

APPENDIX 7.5

HABITAT SUITABILITY INDEX ASSESSMENT FOR GREAT CRESTED NEWTS

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Introduction

- 7.1 This Appendix provides the Habitat Index Assessment (HSI) undertaken for the three ponds within the study area in accordance with the standard appraisal methodology published by Oldham et al (2000).
- 7.2 The HSI score is used to broadly define the suitability of a pond for great crested newts in the following categories:
- <0.5 (poor)
 - 0.5 – 0.59 (below average)
 - 0.6 – 0.69 (average)
 - 0.7 – 0.79 (good)
 - >0.8 (excellent)

HSI Appraisal

Pond 3		
CRITERIA	DETAILS	SCORE
Location	A (optimal)	1
Pond Area	8 x 4 m = 32m ²	0.1
Pond Drying	Dries annually	0.1
Water Quality	Moderate	0.67
Shade	0%	1
Fowl	Absent	1
Fish	Absent	1
Ponds	0/km ²	0.1
Terrestrial Habitat	Good	1
Macrophytes (Cover)	100%	0.8
HSI SCORE:		0.47
POND SUITABILITY:		Poor

Pond 4		
CRITERIA	DETAILS	SCORE
Location	A (optimal)	1
Pond Area	10 m diameter circle = 31.4 m ²	0.1
Pond Drying	Dries annually	0.1
Water Quality	Poor	0.33
Shade	0%	1
Fowl	Absent	1
Fish	Absent	1
Ponds	0/km ²	0.1
Terrestrial Habitat	Moderate	0.67
Macrophytes (Cover)	0%	0.3
HSI SCORE:		0.38
POND SUITABILITY:		Poor