

# Natterjack Toad, Great Crested Newt & Reptile COURSES 2012

Training for professionals  
run by the  
**Amphibian and Reptile  
Conservation Trust**  
in partnership with the  
**Field Studies Council**



amphibian and reptile  
**conservation**



[www.field-studies-council.org](http://www.field-studies-council.org)

[www.arc-trust.org](http://www.arc-trust.org)

# Great crested newts and licensing for surveys

(£85)

Course Level: introductory

Wednesday 28th March 2012

Arrive 11.30

Depart 21.00

Venue Rixton Claypits Local Nature Reserve (SAC, SSSI), Warrington Cheshire, WA3 6EB

## Course overview

- Species identification
- An introduction to legislation
- The value of great crested newt records
- Great crested newt ecology
- Natural England survey methods, including opportunities to practice netting, bottle trapping, torch and egg searching.
- Survey planning
- Habitat Suitability Index for great crested newts

## What to bring

Wellies, waterproofs, clip-board, paper and pen. Also, please bring a high powered torch if you have one.

## Target audience

The course has been designed for ecologists, rangers or land managers who are looking to undertake great crested newt surveys on a professional basis.

On completion of the course, participants will receive a certificate of attendance that can be used to support an application to Natural England to survey for great crested newts.

## Please note

Tea and coffee will be provided during the day but please bring your own lunch. There will be an opportunity for an evening meal at a reasonably priced local pub, the cost of which is not included in the course fee.

## About the tutor

This course will be led by **David Orchard**

**David Orchard** is Ponds Officer with Amphibian and Reptile Conservation and provides specialist advice on amphibian and reptile BAP species as part of the Million Ponds Project. Before this he carried out great crested newt surveys across north west England on a consultancy basis. David has been involved with great crested newt survey training since 2006 and he is now county recorder for amphibians and reptiles in the Vice Counties of South and West Lancashire. He has also played a leading role in the establishment of an online recording system for amphibians and reptiles in the UK.



# Reptile survey

(£85)

Course Level: introductory

Thursday 29th March 2012

Arrive 10.00

Depart 17.00

Venue Risley Moss Local Nature Reserve (SAC, SSSI),  
Ordnanace Avenue, Birchwood, Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 6QX

## Course overview

- Species identification
- An introduction to legislation
- Reptile ecology
- Survey methods
- Survey planning

## What to bring

Wellies, waterproofs, clip-board, paper and pen.

## Target audience

The course has been designed for ecologists, rangers or land managers who are looking to undertake reptile surveys on a professional basis. It will give participants a good understanding of the principles behind reptile surveying and will include a site visit to demonstrate reptile survey best practice.

Risley Moss supports five species of amphibians and four species of reptiles and is probably one of the best reptile sites in the North West of England. Weather permitting, reptiles should be encountered during the course.

## Please note

Tea and coffee will be provided during the day but please bring your own lunch.

## About the tutor

*This course will be led by Rob Smith*

**Rob Smith** is a professional ecologist who specializes in amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds. He has a great deal of experience in surveying these species as well as holding a Natural England protected species licence for both bats and great crested newts. In addition to his consultancy work, Rob has spent over 15 years monitoring and surveying amphibian and reptiles at Risley Moss Local Nature Reserve in Cheshire, which supports five species of amphibians and four species of reptiles. Rob has run regular courses on Risley Moss and the species present on the site.



# Widespread reptiles and mitigation

£334 (£304 if room sharing; non resident £235)

Course Level: intermediate to advanced

Tuesday 3rd – Thursday 5th April 2012

Arrive in time for evening meal 6.30pm on Tuesday

Depart 6.00 on Thursday

Venue Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, Juniper Hall Field Centre, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6DA

## Course overview

### Tuesday

- An overview of reptile mitigation - the current situation in the UK
- An introduction to reptile mitigation strategies for the four widespread species (adder, grass snake, viviparous lizard, slow-worm)

### Wednesday

- Habitat assessment, survey interpretation and evaluation
- In situ and ex situ mitigation methods - capture, exclusion, habitat manipulation and creation
- Snake and lizard ecology and mitigation methodologies
- Case studies and worked examples of best practice
- Project planning

### Thursday

- Snake and ecology mitigation methodologies
- Case studies and worked examples of best practice
- Monitoring, future habitat management and reporting of mitigation
- The main stages of running a mitigation project - exclusion fencing, capturing animals, receptor site selection, habitat management and manipulation, future monitoring and management plans
- Completion of a reptile mitigation method statement to fulfil the requirements of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), PPS 9 Nature Conservation and Biodiversity and the National Biodiversity Action Plan

Workshops will be based on management and monitoring case studies.

