



First six years of NARRS!



Yes, it's true! The NARRS widespread amphibian and reptile surveys have been running since 2007 – and thanks to YOU we have information from many hundreds of sites around the British Isles. Data from the first six-year survey cycle will be used to set baseline occupancy data for our widespread species and guide conservation policy into the future! So it's REALLY important to send in your results from 2012 – we hope a report on the first six years of surveys will be available early in 2013 (in time for the annual Herpetofauna Workers' Meeting; see over) and WE WANT YOUR DATA TO CONTRIBUTE. Don't forget that data based on few visits and (especially) negative results are still required... **submit your NARRS forms by mail to ARC (address over) or on-line at www.narrs.org.uk** The deadline for receipt of your 2012 results is **30th November!**

...and the next six?!?

Keep calm and survey on! The next six years will be just as important... With another survey cycle in the bag we will be able to start to assess **trends** and **really** find out what's happening to our herpetofauna and its habitats! **Existing (NARRS Phase 1) surveys will carry on as before** with registered people being sent a random survey square in early spring each year. **There will also be an opportunity to join NARRS Phase 2 – this will consist of FIXED squares that are surveyed and re-surveyed every year.** Phase 2 squares might just be areas of good local habitat, or they might be a place you've seen amphibians or reptiles that needs surveying, as well as herpetofauna habitats in reserves, country parks or other community or protected areas. **Can you think of a site near your home or work that might contribute to NARRS Phase 2? If interested, please REGISTER with johnw.wilkinson@arc-trust.org by 31st January 2013.**

The aim of NARRS Phase 2 surveys will be to try and obtain COUNTS of the amphibians and reptiles seen (based on at least four visits in good survey conditions). This will further help us assess trends and influence future conservation policy.

Your help needed to improve future amphibian surveys!

Calling everyone interested in NARRS Amphibian Surveys! We would be very grateful for your help with a study into the barriers and constraints to volunteer activity, commissioned by Defra. To take part, please complete the survey form attached and return it to johnw.wilkinson@arc-trust.org

NARRS Surveyors have been selected for this study due to your experience and invaluable volunteer work for NARRS. Your response to this survey is very important and the results will help us improve how we design and support amphibian recording schemes over the next few years. All information collected in this survey will remain confidential and anonymous and will be aggregated for analysis. The aggregate data analysis will mean that it is impossible to identify any individual.

This survey is voluntary. However, to ensure we capture a wide range of responses we would value your participation. The survey will only take 10 minutes of your time to complete and the results will be available in a future edition of **NARRSNEWS**.

If you have any questions or comments about this study please contact me at

johnw.wilkinson@arc-trust.org

Thank you very much for helping with this important study!

Forthcoming dates for your diary:

Details of some opportunities to meet and socialize with fellow surveyors etc., oh, and maybe hear a few talks of interest! All welcome to attend and participate!

WALES AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE SYMPOSIUM (and Welsh and Marches ARG Meeting)

Saturday 3rd November, The Media Resource Centre, Oxford Road, Llandrindod Wells LD1 6AH. For full details, registration and programme please see www.welshdragons.org

AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION & BRITISH HERPETOLOGICAL SOCIETY SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Sunday 9th December, Bournemouth Natural Science Society, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH1 3NS. For full details, registration and programme please see <http://www.arc-trust.org/conferences/>

HERPETOFAUNA WORKERS' MEETING 2013

Edinburgh, 25th – 27th January 2013. For full details (available soon!) check back to <http://www.arguk.org/> -which also contains details of some of the **regional ARG meetings** that will be taking place.



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