the <b>creation of ponds</b> through the biodiversity off-setting process.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> Achieved by <b>Rugby Borough Council (RBC)</b> – see <b>SM5</b>				↑
<b>SM1.</b> Maintain <b>favourable ecological condition of all existing networks</b> of ponds with surrounding buffering habitat, ( <b>see RM2</b> ), by appropriate management, especially those holding UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species & Red Data Book species.	ongoing	<b>No progress on networks, only for individual ponds.</b> <b>Natural England (NE):</b> achieved by uptake of ELS and HLS in-field buffering options. <b>WWT:</b> habitat enhancement by Nature Force on some of its reserves including includes reed pulling at Earlswood Moathouse and Ryton Wood pond to retain open water. <b>Earlswood Wildlife Partnership (EWP):</b> management of Clowes Wood meadow pond by removal of surrounding willows and creating open water.	<b>3 sites</b>	<b>41.24ha</b>		↔
<b>SM2.</b> Achieve condition of <b>1 network of ponds</b> per district, with surrounding buffering habitat, currently in unfavourable condition, by appropriate management, especially those holding UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species & Red Data Book species.	2018	<b>Progress is dependent on the completion of RM2 (HBA lead).</b>				↔
<b>SM3.</b> Encourage appropriate <b>management of all LWS</b> water bodies to maintain condition or improve to good condition.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b> <b>LWSP:</b> a notification letter with management advice is sent to the landowners of all designated sites.				↑
<b>SM4.</b> Restore <b>44 degraded ponds</b> and their surrounding buffering habitat in both urban and rural areas for wildlife and communities by 2015 and another 98 by 2026.	2015-2026	<b>In progress.</b> <b>Friends of Brandon Wood (FOBW):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2012 - Jubilee Pond</li> <li>• 2017-2019 - 1 pond improved with biodiversity offsetting money.</li> <li>• 2019 – 1 GCN pond cleared</li> </ul> <b>Shakespeare Birthplace Trust:</b> pond at Mary Arden’s Farm at Wilmcote in 2013. <b>WWT:</b> a number of ponds in the sub-region, often with support from Butterfly Conservation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brandon Wood Farm in 2014-5</li> <li>• Earlswood Moathouse and ponds off Spring Brook</li> <li>• Rushbrook Farm, Earlswood in 2014-5</li> </ul>	<b>17 ponds min</b>		<b>39% of 2015 target</b>	↑

		<p><b>Warwickshire Amphibian &amp; Reptile Team (WART):</b> GCN ponds at Dunchurch, Tile Hill and Henley Green in Coventry, and Warwick University.</p> <p><b>St Alphege Junior School:</b> in 2014.</p> <p><b>Marie Curie Hospice, Solihull:</b> pond cleared in 2014/15</p> <p><b>Haseley:</b> pond cleared of wet woodland in 2016.</p> <p><b>DM Kineton:</b> 2 GCN ponds.</p>				
<p><b>SM5. Expand the area of the habitat by creating 44 new ponds with surrounding buffering habitat within 250m of existing ponds by 2015 and a further 98 by 2026, targeting particularly areas that link existing wetland habitats in both urban and rural areas.</b></p>	2015-2026	<p><b>Achieved.</b></p> <p><b>Created as part of SUDs schemes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton &amp; Bedworth Borough Council: 3 ponds at Weddington 2015 and Lower Farm 2016.</li> <li>• Warwick District Council (WDC): 4 ponds with developers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Stratford:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun Rising Natural Burial Ground: 1 pond in 2009</li> <li>• Welford-on-Avon: pond created as part of a development in 2017?</li> <li>• Little Wolford: wildlife pond on Kings Brake Farm in 2019?</li> <li>• Oversley Green: planning permission sought in 2019 for 2 ponds and a scrape in connection with WCC / GCN district licensing work</li> </ul> <p><b>Rugby Borough Council (RBC):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014 - Rugby Gateway: 3 ponds on edges of new industrial development.</li> <li>• 2015/2016 - School Street, Wolston: 3 ponds as new habitat for great crested newt (GCN), on land across road from new housing development.</li> <li>• 2014/2015 - Rugby Radio Station (Phase 1): 16 ponds as part of the green infrastructure of the site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Coventry County Council (CCC):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 small seasonal pond in the Wood Park play area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Warwick:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Packmores Community Garden Group: at Priory Park Allotments, Warwick in 2015.</li> <li>• Sherbourne: small pond in allotments in 2016</li> <li>• Snitterfield: planning permission sought in 2019 for 2 ponds in connection with WCC GCN district licensing work</li> </ul> <p><b>WART 2015-2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ponds in Kenilworth, Bubbenhall, Cryfield Grange, Warwick Allotments, Balsall Common, Solihull, Oldberrow and Moreton</li> </ul>	63 ponds min.		143% of 2015 target	↑

