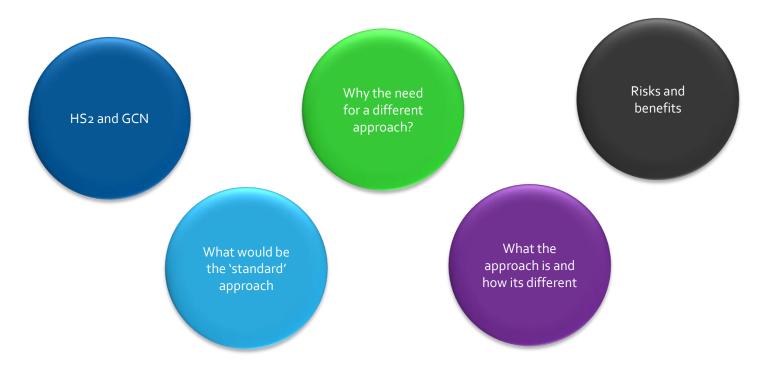
Great Crested Newt: Post-impact monitoring at HS2 – focussing on habitats

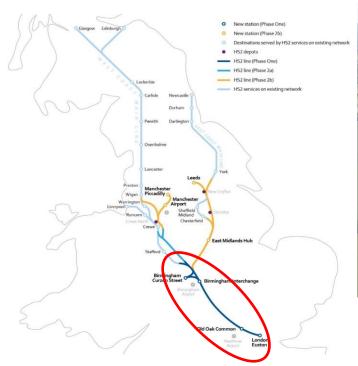
David Whitehorne, Ecology Lead, Phase One, HS2 Ltd & Rebecca Lee, Senior Wildlife Adviser, Natural England

CIEEM Autumn Conference - Mitigation Monitoring and Effectiveness
November 2017

Summary



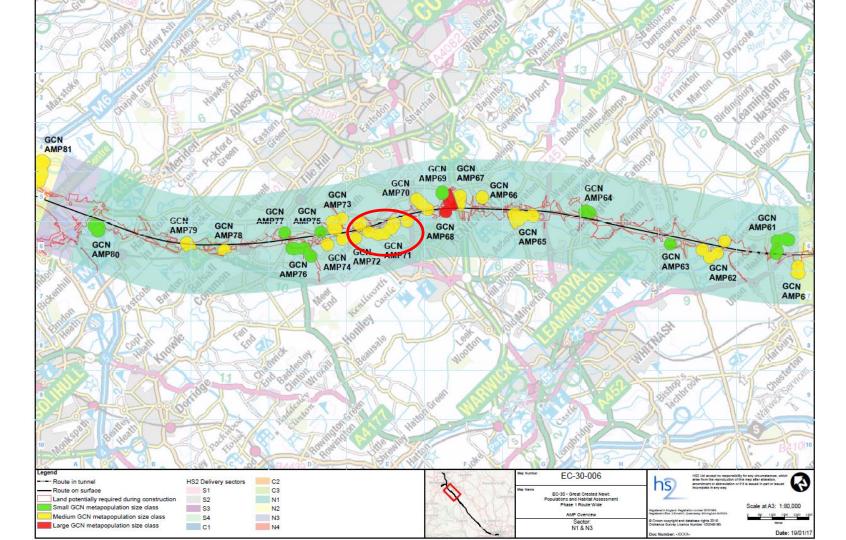
HS2: it's quite long.....!





What about the GCN?

