

Pelobates cultripes

Taxonomic Authority: (Cuvier, 1829)

Synonyms:

Region: 10

Common Names:

Sapo de Espuelas Spanish

Western Spadefoot English

Family: Pelobatidae

Order: Anura

Notes on taxonomy:

General Information

Biome

Terrestrial

Freshwater

Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species is present in most of Iberia (except the northern area of the Peninsula and parts of central and northern Portugal), and southern France. There are isolated populations in western France. It occurs at elevations from sea level (France and Spain) to 1,770m asl (Spain).

Habitat and Ecology Information:

The burrowing habits of this species generally restrict its distribution to areas with sandy or soft soils. It occurs in dunes, oak forest, scrub, cultivated land and open areas. In France it is largely restricted to coastal regions. The species breeds in temporary water and livestock ponds with thick vegetation that occasionally may be brackish. The species has a long larval development period, which makes them vulnerable to desiccation of ponds and introduced predators. It can be found close to human habitation.

Conservation Measures:

The species is listed on Appendix II of the Berne Convention and on Annex IV of the EU Natural Habitats Directive. It is protected by national legislation in Spain, and is listed in a number of national and subnational Red Data Books. The species occurs in a number of protected areas including several NATURA 2000 sites.

Threats:

In Iberia threats include the isolation of populations by agricultural intensification, destruction and pollution (agrochemicals) of wetland habitats, urbanisation, and introduction of predatory Louisiana Crayfish (*Procamabrus clarkii*), and fishes (such as *Gambusia holbrooki*) to breeding areas. Mortality on roads and tourism development are causing localised declines in Iberian populations. Within France tourism and wetland drainage are the principal threats to this species. Overall, the threats to the species appear to be increasing.

Species population information:

This species is generally common in suitable habitat. However, population declines have been observed thorough most of the range of the species range.

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
France	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gibraltar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Portugal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FAO Marine Habitats

Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced
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Major Lakes

Major Rivers

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

	Score
1.4 Forest - Temperate	1
3.4 Shrubland - Temperate	1
3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1
5.8 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1
5.14 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Saline, Brackish or Alkaline Lakes	2
8.2 Desert - Temperate	2
10.2 Coastline - Sand, Shingle or Pebble Shores (incl. sand bars, spits, sandy islets, dune systems)	1
12.2 Artificial/Aquatic - Ponds (below 8ha)	1

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

	Score
Mediterranean Scrub	1
Semi Desert Shrubs	2
Urban	1
Woody Savanna	1

Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1	Crops	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1.3	Agro-industry farming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4	Livestock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4.3	Agro-industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.3	Tourism/recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Predators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Pollution (affecting habitat and/or species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3	Water pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6.3.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Policy-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.2	National level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.3	Sub-national level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2	Implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.2	National level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.3	Sub-national level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Habitat status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.8	Conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4.2	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.4.3	Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:	
Primary forms removed from the wild	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	Other forms removed from the wild:
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	Other source of specimens:

Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:

Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:

CITES: Not listed

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Near Threatened (NT) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Near Threatened because this species is probably in significant decline (but probably at a rate of less than 30% over ten years) because of widespread habitat loss through much of its range and the impacts of invasive predators, thus making the species close to qualifying for Vulnerable.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Pedro Beja, Jaime Bosch, Miguel Tejedó, Miguel Lizana, Iñigo Martínez-Solano, Alfredo Salvador, Mario García-París, Ernesto R

Notes on Red listing: The populations in France qualify for listing as Vulnerable under criterion B1ab(iii).

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