European Community Directive
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats
and of Wild Fauna and Flora
(92/43/EEC)

Fourth Report by the United Kingdom
under Article 17

on the implementation of the Directive
from January 2013 to December 2018

Conservation status assessment for the species:

S1261 - Sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*)

UNITED KINGDOM
The information in this document represents the UK Report on the conservation status of this species, submitted to the European Commission as part of the 2019 UK Reporting under Article 17 of the EU Habitats Directive.

It is based on supporting information provided by the geographically-relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, which is documented separately.

The 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.

The reporting fields and options used are aligned to those set out in the European Commission guidance.

Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included (where available).

Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the UK assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country-level reports.

Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 Natura 2000 coverage for Annex II species).

The UK-level reporting information for all habitats and species is also available in spreadsheet format.

Visit the JNCC website, https://jncc.gov.uk/article17, for further information on UK Article 17 reporting.
# Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

## 1. General information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.1 Member State</th>
<th>UK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Species code</td>
<td>1261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Species scientific name</td>
<td><em>Lacerta agilis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Alternative species scientific name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Common name (in national language)</td>
<td>Sand lizard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2. Maps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2.1 Sensitive species</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Year or period</td>
<td>2013-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Distribution map</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 Distribution map Method used</td>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Additional maps</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) regulations regarding access to property</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h) other measures</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season/year</th>
<th>Min. (raw, not rounded)</th>
<th>Max. (raw, not rounded)</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td>No</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4. Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5. Additional information

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

Atlantic (ATL)

England
DUNFORD, R.W. and BERRY, P. M. 2012. Climate change modelling of English amphibians and reptiles: Report to the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

Trust (ARC-Trust). Environmental Change Institute, Oxford.
The Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Trust: Rare Species Database and Reptile and Amphibian Dataset (2018)
Wales
HERPETOLOGICAL CONSERVATION TRUST 2006. Sand lizard and natterjack toad...
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5. Range

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5.1 Surface area (km²)</th>
<th>10932.39</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Short-term trend Period</td>
<td>2007-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Short-term trend Direction</td>
<td>Increasing (+)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
<td>b) Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
<td>b) Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 Short-term trend Method used</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Area (km²)</td>
<td>7240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Operator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Method</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6 Long-term trend Period</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 Long-term trend Direction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Minimum</td>
<td>b) Maximum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9 Long-term trend Method used</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10 Favourable reference range</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range

Genuine change
The change is mainly due to: Genuine change

5.12 Additional information

6. Population

6.1 Year or period

1989-2018
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6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Unit</th>
<th>number of map 1x1 km grid cells (grids1x1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b) Minimum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Maximum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Best single value</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.3 Type of estimate  

a) Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Unit</th>
<th>number of localities (localities)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b) Minimum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Maximum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d) Best single value</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.5 Type of estimate  

Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

6.6 Population size Method used  

Stable (0)

6.7 Short-term trend Period  

2007-2018

6.8 Short-term trend Direction  

a) Minimum  
b) Maximum  
c) Confidence interval

6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude  

The FRP is the same as in 2013. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no less than when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further information see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

6.10 Short-term trend Method used  

a) Minimum  
b) Maximum  
c) Confidence interval

6.11 Long-term trend Period  

b) Maximum  
c) Confidence interval

6.12 Long-term trend Direction  

a) Minimum  
b) Maximum  
c) Confidence interval

6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude  

645 with unit number of localities (localities)

6.14 Long-term trend Method used  

a) Population size  
b) Operator  
c) Unknown  
d) Method

6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)  

6.16 Change and reason for change in population size  

Genuine change  
The change is mainly due to: Genuine change

The genuine change in population is a result of reintroductions in England and Wales. This increase in population has been offset by an declines in 11% of English sub-populations due to fire, grazing, inappropriate levels/ lack of habitat management. As a result the short-term trend is considered ‘stable’.

