



LIFE Nature Project "Protection of *Emys orbicularis* and Amphibians in the North European Lowlands" (LIFE05NAT/LT/000094)

Norbert Schneeweiss



In spring toad males are calling pretty melody like "oop oop..."

Lars Ch. Adrados



Fire Bellied-Toad dresses smart warning colors

Lars Ch. Adrados



Shallow waters represent good habitats for Great Crested Newts and Fire Bellied-Toad

Žydrūnas Sinkevičius



The hatchling of European Pond Turtle

Norbert Schneeweiss



The larvae of Fire Bellied-Toad

Detlef Kuehnel



Colored male of The Great Crested Newt in breeding season

Detlef Kuehnel



Yellow or orange belly of The Great Crested Newt with black spots fascinates the sight

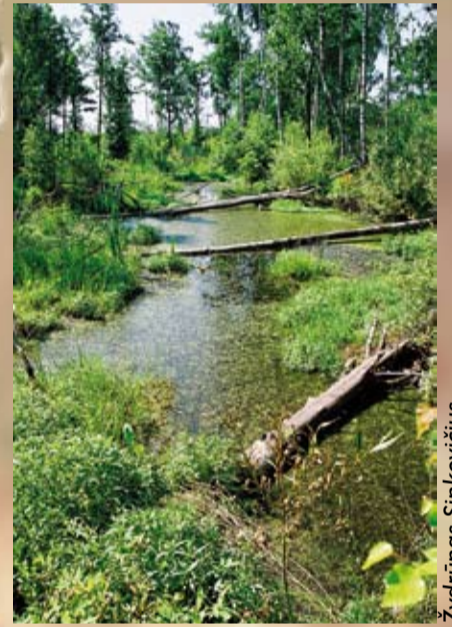
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European Pond Turtle swimming in pond

Save Europe's Oldest Reptile and Amphibians!

Žydrūnas Sinkevičius



Typical Pond Turtle habitat with basking sites



The European Pond Turtle (*Emys orbicularis*) being rather exotic reptile species of the north European lowland native fauna still can be found on its northern distribution area in Lithuania and Latvia over Poland. In the first half of the 20th century the turtles and ancestors of oldest groups of amphibians – The Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*) and Fire-bellied Toad (*Bombina bombina*) – were spread dispersedly all over Europe, but today they became rare and threatened species. Most of the known populations are small and predominantly inhabit last natural or semi-natural areas. Thus, the last populations are in danger to extinct without adequate conservation measures.

The project aims at ensuring favourable conservation status of the European pond turtles (*Emys orbicularis*) as well as threatened amphibian species such as the Fire-bellied toad (*Bombina bombina*) and the Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) in the areas where they occur together with pond turtles. More information: www.glis.lt/life

