



Dorset Council



## Silverlake Conservation and Community Fund

### INTERIM REPORT

Please find a framework for a brief report to the panel on your projects progress below. If you have any images of the work completed to date then please do include them at the end of the form or attached to an email and send to [Caroline.J.Kelly@dorsetcouncil.org.uk](mailto:Caroline.J.Kelly@dorsetcouncil.org.uk)

Please enter the title and who s delivering the project immediately below:

Project Title: Rushy Pond restoration project

Lead for delivery: Claire Platten

#### 1. Project Progress

*Please use a RAG rating on the following:*

Overall – GREEN

Research on Hardys connection to pond

Amphibian survey Training

Amphibian surveys done –NE accreditation for all volunteers

Continued of education with onsite education in person or posters

Continued of education off site via social media

Completion of Ecological Survey

Completion of Electro Fishing management task – 115 fish removed and re homed

Fencing materials bought: Fencing started hoping to fence over summer closer to summer line but very wet so haven't been able to progress.

Management of fringe habitat and island as project set out but continuing through ongoing management plan

Interpretation plinth designed, delivered and Plith installed

2024 amphib survey completed only 2 achieved out of 5 planned due to weather

#### 1. Activities delivered to date:

**Completed-** Research on Hardys connection, Amphib survey training, temp education poster, ecological survey, electro fishing , poster newsletter releases and social media posts, quotes for interp plinth installed, removal of Willow on island/edge

**Not yet Complete-** full fencing off of selected pond area, finalised management plan, interpretation boards finalised and printed, web page on website , **planting based on mangement plan ( water level to high over summer)**

**Activities planned before April 2025 -** finish fencing and interpretation panels, creation of web page on [Hardy's Birthplace Visitor Centre - Dorset Council](#), finalise future management plan to include NET funding for electro fishing for up to 5 years.

**Sustainability planned-** management plan to providing guidance for future ranger teams, use of willow from management to create plant protection areas, keeping SM messaging into

future, interp boards can be updated with ease as using clip frames on beautiful oak plith, have secured funding through NET to do another electro fish this winter on the back of the silver lake funding.

### 1. Risks, Issues and Changes

Climatic: Heavy rain fall preventing tasks to go ahead with volunteer tasks on surveys and practical work.

Staffing: still short staffed in hours; Restructure still happening but level 4 apprenticeship lectures for my assistant ended this month.

### Amphib Results 2024

Date	Time	species	how many	which Pond	notes	Volunteers
14-Apr	8pm /10	Palmate newts	36	Rushy Pond		CG AW SJ
		frog	1	Rushy Pond		
28-Apr	8.30/ 10.30	Palmate	4	Little Pond		SJ AW
			19	Rushy Pond		
10-May	8.45/10:45				cancelled by email	
27-May	9 pm / 11pm				cancelled by text	
14 <sup>th</sup> June	9.15 / 11 15				cancelled by email	



**Oak Plinth Installation designed by lead ranger made by Oak Apple designs, and installed by volunteers and work placement students**





**Dorset**  
Council



HABITAT FIRST



**SILVERLAKE**  
Dorset