



**Appendix 1.** Species selected for our analysis of habitat selection of amphibian species. For each species, a brief description of its habitat preferences (AmphibiaWeb, 2014) and the number of ponds where the species was found within the study site are given. Among the 7 selected species, several were considered as community interest species. Species listed on annexes of the Bern Convention and/or on the annexes of the European Habitat Directive are noted.

Species	Habitat preference	Bern Convention	Habitat Directive	Number of ponds (on 774) where the species was present
Anurans	<i>Alytes obstetricans</i> <i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i> - generally in open areas such as fields, flat lands, moors, and meadows but can also be found more rarely in wooded areas - slopes, walls, embankments with many small stones, stone slabs or sand, normally with sparse vegetation are preferred - can also be found in parks, gardens, buildings, ruins, cemeteries <i>Aquatic landscapes :</i> - permanent waters - variety of aquatic habitats: ponds, canals, lakes	Annex II	Annex IV	151 (19.51%)
	<i>Bufo spinosus</i> <i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i> - forest zones (in conifer, mixed and deciduous forests), where it prefers conifer forests with marshes. - groves, bushlands, parks and gardens, generally in fairly wet sites with dense vegetation - urbanised areas: parks, gardens, buildings, ruins, cemeteries, roads - large open areas are avoided but in forested landscapes the toad readily inhabits bushlands, meadows, fields, glades, gardens, vineyards <i>Aquatic landscapes :</i> - lakes, ponds, ditches, large puddles and streams with relatively clear water, quite variable in area and depth less than 600m	Annex III	-	214 (27.65%)
	<i>Hyla meridionalis</i> <i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i> - urbanised areas : parks, gardens - trees, shrubs, orchards, vineyards, and grasses generally near to freshwater habitats <i>Aquatic landscapes :</i> - temporal ponds - ponds, springs, irrigation ditches, temporary pools, flooded meadows, lagoons, cattle pools, wells and even swimming pools	Annex II	Annex IV	106 (13.70%)
	<i>Rana temporaria</i> <i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i> - lowland and mountain deciduous, coniferous and mixed forests - diverse habitats: under forest cover, in glades, bushlands, dry and swampy meadows, swamps - anthropogenic landscape: fields, gardens, parks, settlements, cities <i>Aquatic landscapes :</i> - lakes, ponds, swamps, ditches, river- and stream pools and puddles with stagnant or semi-flowing water.	Annex III	Annex V	320 (41.34%)

## Appendix 1. Continued.

Species	Habitat preference	Bern Convention	Habitat Directive	Number of ponds (on 774) where the species was present
Urodels	<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>			
	<p><i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ditches, puddles, water holes or forest meadows, small, slow streams, fountains, reservoirs</li> <li>- marshes, heathlands, moorlands, forests</li> <li>- pastures and agricultural land</li> <li>- abundant in cultivated areas</li> <li>- urbanised areas: gardens</li> </ul> <p><i>Aquatic landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a wide variety of small stagnant waters (including very small and acidic ponds, ditches and ruts), or (rarely) slow-moving waters</li> </ul>	Annex III	-	278 (35.92%)
	<i>Salamandra salamandra</i>			
	<p><i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- wet cool deciduous, mixed, or rarely, coniferous forests with well shaded brooks and small rivers</li> <li>- woodlands, glades and forest edges, rocky slopes, dense bush, and herbaceous vegetation</li> <li>- prefers microhabitats covered with dense leaf-litter and moss</li> </ul> <p><i>Aquatic landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- streams, ponds and still waters</li> </ul>	Annex III	-	211 (27.26%)
	<i>Triturus marmoratus</i>			
	<p><i>Terrestrial landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- open areas like heathens and agricultural landscapes</li> <li>- under logs and rocks, as well as in man-made structures like stone walls</li> </ul> <p><i>Aquatic landscapes :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- aquatic habitats include well-vegetated ponds, pools, ditches and streams generally within dry woodlands, heath land, fields and rough grassland</li> <li>- different types of permanent and temporary water sources</li> </ul>	Annex III	Annex IV	70 (9.04%)

**Appendix 2.** Inter-correlation matrix between the manifested variables (i.e. the environmental variables used in the analyses, given in Table 1). Above diagonal: Spearman correlation coefficients and below diagonal: Spearman correlation p-values (significant p-values are in *italics*).