### Target audience

This course has been designed to give ecological consultants and other professionals a thorough understanding of reptile mitigation best practice. It will also be useful for local authority ecologists and planners who need to assess and comment on planning issues that relate to widespread reptiles and development issues.

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## Widespread reptiles and mitigation *(continued)*

### Please note

This course will not cover reptile survey and identification. It will be assumed that course participants have these skills.

### About the tutors

*This course will be jointly led by **Jon Cranfield** and **John Baker***

**Jon Cranfield** is the director of Herpetologic, an ecology consultancy specialising in amphibian and reptile survey and mitigation work. Jon has over ten years experience of reptile mitigation. He is a member of Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, for whom he delivers professional reptile survey and mitigation courses. He is also the vice-chair of Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK.

**John Baker** is an experienced amphibian and reptile consultant ecologist. He has also worked in the research and the NGO sectors carrying out surveys and developing guidance material. He has co-edited the handbooks for amphibian and reptile habitat management produced by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. He has also delivered amphibian and reptile training for volunteers and professionals over many years.



# Mark Recapture Techniques

£334 (£304 if room sharing; £235 non-resident)

Course Level: advanced

Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th April 2012

Arrive 17.30 Monday for the evening meal at 18.30

Depart 16.00 Wednesday

Venue Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX

## Course overview

- An introducing to the theories of population study.
- An insight into methods of estimating population size of mobile organisms using a combination of theory and practical sessions.
- Practical sessions to examine local newt and invertebrate populations

As part of the course a spreadsheet tool will be provided, developed by the course leaders, allowing participants to carry out population studies using a variety of methods.

## What to bring

Wellies, waterproofs, clip-board, paper, pen and calculator.

## Target audience

The course has been designed for ecologists and students who want to begin to understand the various ways of estimating animal population sizes.

## About the tutors

*This course will be led by **John Wilkinson** and **Mark Gardener***

**Mark Gardener** is an ecologist with a wide range of experience of fieldwork in the UK and abroad. He currently teaches environmental science and data analysis.

**John Wilkinson** is an ecologist with many years experience in herpetology. He currently works as research officer for the Amphibian and Reptiles Conservation Trust.



# Working with natterjacks: *understanding their ecology, surveys and licensing*

(£85)

Course Level: introductory

Wednesday 25th April 2012

Arrive	14.00
Depart	22.00 (approx)
Venue	Millom Network Centre, Salthouse Road, Millom, Cumbria, LA18 5AB

## Course overview

- Natterjack identification at all life stages
- Legal and licensing issues
- Natterjack toad ecology
- Survey techniques
- Site visit to witness different stages of the natterjack life cycle, including the male chorus
- Conservation and habitat management

The course venue is less than five minutes walk from Millom Railway Station. After an early evening meal we will look for natterjack spawn and tadpoles on the nearby Haverigg Dunes and, if weather conditions are favourable, hear males calling around the breeding pools.



## What to bring

Wellies, waterproofs, clip-board, paper and pen. Also, please bring a high powered torch if you have one. Warm clothing is advisable!

## Target audience

The course is specifically aimed at Environmental Consultants, Planners and FEP agents (working with DEFRA's Environmental Stewardship scheme) but everyone with an interest in natterjacks is welcome to attend.



## Please note

Tea and coffee will be provided during the day. There will be an opportunity for an evening meal at a reasonably priced local pub, the cost of which is not included in the course fee.

## About the tutors

The course has been prepared by two experts in the field of natterjack ecology and conservation, **John Buckley** (UK Amphibian Conservation Officer) and **Bill Shaw** (Cumbria Natterjack Conservation Officer).

**John** and **Bill** work for The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust and are both nationally recognised for their experience of natterjack toad conservation.



# Reptile surveys

(£85)

Course Level: introductory

Wednesday 9th May 2012

Arrive 10.00

Depart 21.00

Venue Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, Juniper Hall Field Centre, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6DA

## Course overview

- Species identification
- An introduction to legislation
- Reptile ecology
- Survey methods
- Survey planning

## What to bring

Wellies, waterproofs, clip-board, paper and pen.

