Pelobates syriacus Region: 10 Taxonomic Authority: Boettger, 1889 Synonyms: **Common Names:** Pelobates transcaucasicus Delwig, 1928 English Eastern Spadefoot Siriiskaya Chesnochnitsa Russian English Syrian Spadefoot Order: Anura Family: Pelobatidae Further investigations into differences between populations of the species in Turkish Thrace (Pelobates syriacus Notes on taxonomy: balcanicus) and those of Sevdishir vilavet are needed (i.H. Ugurtas pers. comm.). **General Information** ✓ Terrestrial ✓ Freshwater **Biome** Marine Geographic Range of species: **Habitat and Ecology Information:** This species occurs in the south-east Balkans, east to south-eastern It is a largely fossorial species. Terrestrial habitats occupied are Transcaucasia and northern Iran, and south to the Levant. In the generally open uncultivated lands such as light forests, steppe (and Balkans it occurs in Greece, Macedomia, eastern Serbia, southern steppe-like habitats), semi-desert and rocky areas. It is generally less Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey. It occurs widely, but in scattered selective than Pelobates fuscus in terms of soil preference, inhabiting populations in Turkey. In Caucasian region it is found in southeastern not only soft soils suitable for a fossorial life (although they are Armenia, Georgia north to Tbilisi and Azerbaijan, north to southern preferred), but also solid, rocky soils, particularly friable clay with Daghestan in Russia, and east to the Caspian coastal area of Iran. In pebbles. Spawning sites include stagnant temporary waterbodies; river the Levant it occurs in northern Syria and in the southern Coastal Plain or lakeside temporary waterbodies and large permanent pools. It can occur in slightly modified areas, including intensively grazed areas. [Ashdod] of Israel (the southernmost limit of its range), but it is probably extinct in Jordan where it has not been observed since 1984. It has been recorded from two sites in Lebanon in 2005; in the Hasbani Valley and in the Bekaa Valley near the Aammiq marsh. The species is also expected to occur in Albania, Ukraine and Moldova, but there appear not to be confirmed records from these countries, and records from northern Iraq require confirmation. It occurs from sea level to 2,000m asl. **Conservation Measures:** Threats: It is listed on Appendix II of the Berne Convention; listed on Annex IV It is generally threatened by habitat loss through drainage or loss of of the EU Natural Habitats Directive. It is protected by legislation in breeding wetlands and conversion of land to agricultural and industrial Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia (Yugoslavia) and Israel. It is recorded in a use. Threatened by habitat destruction (especially of breeding sites) in number of national and subnational Red Data Books and Lists. The Jordan and Israel. In Iran it is threatened by Caspian Sea coastal species occurs in a number of protected areas. It is protected in the development, including holiday homes and agriculture (rice). Hyrcanian forests of Iran. There have been successful captive breeding Fragmented populations are susceptible to extinction through and reintroductions of this species in Armenia. Conservation measures, population fluctuations, most especially within arid landscapes. such as habitat construction, are taking place in Israel. Further status surveys are needed in parts of its range or potential range (e.g., Albania, Moldova, Ukraine, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq). Species population information: It appears not to be a common species; although a number of populations are often highly fragmented and subject to significant population fluctuations especially in the south of its range. The species is uncommon in Serbia (Kalezic and Dzukic, 2001). It is relatively common in Iran, and populations are considered to be stable in Turkey. In Lebanon there are very localised but small populations. It is a threatened species in Israel. The species is possibly extinct in Jordan. Mative Mative

Country Distribution	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Albania		\checkmark				
Armenia	✓					
Azerbaijan	✓					
Bulgaria	✓					
Georgia	✓					
Greece	✓					
Iraq		✓				
Islamic Republic of Iran	✓					
Israel	✓					
Jordan			✓			
Lebanon	✓					
Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republ	✓					
Moldova		✓				
Romania	✓					

Russian Federation	✓				
Syrian Arab Republic	✓				
Turkey	✓				
Ukraine		✓			
Serbia and Montenegro	✓				

Native - Native -

Presence Presence Ext Confirmed Possible

Extinct Reintroduced Introduced

FAO Marine Habitats

Major Lakes

Major Rivers

<u>Up</u>	per Level Habitat Preferences	Score	Lower Level Habitat Preferences	Score
1.4	Forest - Temperate	1	Bare Desert	1
3.4	Shrubland - Temperate	1	Cool Grasses and Shrubs	1
3.8	Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1	Fields and Woody Savanna	1
4.4	Grassland - Temperate	1	Grass Crops	1
5.1	Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks	2	Low Sparse Grassland	1
	(includes waterfalls)		Savanna (Woods)	1
5.2	Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent/Irregular Rivers/Streams/Creeks	1	Semi Desert Shrubs	1
5.5		a) 2	Urban	1
5.7	Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1	Woody Savanna	1
5.8	Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1		
8.2	Desert - Temperate	1		
8.4	Desert - Semi-Desert (no trees present)	1		
11.1	Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	2		
11.2	2 Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	1		
11.5	5 Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas	2		
12.2	2 Artificial/Aquatic - Ponds (below 8ha)	1		

<u> Vlajo</u> i	threats				Cons	servation Measures		
Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future	Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
i	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	✓	✓	✓	1	Policy-based actions	✓	✓
1.1	Agriculture	✓	✓	✓	1.2	Legislation	✓	
1.1.1	Crops		✓	✓	1.2.1	Development	✓	
1.1.1.2	Small-holder farming	✓	✓	✓	1.2.1.1	International level	✓	
1.1.1.3	Agro-industry farming	✓	✓	✓	1.2.1.2	2 National level	✓	
1.4	Infrastructure development	✓	✓	✓	1.2.2	Implementation	✓	
1.4.1	Industry	✓	✓	✓	1.2.2.1	International level	✓	
1.4.2	Human settlement	✓	✓	✓	1.2.2.2	2 National level	✓	
1.4.3	Tourism/recreation		✓	✓	2	Communication and Education		✓
3	Pollution (affecting habitat and/or species)	✓	✓	✓	2.2	Awareness		✓
5.3	Water pollution	✓	✓	✓	3	Research actions		✓
3.3.1	Agriculture	✓	✓	✓	3.2	Population numbers and range		✓
5.3.2	Domestic	✓	✓	✓	3.3	Biology and Ecology		✓
5.3.3	Commercial/Industrial	✓	✓	✓	3.4	Habitat status		✓
7	Natural disasters	✓	✓	✓	3.5	Threats		✓
7.1	Drought	✓	✓	✓	3.8	Conservation measures		✓
9	Intrinsic factors	✓	✓	✓	3.9	Trends/Monitoring		✓
9.8	Population fluctuations	✓	✓	✓	4	Habitat and site-based actions	✓	✓
					4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	✓	✓
					4.2	Restoration	✓	✓
					4.4	Protected areas	✓	✓
					4.4.1	Identification of new protected areas		✓

4.4.3	Management	✓	~
5	Species-based actions	✓	
5.1	Re-introductions	✓	
5.7	Ex situ conservation actions	✓	
5.7.1	Captive breeding/Artificial propagation	✓	

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: Least Concern (LC) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria:

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, presumed large population, and because it is

unlikely to be declining fast enough to qualify for listing in a more threatened category.

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

Assessor(s): Sergius Kuzmin, David Tarkhnishvili, Vladimir Ishchenko, Natalia Ananjeva, Nikolai Orlov, Boris Tuniyev, Theodore Papenfuss, G

Notes on Red listing: Populations in the extreme south of its range in Israel might be threatened.

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