6.17 Additional information
### 7. Habitat for the species

#### 7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used

#### 7.3 Short-term trend Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2007-2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.4 Short-term trend Direction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stable (0)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.5 Short-term trend Method used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.6 Long-term trend Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2007-2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.7 Long-term trend Direction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stable (0)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.8 Long-term trend Method used

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

#### 7.9 Additional information

Habitat area in the UK is considered sufficient to support a viable population but not enough to reach Favourable Conservation Status (FCS). This is because in England, which holds the majority of the resource, it is considered that large areas of potential habitat have insufficient height and structure for this species. Habitat is considered of sufficient quantity and quality in Wales.

### 8. Main pressures and threats

#### 8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pressure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock (A09)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage) (B01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other forestry activities, excluding those relating to agro-forestry (B29)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation or development of sports, tourism and leisure infrastructure (outside the urban or recreational areas) (F05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism or arson (H04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above (H08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices) (L02)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of information</th>
<th>Conversion to forest from other land uses, or afforestation (excluding drainage) (B01)</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other forestry activities, excluding those relating to agro-forestry (B29)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conversion from other land uses to housing, settlement or recreational areas (excluding drainage and modification of coastline, estuary and coastal conditions) (F01)</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Creation or development of sports, tourism and leisure infrastructure (outside the urban or recreational areas) (F05)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sports, tourism and leisure activities (F07)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vandalism or arson (H04)</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other human intrusions and disturbance not mentioned above (H08)</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices) (L02)</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change (N05)</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.3 Additional information

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a) Are measures needed?</th>
<th>Yes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b) Indicate the status of measures</td>
<td>Measures identified and taken</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

Increase the population size and/or improve population dynamics (improve reproduction success, reduce mortality, improve age/sex structure) (related to ‘Population’)

9.3 Location of the measures taken

Both inside and outside Natura 2000

9.4 Response to the measures

Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2019-2030)

9.5 List of main conservation measures

Prevent conversion of natural and semi-natural habitats, and habitats of species into agricultural land (CA01)

Adapt mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities (CA05)

Prevent conversion of (semi-) natural habitats into forests and of (semi-)natural forests into intensive forest plantation (CB01)

Adapt/change forest management and exploitation practices (CB05)

Manage conversion of land for construction and development of infrastructure (CF01)

Habitat restoration of areas impacted by residential, commercial, industrial and recreational infrastructure, operations and activities (CF02)

Reduce impact of other specific human actions (CH03)

Management of habitats (others than agriculture and forest) to slow, stop or reverse natural processes (CL01)

Implement climate change adaptation measures (CN02)

Reintroduce species from the directives (CS02)

### 10. Future prospects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Future prospects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Range</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Population</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) Habitat of the species</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**10.2 Additional information**

Future trend of Range is Overall stable; Future trend of Population is Overall stable; and Future trend of Habitat for the species is Overall stable. For further information on how future trends inform the Future Prospects conclusion see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.

### 11. Conclusions

11.1. Range

11.2. Population

11.3. Habitat for the species

11.4. Future prospects

11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status

11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status

11.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend

11.8 Additional information

Conclusion on Range reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is increasing; and (ii) the current Range surface area is not less than the Favourable Reference Range.

Conclusion on Population reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is stable; and (ii) the current Population size is not more than 25% below the Favourable Reference Population.

Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) the area of occupied and unoccupied habitat is not sufficiently large and (ii) the habitat quality is not adequate for the long-term survival of the species; and (iii) the short-term trend in area of habitat is stable.

Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are good; (ii) the Future prospects for Population are poor; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are poor.

Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Unfavourable-inadequate because three of the conclusions is are Unfavourable-inadequate.

Overall trend in Conservation Status is based on the combination of the short-
term trends for Range - increasing, Population - stable, and Habitat for the species - stable.

### 12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12.2 Type of estimate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.3 Population size inside the network Method used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.6 Additional information</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 13. Complementary information

| 13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends |
| 13.2 Trans-boundary assessment |
| 13.3 Other relevant Information |
Figure 1: UK distribution map for S1261 - Sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority.

The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.
The range map has been produced by applying a bespoke range mapping tool for Article 17 reporting (produced by JNCC) to the 10km grid square distribution map presented in Figure 1. The alpha value for this species was 25km. For further details see the 2019 Article 17 UK Approach document.