## Target audience

The course has been designed for ecologists, rangers or land managers who are looking to undertake reptile surveys on a professional basis. It will give participants a good understanding of the principles behind reptile surveying and will include a site visit to demonstrate reptile survey best practice.

Juniper Hall is situated in the North Downs. All four widespread reptile species can be found here, at sites including Box Hill and Denbies Hill which are within a few miles of the Field Studies Centre.

## Please note

Tea and coffee will be provided during the day but please bring your own lunch.

## About the tutors

*This course will be led by **Jim Foster** and **Jon Cranfield***

**Jim Foster** spent nearly 12 years working for Natural England and English Nature as their amphibian and reptile specialist.

**Jon Cranfield** runs his own consultancy business specialising in amphibian and reptile conservation.



# Great crested newts, licensing and mitigation

£344 (£314 if room sharing; £245 non-resident)

Course Level: advanced

**Tuesday 27th - Thursday 29th November**

Arrive 14.00 on Tuesday

Depart 16.00 on Thursday

Venue Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX

## Course overview

This course brings together the theory and the practice of great crested newt mitigation. Real life case studies and examples of best practice will be used to identify some of the pitfalls often encountered when developing great crested newt mitigation projects. The course will give participants a thorough understanding of Natural England form WML-A14-2 and the skills needed to manage a great crested newt mitigation project from start to finish.

### Tuesday

- An introduction to licence applications
- Project planning
- The 'three tests'
- Case studies demonstrating good and bad practice

### Wednesday

- Running a mitigation project
- Completion of the Natural England Template for Method Statement to support application for licence in respect of great crested newts (Form WML-A14-2)
- Exclusion fencing standards and live installation demo

### Thursday

- Workshop using a local scenario

### Target audience

This course has been designed for those ecologists with a firm grasp of great crested newt survey techniques and with some experience of great crested newt licensing and mitigation projects. It will also be useful for local authority ecologists and planners who need to assess and comment on planning issues that relate to great crested newts.

### Please note

This course will not cover great crested newt identification, ecology or great crested newt survey techniques.

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# Great crested newts, licensing and mitigation *(continued)*

## About the tutors

*This course will be led by* **Jim Fairclough**

**Jim Fairclough** is Senior Ecologist with Golder Associates, specialising in applied ecology with a particular interest in freshwater habitats. Over the past ten years, Jim has been directly involved in great crested newt mitigation projects at a diverse range of sites across England. His main responsibility has been for licence applications and subsequent management of GCN mitigation projects in the field. Jim has provided training on great crested newt survey and mitigation for the last three years.

This course will include a best practice demonstration of the different types of great crested newt exclusion fencing which will be installed at Preston Montford Field Studies Centre as part of this course. There will also be a live demonstration of the mechanical installation of exclusion fencing. This very popular section of the course will again be led by **Matt Dixon**, director of Legacy Habitat Management Ltd.



**L E G A C Y**  
• Habitat Management Limited •

**caudon** specialist wildlife  
fencing systems

## How do I book?

*All course bookings are being taken by the Field Studies Council.*

Please book your course with the relevant centre. These are:

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### *Great crested newts and licensing for surveys*

Held at: **Rixton Claypits SAC, SSSI** • **Book with:**

The Field Studies Council, Head Office, Preston Montford, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX  
**0845 345 4071**

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### *Reptile survey*

Held at: **Risley Moss SAC, SSSI** • **Book with:**

The Field Studies Council, Head Office, Preston Montford, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX  
**0845 345 4071**

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### *Widespread reptiles and mitigation*

Held at: **Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre** • **Book with:**

Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, Juniper Hall Field Centre, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6DA  
**0845 458 3507**

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### *Mark recapture techniques*

Held at: **Preston Montford Field Studies Centre** • **Book with:**

Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX  
**0845 330 7378**

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### *Working with natterjacks*

Held at: **Millom Network Centre** • **Book with:**

The Field Studies Council, Head Office, Preston Montford, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX  
**0845 345 4071**

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### *Reptile survey*

Held at: **Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre** • **Book with:**

Juniper Hall Field Studies Centre, Juniper Hall Field Centre, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6DA  
**0845 458 3507**

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### *Great crested newts, licensing and mitigation*

Held at: **Preston Montford Field Studies Centre** • **Book with:**

Preston Montford Field Studies Centre, Montford Bridge, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY4 1DX  
**0845 330 7378**

Please use the Field Studies Council booking form overleaf and use a separate booking form for each participant, making your cheque payable to **The Field Studies Council**.

