

Scotland is home to six of the native British amphibians: the common frog, common toad, natterjack toad, palmate newt, smooth newt and great crested newt. Natterjack toads are known to occur at only one coastal site in Dumfries, but all the others are found throughout Scotland. However, the distribution and abundance of these species are almost entirely unknown. This is especially true for those populations found in the wild places of Scotland, including our Munros. The common frog and the palmate newt in particular occupy varied habitats and can be found high in the mountains. The common frog is regularly sighted above 1000 metres elevation and spawns in ephemeral pools in this extreme climate.

Collecting information about the amphibian populations on and around Scotland's Munros will provide valuable information about the status of our species and help form effective conservation plans. By contributing to these sightings you are providing a glimpse of the biodiversity in these harsh extreme environments, an area that is very difficult to survey. The data will be used to form distribution maps that can be transferred to conservation organisations. It is being collected in conjunction with PhD research being carried out at the University of Glasgow looking at potential implications of climate change for Scottish amphibians.

For further information about the project please visit [www.scottishfrogs.co.uk](http://www.scottishfrogs.co.uk) or contact Anna Muir ([a.muir.2@research.gla.ac.uk](mailto:a.muir.2@research.gla.ac.uk)).

If you'd like to take part in the survey, please:

1. Keep an eye out for amphibians during your walk around your path and in nearby pools
2. Identify any amphibians you find using the Identification Guide
3. Record as much information about your sighting as you can on the attached recording sheet
4. Input your sighting records at [www.scottishfrogs.co.uk](http://www.scottishfrogs.co.uk), simply click on the Munro Challenge link
5. Check back to see the distribution map of sightings recorded across Scotland during the Munro Challenge.

Note: if handling amphibians please ensure you return them to exactly the spot where you found them. Great crested newts are a protected species, if you think the newts you have found may be this species, please do not handle them.

Thank you for taking the time to help collect information on these elusive creatures and happy hunting!