

Additional file 2: Ten Suitability Indices (SI) for the calculation of the HSI for great crested newts according to Oldham *et al.* (2000).

SI	Factor	Explanation
SI ₁	Geographic location	Location of the population relative to species national distribution
SI ₂	Pond area	Pond surface area (m ²)
SI ₃	Pond permanence	Frequency of pond drying per decade
SI ₄	Water quality	Water quality determined by using invertebrate diversity
SI ₅	Pond Shading	Percentage of perimeter shaded to at least 1m from shore
SI ₆	Water fowl	Number of water fowl seen per 1000m ²
SI ₇	Fish	Occurrence and species composition of fish populations
SI ₈	Pond density	Number of ponds occurring within 1km ² of survey pond
SI ₉	Proportion of “newt friendly” habitat	Amount of shelter and foraging opportunities offered by the terrestrial habitat within 500m surrounding the pond
SI ₁₀	Macrophyte content	Percentage of pond surface area occupied by macrophyte cover

SI: Suitability Index.