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Reintroduction strategy for the pool frog *Rana lessonae* in England

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Introduction

The native form of the pool frog *Rana lessonae* went extinct in England in the 1990s. Research in recent years has demonstrated a clear case for reintroducing the species to selected sites in East Anglia. This report provides a distillation of the research set out in terms of the steps needed to achieve conservation aims.

What was done

Research included involved genetic analyses, bioacoustic studies, Population Viability Analysis, comparative habitat analysis, disease risk assessment, examination of legal and procedural requirements, and examination of other species reintroduction projects. The IUCN/SSC Guidelines For Re-Introductions (1995) and the JNCC A Policy for Conservation Translocations of Species in Britain (2003) were used to guide the reintroduction plans.

Results and conclusions

The reintroduction of the pool frog to England is desirable and feasible using a translocation of wild-caught animals from Sweden (which are genetically closely related). The practical, legal and procedural requirements are rather complex and are carefully outlined in this document.

English Nature's viewpoint

This document is a useful reference for those interested in the pool frog reintroduction, as it documents the background work and the proposals for reintroduction. It also provides a sound reference for those involved in other species reintroduction projects.

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Selected references

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- INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES. 1995. *Guidelines for reintroductions*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.
- JNCC. 2003. *A policy for conservation translocations of species in Britain*. Peterborough: JNCC.

Further information

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