		<p>Morrell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stoney Road allotments Coventry:</b> 1 new pond and the translocation of 23 smooth newts</li> </ul> <p><b>WWT:</b> 2007-2011 - ponds at Eathorpe Marsh, Tocil Wood, Ufton Fields and Shadowbrook Meadows reserves.</p> <p><b>National Police College:</b> 2014 - pond near Ryton Wood.</p> <p><b>DM Kineton:</b> 3 ponds for GCN relocation.</p> <p><b>Mancetter Quarry:</b> creation of 7 new ponds, acid grassland, some agricultural land; trying for heathland.</p>				
<b>SM6.</b> Implement <b>invasive species control</b> e.g. of lesser pondweed ( <i>Potamogeton pusillus</i> )	ongoing	<p><b>In progress.</b></p> <p><b>WWT:</b> will be trialling the control of weed by the <i>Azolla</i> weevil at Ashlawn Cutting in 2017.</p> <p><b>Long Itchington Primary School:</b> 2014 – addressed their problem with <i>Crassula helmsii</i>.</p>	<b>1 sites</b>			↑
<b>RM1.</b> Maintain a <b>digitised inventory</b> of all water bodies up to 1ha.	ongoing	<p><b>In progress.</b></p> <p><b>HBA:</b> an accurate digitised database of water bodies in the sub-region has been established and is annually updated.</p>				↑
<b>RM2.</b> Carry out mapping to enable the identification of <b>1 cluster of ponds per district</b> to achieve <b>SM2</b> .	2016	<p><b>In progress.</b></p> <p><b>HBA/WCC:</b> a modelling exercise has been completed in 2019 which incorporated the presence of pond clusters.</p> <p><b>LWSP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a cluster around Sandhills Crescent pond in Solihull has been identified, to be surveyed in 2021</li> <li>• no pond clusters have been designated as LWS yet but the LWS team has a mechanism for identifying clusters, with a need to overcome practical difficulties due to multiple landowner permissions</li> </ul>	<b>1 cluster</b>			↑
<b>RM3.</b> Use existing guidance for the assessment of the <b>biodiversity value</b> of pond clusters to include plants (macrophytes) invertebrates, fish and waterfowl levels (Freshwater Habitats Trust).	ongoing	<p><b>In progress.</b></p> <p><b>WWT:</b> uses the Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index (ARG UK Advice Note 5) to evaluate the quality of pond clusters on its reserves. The index of suitability (= 1 for 4 or more ponds/ km<sup>2</sup>) is derived by dividing the number of ponds within 1km of survey pond by 3.14 (pi).</p>				↑
<b>RM4.</b> <b>Audit the condition of all identified pond clusters</b> including the presence of invasive non-native species, in the Earlswood cluster in the Arden landscape area as the initial pilot area.	2016	<p><b>No known progress for clusters, only for isolated ponds</b></p> <p><b>WWT</b> undertakes pond surveys on its 55 nature reserves to look at water quality, presence of great crested newts and white-clawed crayfish, pond clusters and landscape scale conservation, etc. and uses the findings to inform the site management plans. This includes the provision of training for volunteers.</p> <p><b>Pondnet project (Freshwater Habitats Trust): 13 individual ponds</b></p>				↔

		<p><b>altogether at 7 sites:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>in 2015:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kingsbury Water Park: 3 pools for toad spawn.</li> <li>- Ragley Hall: 1 pond, negative for GCN</li> <li>- Middleton Lakes 3 ponds: 1 positive, 2 negative for GCN.</li> <li>- Dunchurch Park Hotel: 2 ponds, both negative for GCN; wetland plant survey of 1 pond.</li> <li>- Wyken Pool: water-dropwort survey, negative but inconclusive; requires re-survey in 2016 or 2017.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>in 2016:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cock Robin: 2 ponds, awaiting results for GCN.</li> <li>- Alvecote Pit: tubular water-dropwort survey negative.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
<b>RM5.</b> Using results of <b>RM4</b> and connectivity mapping, <b>identify opportunities</b> for pond restoration and creation.	ongoing	<b>Progress is dependent on progress with RM2 (HBA lead).</b>				↔
<b>RM6.</b> Maintain <b>invasive species records</b> .	ongoing	<p><b>Some progress.</b></p> <p><b>WBRC:</b> some records but not collected in a systematic way (apart from those few in the Pondnet project).</p>				↑
<b>CP1.</b> Promote <b>pond conservation</b> throughout the sub-region by holding a promotion campaign linked to World Wetland Day.	ongoing	<p><b>Achieved.</b></p> <p><b>WART/WBRC:</b> 2016-2019: Godiva, Stockton Cutting Discovery Day, Ryton Pools Bioblitz, Snitterfield Fete.</p> <p><b>WWT: 2012</b> – Brandon Marsh</p>	<b>4 events</b>			↑
<b>CP2.</b> Promote the <b>biosecurity process</b> 'Check Clean Dry' via website and display, once policy is agreed at WWT.	ongoing	<b>In progress.</b>				↑