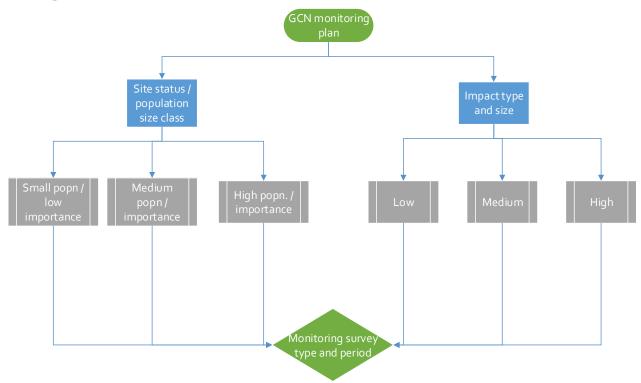
- Complex requirements
 - Survey knowledge
 - Scale
 - Phasing
 - Timescale
- 105 GCN metapopulations (AMPs)
- Organisational licence
- 3 stages of impact assessment
- Route-wide assessment of licensing tests





Monitoring...what would we normally do?

"A monitoring plan should be put in place to assess whether the great crested newt <u>population</u> has <u>responded favourably</u> to the mitigation" GCN Mitigation Guidelines



Why the need for a different approach....?

Scale.....

- 105 metapopulations....!
- Licenced at route-wide scale
- Cost effectiveness and looking to optimise scale
- Landscape-scale thinking
- Developing approach from new Licensing Policies
- Localised adverse effects

The Monitoring approach

habitat assessment in combination with proportionate population monitoring to determine if the mitigation and compensation provided has been successful

Standard

- Exact locations and areas
- Detailed prescriptions in the Method Statement
- Work schedule details dates and durations
- All ponds within impacted metapopulation monitored
- Prescriptive approach

HS₂

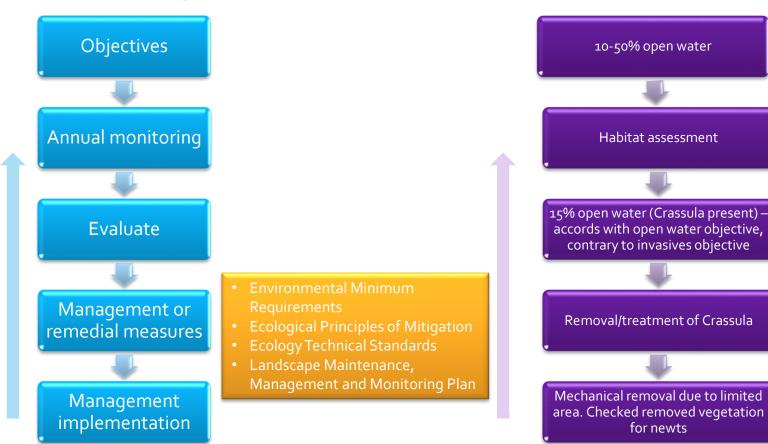
- Outline information on locations and areas
- Scheme detailed design confirms detailed prescriptions
- Circumstances where ponds (outside of scheme) need to be monitored
- Judgement based proportionate approach to measuring success

Applying the approach...

Habitats



Decision-making



Population monitoring

GCN population monitoring

Year	Category A	Category B (medium	Category C	Category D	Category E	Category F
after	(low impacts on	impact on small	(high impact on small	(medium impact on med	(high impact on med	(high impact on large
impact	small or medium	popn., low impact	popn.)	popn.)	popn., medium impact	popn.)
	popn.)	on large popn.)			on high popn.)	
Year 1	HA only	P/A + HA	P/A + HA	PSC + HA	PSC + HA	PSC +HA
Year 2	_	P/A and/or HA only				
Year 3			P/A and/or HA only	PSC and/or HA only	PSC and/or HA only	PSC and/or HA only
Year 4		HA only	HA only	HA only		PSC + HA
Year 5						PSC and/or HA only
Year 6	_				PSC + HA	
Year 7	_				HA only	PSC + HA
Year 8	-					PSC and/or HA only
Year 9	_					
Year 10		P/A + HA	P/A + HA	PSC + HA	PSC + HA	PSC + HA

Risks and benefits

- Risks
 - Relies on professional judgement
 - Consistency due to scale
- Benefits
 - Improved long-term safeguard
 - Flexibility
 - Cost
- Has the compensation been successful...?
- Evaluate success of compensation?

Thank you