Brown Moss - Freshwater Habitats Trust – Pete Case presentation 21st March 2017

NOTES:

- Ponds support 70% of all freshwater biodiversity
- Ponds support 10% of all priority biodiversity species
- 92% of ponds are in poor condition.

Scheme - People, Ponds & Water

- £1.3M HLF funded
- Engaging people
- Protectng best of the best
- Data collection Pond Net
- Funding available for habitat management

Volunteer participation in People Ponds & Water Project - clean water for wildlife

- Kits available to sample water quality, specifically nitrates and phosphates.

Brown Moss Key Species

- Mud snail (Omphiscola glabra)
- Floating water plantain (Laronium natans)
- Channelled crystalwort (Riccia canaliculata) (only site in England, pool 6 edge)
- Tubular water dropwort (Oenanthe fistulosa) (umbelifer) (pool 5)
- Great crested newt (Triturus cristatus) (look for folded leaf ends under water) eDNA surveying kits for GCN. Costs £100, 99% successful. Pools 2, 2a, 3a, 3b, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 11 were found to have GCN

Pond Mud Snail (14 -25mm)

- only Shropshire site
- needs low water nutrient levels
- snail will burrow into mud to survive dry periods

Water violet doesn't grow in polluted water.

Lost Species

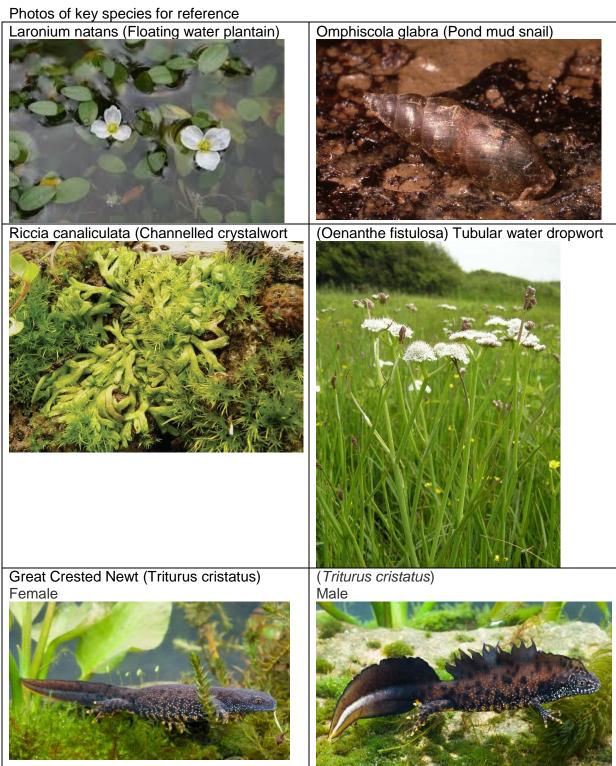
- Floating water plantain last seen in 2006, pool 6
- Pillwort (fern) last recorded in 1962
- Lesser water plantain
- Shoreweed last seen in 2006

These species are thought to have been lost by increased tree cover / leaf litter and water pollution.

These species need drawdown zone and variable water levels

Invasive Species

- New Zealand pigmy weed (Crassula helmsii). First recorded pool 6 in 1990. Thrives in nitrate and phosphate eutrophication.
- Water fern (Azolla filiculoides). Biological control using mites is possible? Frost will have an effect on this species.



GCN egg in folded leaf

