

OC10 - Identifying habitat preferences of the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*) to establish viable (meta) populations

Bosman, W.^a and Spikmans, F.^a

^aReptile, Amphibian and Fish Conservation Netherlands (RAVON), Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Between 2009 and 2015, about 800 ponds in six different areas with Great Crested Newt in the Netherlands were investigated on the presence of the species. For each pond biotic and abiotic parameters were collected. Landuse of the direct surroundings of each pond is analysed with GIS. Data of all areas were merged and analysed using the statistical program “R”. This resulted in aquatic and terrestrial keyfactors that determine presence or absence of the Great Crested Newt at a location. Based on this information habitat suitability can be assessed, thus identifying measures needed to improve viability of a population.