

Reptiles & Conservation:

Our ecologists have considerable conservation management experience and field skills.

Case study: Abbots Hall SSSI, Essex

- This 283 hectare Essex Wildlife Trust nature reserve is a SSSI, SPA and a candidate for a marine SAC.
- In 2002 the sea wall was dismantled, in part to allow for regeneration of salt marsh as part of a wider strategy of managed retreat.
- English Nature commissioned MKA Ecology to survey the site for impacts of these changes on the native reptile (adder, grass snake, slow worm and common lizard) and amphibian (great crested, smooth and palmate newt) populations.

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- MKA Ecology devised specific management plans for the site, in order to achieve favourable conservation status for the species of concern.

Newly formed tidal saltmarsh at Abbots Hall

- Distribution and population densities were estimated and suitable connectivity between habitats was identified.
- English Nature commended the report and fully implemented the management proposals.

Adult female slow worm