Alternatively please visit [www.field-studies-council.org/animals](http://www.field-studies-council.org/animals) to book and pay online.

## What is included within the residential course fee?

- Full Board, sole occupancy (shared occupancy at a reduced fee) accommodation including a cooked breakfast, picnic lunch, home made cakes and an evening meal. Vegetarian and other dietary options are available
- Use of centre resources including library, workrooms, studios and the Centre grounds
- Centre organised transport during the course and most admission fees
- Insurance to cover cancellation, personal belongings, personal accident, legal liability and medical emergency / emergency travel arrangements.

The **non-residential** course fee includes all of the above except breakfast and accommodation.

## Enquiries

For booking and general enquiries please contact the relevant **Field Studies Centre**.

For specific queries about course content please contact **David Orchard** at [david.orchard@arc-trust.org](mailto:david.orchard@arc-trust.org)

## The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust

***The Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust is the leading charity dedicated to the conservation of our native amphibians and reptiles.***

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation manages more than eighty reserves in Dorset, Hampshire, Surrey, Cumbria and Norfolk. These reserves are nationally important for the sand lizard, smooth snake, natterjack toad and pool frog, some of the UK's rarest species. The Trust provides training for consultants, volunteers, land owners and land managers. The organization has produced a wide range of publications to increase understanding of our native amphibians and reptiles and their habitats, all of which are available to download free of charge from the Trust website.

## The Field Studies Council

***The Field Studies Council (FSC) is a pioneering educational charity committed to bringing environmental understanding to all.***

Established in 1943, the FSC has become internationally respected for its national network of 17 education centres, international outreach training projects, research programmes, information and publication services and wide range of fascinating professional training and leisure courses. The FSC provides informative and enjoyable opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to discover, explore, be inspired by, and understand the natural environment. The FSC believes the more we know about the environment, the more we can appreciate its needs and protect its diversity and beauty for future generations.



[www.field-studies-council.org](http://www.field-studies-council.org)

[www.arc-trust.org](http://www.arc-trust.org)

For Centre Use Only						
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# FSC COURSES BOOKING FORM

Please send this form to the relevant Field Centre.

Use a separate form for each Centre to which you wish to apply. *You should make a provisional booking by contacting the Centre concerned.* Further forms can be obtained from FSC Head Office and FSC Centres or a photocopy can be used.

<b>1</b>					
<b>2</b>					
<b>3</b>					
<b>4</b>					

Address for correspondence		
Postcode	Please send FSC Membership details <input type="checkbox"/>	
Tel (home)	Tel (daytime)	email

## Course(s) for which you are applying:

Name of Field Centre	Course Title	Dates
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Please tick the appropriate boxes:

### ACCOMMODATION

- I require a sole occupancy room
- I would prefer a single room, but will share if necessary
- I would prefer to share a room
- I wish to be non-resident

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

If you require special meals for medical or ethical reasons please indicate the type of diet .....

If you have a medical condition, physical or sensory impairment, or learning difficulty which is relevant to the course please attach a note giving details, which will be treated in confidence.

Signed:

### PAYMENT

- Full payment will be required to confirm bookings on all day courses and residential courses under £100.
- A deposit of £50 per person is required to confirm bookings on residential courses £100 and above.
- Full payment is due on bookings made less than 8 weeks before commencement of the course.
- The deposit paid in respect of each course is accepted as a first instalment of the charge and is not refundable.
- If a booking cannot be accepted, notification and refund of any deposit will be sent as soon as possible.

Until this deposit is paid the booking is treated as provisional and there is no certainty that a place can be held. The deposit is automatically forfeit if the booking is cancelled for any reason. If cancellation is made less than 28 days before the commencement of the course, the balance of the fee is payable in full, a condition which is accepted when the booking is confirmed.

	No. People		Per Person	Total
Booking deposit(s)	<input type="text"/>	@	£ <input type="text"/>	£ <input type="text"/>
OR				
Full course fee(s)	<input type="text"/>	@	£ <input type="text"/>	£ <input type="text"/>
<b>Total enclosed £</b>				<input type="text"/>

Cheques should be made payable to **Field Studies Council**.

Please charge my Mastercard  Visa  Delta  Switch (issue no.)

Card no.

Start date  Expiry date

Date:

### FUTURE MAILINGS

To help us send you relevant information please indicate which course brochure you would like to receive in the future.

- FSC Natural History Courses     FSC Arts Courses     FSC Family Holiday Courses

