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Kent Wildlife Trust  
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## Rare Lizard Released Sandwich Bay

Photo opportunity Photo opportunity Photo opportunity Photo opportunity

**14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September**

Kent wildlife Trust and the Herpetological Conservation Trust will be releasing a batch of sand lizards onto the Sandwich and Pegwell Bay nature reserve.

The reintroduction is part of on-going management work at Sandwich and Pegwell Bay NNR. The project has been funded by Kent Wildlife Trust and the Herpetological Conservation Trust with support from the National Trust and the Sandwich and Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve Partnership.

There has been a 90% decline in sand lizard populations over the last 100 years. This has been due to habitat loss and fragmentation of habitat due to the due to increasing pressure on land due to tourism, forestry, development, agriculture and other land uses. As a result sand lizards are a protected species and registered as endangered.

Sand lizards are not a very mobile species and as a result translocations and captive breeding have been vital to their survival as a species. Last year the Herpetological Conservation Trust released lizards at 54 sites across the UK.

Over half of these sites now have a viable population of sand lizards.



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**press release**

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Unfortunately we are unable to give an exact day for the release. This is because the release is highly dependent on the weather. The lizards need to be released on a fine day or they will very likely perish. If you would like to attend the release please phone or email Dan Attwood (tel: 01622 662012 – email [dan@kentwildlife.org.uk](mailto:dan@kentwildlife.org.uk)) and your name and email will be taken. You will then be emailed on the morning of the release with times and further details.

-ENDS-

**Editor's Notes:**

- 1) Kent Wildlife Trust is Kent's leading wildlife charity. The Trust was formed in 1958 and since that time has worked to make Kent a better place for both wildlife and people. Managing 58 nature reserves and supported by over 21,000 members, the Trust campaigns to ensure a better future for wildlife through special species projects, commenting on planning issues and educating the next generation. The Trust is just one of 47 Wildlife Trusts working throughout the UK and forming the biggest organisation concerned with all areas of nature conservation in the Country.
- 2) Sandwich and Pegwell Bay is Managed by Kent Wildlife Trust on behalf of the National Trust

**For more information contact Dan Attwood  
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