

Vanishing Viper 2019: A European approach to developing an adder conservation strategy

8th – 9th June 2019

Brambell Building, Bangor University, Deiniol Road, Bangor, LL57 2UW

Day 1: Saturday 8th June

9:30 - 10:00 Arrival/registration

10:00 - 10:10 Welcome address: Bangor Herpetological Society

Session 1: Adder conservation – what are the concerns, Chair: Bangor University Herpetological Society

10:10 - 10:30 Is the viper vanishing and should we be concerned? Research evidence from the West Midlands, Nigel Hand (Central Ecology, ARG UK)

10:30 - 10:50 Adder conservation priorities - delegate feedback from The Vanishing Viper 2016, Richard Griffiths (DICE, University of Kent)

10:50 - 11:10 How robust are adder populations in the UK - a genetic analysis, Sarah Ball (Institute of Zoology)

11:10 – 11:40 Morning Break

Session 2: Managing sites sympathetically for adders: overcoming the challenges, Chair: Chris Monk (ARG UK)

11:40 - 12:00 Conserving adders on a site on the urban fringe in the West Midlands, National Trust

12:00 - 12:20 Strategies for managing coastal sites for adders in Wales, Geraint Jones (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park)

12:20 - 12:40 Landowner – Scotland (TBC)

12:40 - 13:00 Round table discussion 1: How can land owners resolve conflicting user requirements whilst supporting adder populations

13:00 - 14:00 LUNCH

Session 3: The Northern European Perspective, Chair: Wolfgang Wüster (University of Bangor)

14:00 - 14:20 Conserving adders in Hauts-de-France: a regional action plan, France, Gaetan Rey (Conservatoire d'espaces naturels Nord - Pas-de-Calais)

14:20 - 14:40 A long-term (2000-2018) study of a large Adder population in northern Belgium: demography, structure and implications for conservation, Dirk Bauwens & Katja Claus (University of Antwerp)

14:40 - 15:00 Approaches to conserving adders in the Netherlands, Rolf van Leeningen (RAVON)

15:00 - 15:20 The conservation of adders in Germany, Ina Blanke

15:20 - 15:50 Refreshment Break

15:50 - 16:10 The advantages of using TRIM in calculating population trends, Marnix de Zeeuw (Network Ecological Monitoring, The Netherlands)

16:10 - 16:50 Next Generation Sequencing and adder population demography, Thomas Madsen (University of Wollongong, Australia)

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16:50 - 17:30 Round table discussion 2: What can we learn from our neighbours – do we need a European approach?

17:00 - 18:00 POSTER SESSION

19:00 pm EVENING MEAL- Chinese fiesta (pre-booked only)

Day 2: Sunday 9th June

9:30 - 10:00 Arrival/registration

Session 4: Engaging volunteers and communities with adder conservation, Chair: Mandy Cartwright (ARC) - TBC

10:00 - 10:20 Adders are Amazing!: Novel approaches to engaging communities with adder conservation, Sam Langdon (ARG UK)

10:20 - 10:40 Good press for adders: managing the adder-bite media storm, Wolfgang Wüster (University of Bangor)

10:40 - 11:00 Make the Adder Count: population trends from a citizen science survey of UK adders, Emma Gardner (University of Reading, ARG UK)

11:00 - 11:30 Morning break

Session 5: Adder conservation: The way forward, Chair: Angie Julian (ARG UK)

11:30 - 11:50 Developing volunteer survey and monitoring effort to drive conservation outcomes - an integrated approach, Steve Langham (SARG, ARG UK)

11:50 - 12:10 The future for UK adder conservation (Jim Foster, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation)

12:10 - 13:00 Panel discussion: The way forward for adder conservation - developing a practical road map

13:00 - 14:00 LUNCH

14:00 - 17:30 Local field visits to adder sites led by Rob Booth (NWWT)

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