



Landscape Recovery for Herpetofauna in Southern England

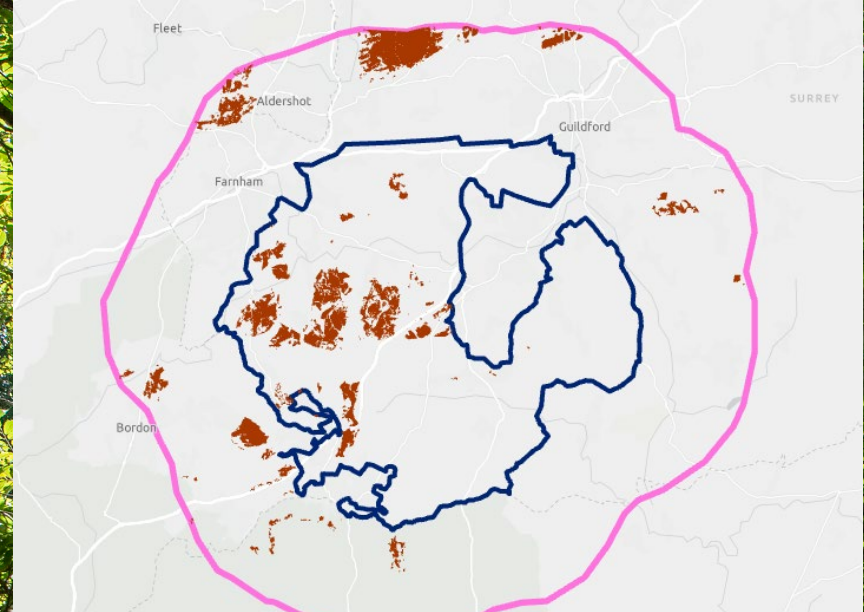
Presented By Eryn McDonald
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

Speed presentations – ARC Platform Meeting – 22nd May –
Santander, Spain

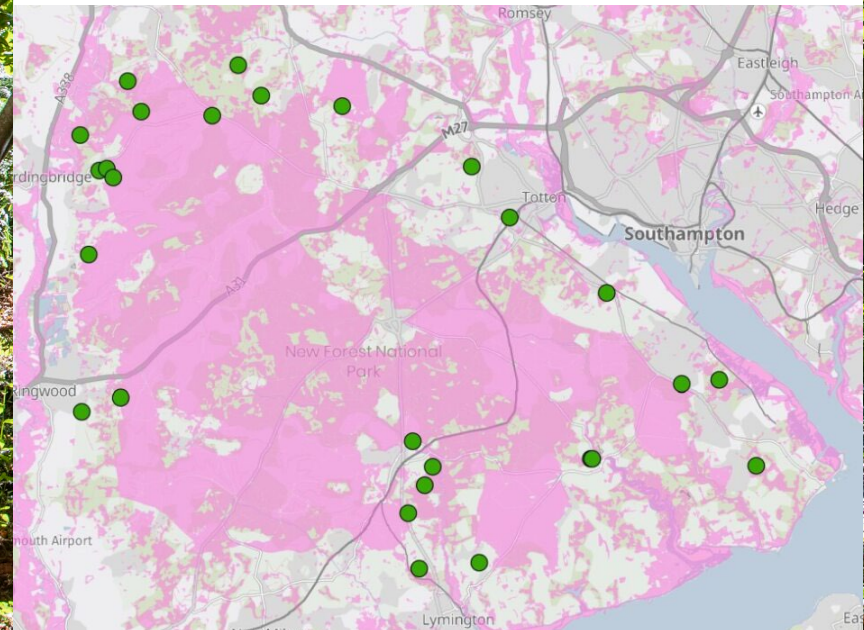
Objectives

Amphibian and Reptile Conservation are carrying out several landscape recovery projects

- Heathland Connections
 - Join up the heathland landscape in the Surrey Area of Natural Beauty
- Re:New Nature in the New Forest
 - Create and restore key habitats to increase biodiversity in the fringes of the New Forest National Park



Heathland Connections project area



Re:New Nature in the New Forest project area

Results

Heathland Connections

- Definitions of Favourable Conservation Status at the landscape scale for the target species
 - Sand lizard *Lacerta agilis*, smooth snake *Coronella austriaca*, adder *Vipera berus*, natterjack toad *Epidalea calamita*
- Set monitoring and action plans to link the fragmented heathland and connect the surrounding populations

Re:New Nature in the New forest

- Create and enhance up to 300 ha of key habitats
 - Heathland, grassland, woodland, wetland, hedgerows
- Link populations of herpetofauna surrounding the national park
- Increase species abundance of key species
 - Sand lizard *Lacerta agilis*, smooth snake *Coronella austriaca*, adder *Vipera berus*, common frogs *Rana temporaria*, great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*



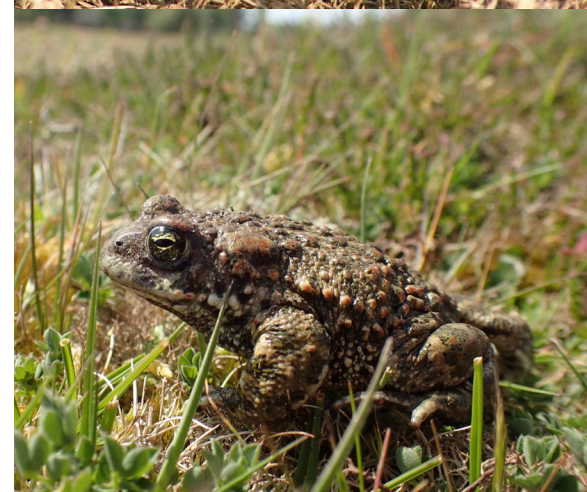
Lessons Learnt

- Habitat creation and restoration are key for landscape-scale nature recovery
- There is a need to create a resource for landowners where they can find guidance on how to manage their land for herpetofauna



Key Messages to Share

- ❖ Amphibian and reptile conservations does not stop at administrative boundaries therefore landscape level nature recovery is crucial to connect the fragmented landscape
- ❖ Favourable Conservation Status definitions at the landscape scale can guide habitat management



amphibian and reptile
conservation



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