	Slope	Altitude	Water bodies	Water system	Wetlands	Deciduous forest	Mixed forest	Coniferous forest	Open areas	Shrub vegetation	Arable lands	Permanent crops	Grassland	Artificialised areas	Railway	Primary roads	Secondary roads
Slope	-	0.45	0.18	-0.15	-0.03	0.02	0.18	-0.13	-0.38	-0.27	0.39	0.38	0.28	0.22	0.03	0.29	0.29
Altitude	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.47	-0.12	-0.28	0.47	0.31	-0.04	-0.89	-0.54	0.89	0.81	0.76	0.47	-0.07	0.58	0.67
Water bodies	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	-0.01	-0.20	0.40	0.29	0.20	-0.58	-0.19	0.54	0.50	0.52	0.25	-0.23	0.19	0.35
Water system	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.74</i>	-	-0.02	-0.10	-0.11	0.04	0.08	0.10	-0.04	-0.10	-0.10	-0.09	-0.17	-0.18	-0.08
Wetlands	<i>0.36</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.62</i>	-	-0.32	-0.06	-0.25	0.27	0.23	-0.37	-0.28	-0.32	-0.13	0.28	-0.11	-0.26
Deciduous forest	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.35	0.19	-0.48	-0.26	0.44	0.41	0.46	0.38	-0.04	0.32	0.39
Mixed forest	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.10</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.37	-0.32	-0.18	0.25	0.37	0.29	0.27	0.10	0.25	0.32
Coniferous forest	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.24</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.27</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	-0.07	0.02	-0.04	-0.04	0.06	-0.03	-0.22	-0.22	0.02
Open areas	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.02</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.04</i>	-	0.44	-0.86	-0.75	-0.73	-0.44	0.15	-0.48	-0.60
Shrub vegetation	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.49</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	-0.46	-0.46	-0.47	-0.13	0.16	-0.29	-0.30
Arable lands	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.24</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.32</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.74	0.74	0.47	-0.22	0.51	0.56
Permanent crops	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.01</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.32</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.68	0.52	0.01	0.60	0.65
Grassland	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.01</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.12</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.42	-0.11	0.51	0.60
Artificialised areas	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.01</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.48</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.27	0.65	0.42
Railway	<i>0.40</i>	<i>0.04</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.22</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.68</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.56	0.06
Primary roads	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-	0.48
Secondary roads	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.02</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.49</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.00</i>	<i>0.13</i>	<i>0.00</i>	-

**Appendix 3.** Monte-Carlo tests results (from 1000 randomisations) of the ENFA analyses. \*\*\*:  $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*:  $0.001 < p < 0.01$ ; \*:  $0.01 < p < 0.05$ .

	Species	Observation	Standard observation	p-value	Variance
Anurans	<i>A. obstetricans</i>	8.000	27.800	<0.001 ***	0.045
	<i>B. spinosus</i>	2.230	3.146	0.009 **	0.018
	<i>H. meridionalis</i>	13.899	37.726	<0.001 ***	0.091
	<i>R. temporaria</i>	4.058	23.935	<0.001 ***	0.011
	<i>L. helveticus</i>	3.703	18.300	<0.001 ***	0.012
Urodela	<i>S. salamandra</i>	3.547	11.652	<0.001 ***	0.022
	<i>T. marmoratus</i>	24.485	36.279	<0.001 ***	0.339

**Appendix 4.** Path diagrams used to assess the direct effects of distances from different habitat types on amphibian presence at the department scale. (a) *Alytes obstetricans*; (b) *Bufo spinosus*; (c) *Hyla meridionalis*; (d) *Rana temporaria*; (e) *Lissotriton helveticus*; (f) *Salamandra salamandra* and (g) *Triturus marmoratus*. Values are path coefficients estimated by PLS-PM analysis. Asterisks indicate significant values of path coefficient from the inner model. A negative red value of path coefficient means that the species avoid the environmental parameter concerned. A positive black value represents an environmental parameter preferred by the species concerned. None indirect effects were identified. Abbreviations: goodness-of-fit (GoF); A. obs.: *Alytes obstetricans*; B. spi.: *Bufo spinosus*; H. mer.: *Hyla meridionalis*; R. tem.: *Rana temporaria*; L. hel.: *Lissotriton helveticus*; S. sal.: *Salamandra salamandra*; T. mar.: *Triturus marmoratus*.

