

Selwood Forest Facilitation Group Cannwood Farm Ponds walk – 25th June 2021 Follow-up notes

Members enjoyed a farm walk at Cannwood Farm on 25th June, looking at several established and newly created ponds and wetland areas with our host, Ben Goldsmith and reptiles and amphibian expert, John Dickson. We saw several new ponds that had been designed specifically to support Great Crested Newts as part of the GCN District Level Licensing scheme being delivered by Natural England and FWAG SW

Great Crested Newt District Level Licensing Funding

Funding is available to create or restore ponds suitable for Great Crested Newts. A FWAG SW adviser will check that your land is within one of the target areas and meets the criteria. FWAG SW will advise on the design and arrange for the work to be carried out by a suitable contractor. If you would like to create a pond(s) please contact Merle Brown Merle.Brown@fwagsw.org.uk

Other sources of information on pond creation

Probably the most useful current information on pond creation can be found here at the Freshwater Habitats Trust pond creation toolkit.

<https://freshwaterhabitats.org.uk/projects/million-ponds/pond-creation-toolkit/>

The Pond Creation Toolkit includes:

- [Core factsheets](#) 1 to 8 with background information on the project and the best practice principles of clean water pond creation, such as location, design, project planning and implementation.
- [Habitat factsheets](#) which present detailed information on designing ponds in different landuses, e.g. woodland, grassland etc.
- [Advice factsheets](#) which deal with issues such as birdstrike, planning permission, and ponds in public access
- [Species dossiers](#) with technical information on creating ponds specifically for over 40 pond-associated BAP species, based on their ecological requirements.
- [Case studies](#)

If web sites are not your thing you can buy the [The Pond Book](#) from the Natural History Book Service:

For some clear information on why wetlands are vital for people and wildlife go to the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust site: <https://www.wwt.org.uk/our-work/why-wetlands/>

For expert local pond species advice and the contact details of John Dickson go to: <http://www.somerc.com/specialist-groups/reptile-and-amphibian-group-for-somerset/>

For native pond plants sold locally go to: <https://>

britishpondplants.co.uk/ For any further information contact:-

Selwood Group Facilitator Tim Langmead: tim@forestofselwood.org

