



## National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme 2006 pilot surveys

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is a letter of introduction that we give to our volunteer surveyors, for them to present to landowners, householders, tenants or land managers. We hope it helps explain what they are being asked to do as part of this survey. The National Amphibian and Reptile Recording Scheme (NARRS) is a national project, coordinated by *The Herpetological Conservation Trust* in partnership with the voluntary *Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the UK*, conservation agencies and other organisations.

When NARRS is fully implemented in 2007, it will involve surveys of all species of reptile and amphibian in the UK, as well as awareness-raising campaigns. Reptiles and amphibians often suffer from a poor public image, and tend to receive less support and conservation effort than furry and feathery animals. As with much other wildlife, reptiles and amphibians have declined a lot over the last century, and it is important to monitor how well they are doing nationally and locally.

NARRS will involve hundreds of trained volunteers across Britain, each surveying a one-kilometre square for reptiles, and/or ponds for amphibians. A typical survey will involve several visits over spring and summer, each taking a few hours at most. Amphibian survey involves observations around ponds; reptile survey involves laying sheets of roofing material discreetly, but should not be intrusive to the landowner/manager, their land or their livestock.

With the help of trained volunteers, we are carrying out pilot projects in 2006, to trial our survey methods. We would therefore be extremely grateful for the cooperation of landowners and managers in allowing volunteers to carry out survey on their land. Volunteers will need permission before they can carry out their survey.

You are welcome to stay in touch with your volunteer surveyor if you want to be kept posted with the results of the survey on your land. If you require further information or have any concerns, please contact me using the details below.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Chris Gleed-Owen  
Research & Monitoring Officer  
The Herpetological Conservation Trust  
655A Christchurch Road  
Bournemouth  
Dorset BH1 4AP

tel: 01202 391319  
mob: 07810 770560  
chris.go@herpconstrust.org.uk  
www.narrs.org.uk

