

Triturus pygmaeus

Taxonomic Authority: (Wolterstorff, 1905)

Synonyms:

Region: 10

Common Names:

Southern Marbled Newt English
Tritón Pigmeo Spanish

Order: Caudata

Family: Salamandridae

Notes on taxonomy:

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species is endemic to the Iberian Peninsula where is distributed in central and southern Portugal and the southern half of Spain. The species has an altitudinal range of sea level to 1,450m asl.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

The species inhabits broadleaf (Quercus) woodland in meso-Mediterranean and thermo-Mediterranean climates. Aquatic habitats used for breeding and larval developments include temporary or permanent ponds, lagoons, abandoned quarries, and wells, drinking troughs, irrigation ponds, ditches and other areas of stagnant or slow-moving water. It is found in traditional farmland areas and other slightly modified habitats.

Conservation Measures:

The species is listed on Annex III of the Berne Convention, and is protected by national and sub-national legislation in Spain. The species is present in a Parque Nacional de Cabañeros and Parque Nacional de Doñana, Spain and is presumed to occur in some Portuguese protected areas. Reintroductions and/or translocations of this species have been made in the area of Madrid, Spain.

Threats:

In the west of Spain and southern Portugal populations are affected by predation by non-native crayfish and predatory fishes. Increasing urbanisation-surrounding Madrid has led to the elimination of many populations. In southern and eastern Spain, over-exploitation of groundwater resources, agrochemical pollution, loss of traditional breeding sites and the introduction of predatory non-native crayfish (*Procamabrus clarkii*) and fishes has led to a serious population decline. In Portugal the species is affected by the drainage of temporary ponds, associated with the intensification of agriculture. Overall, this species is most threatened by habitat loss, especially loss of temporary ponds.

Species population information:

It is common in areas where suitable siliceous substrate habitat exists. There has been a significant decline in the populations of southern and eastern Spain (those found on a calcareous substrate).

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
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 checked="" 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

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

1.4 Forest - Temperate	1
3.8 Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	1
5.1 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)	1
5.2 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent/Irregular Rivers/Streams/Creeks	1
5.7 Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1
5.8 Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	1
11.1 Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	2
11.2 Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	2
11.4 Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	1
12.1 Artificial/Aquatic - Water Storage Areas (over 8ha)	1

12.2 Artificial/Aquatic - Ponds (below 8ha)	1
12.5 Artificial/Aquatic - Excavations (open)	1
12.7 Artificial/Aquatic - Irrigated Land (includes irrigation channels)	1
12.9 Artificial/Aquatic - Canals and Drainage Channels, Ditches	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"/>
1.3	Extraction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.3.6	Groundwater extraction	<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"/>
1.4.1	Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.2	Human settlement	<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"/>
6.3.2	Domestic	<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"/>
1.2.2	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"/>
2	Communication and Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Awareness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Biology and Ecology	<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 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"/>
5	Species-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Re-introductions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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%
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%

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 in significant decline, but probably at a rate of less than 30% over ten years over its entire range, because of widespread habitat loss through much of its range, thus making the species close to qualifying for Vulnerable.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Jan Willem Arntzen, Pedro Beja, Jaime Bosch, Miguel Tejedo, Miguel Lizana, Robert Jehle, Iñigo Martínez-Solano, Alfredo Salva

Notes on Red listing:

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