

Fang, Zwischenhälterung und Wiederaussetzung von Zauneidechsen (*Lacerta agilis*) im Rahmen von Verkehrsprojekten – drei Beispiele aus Berlin

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Capture, time-limited captivity and re-establishment of sand lizards (*Lacerta agilis*) within the framework of road and railway construction projects – three examples from Berlin

Embankments of roads and railways are of high value as habitat for sand lizards (*Lacerta agilis*). Since the sand lizard is a species of annex IV under the Habitats Directive, special requirements are to be taken when rehabilitation work on roads and upgraded railways are carried out. The possibility that habitats are left relatively undamaged or can be re-established after finishing construction work is given with time and area limited rehabilitation work. Consequently, sand lizards can be taken back to their former habitats. While the actual rehabilitation work proceeds, the captured sand lizards are kept in an outdoor enclosure. To put such species protection measures into practice, preliminary work and control of success are necessary. At the estate of Naturschutzstation Berlin-Malchow such a terrarium has been built. In this paper, we report about experiences with already three time limited captivity projects. After two or three years of captivity at least the same number of the previously captured lizards could be released. Those captured as juveniles grew sufficient in the outdoor enclosure. Offspring bred in captivity could also be released. At the road building project Karow Nord (KN) in 1999 48 sand lizards (12 adults and 36 juveniles) were caught. In 2001 51 lizards (38 adults and 13 juveniles) could be released. In 2006 22 sand lizards (10 adults and 12 juveniles) were captured at the railway project Neulöwenberg (NL) and after two years 22 sand lizards (15 adults and 7 juveniles) were released at the same site. At the railway between Dannenwalde and Fürstenberg 87 sand lizards (44 adults and 43 juveniles) were captured at eleven points. For this project, the release is set in 2010. However, all projects lacked of adequate estimates of the lizard populations. That fact led to insufficient amount of days and times of capture and consequently, only a part of the lizard populations could be caught. Additionally, controls of success for the species protection measures are lacking. As a consequence, future similar projects must be critical evaluated, whether time limited captivity as a species protection measure for sand lizards will be appropriate. Hereby this report touches upon discrepancies of legal expectations for species protection measures and practical realisation.

Key words: Reptilia, Lacertidae, *Lacerta agilis*, sand lizard, rehabilitation work on roads and upgraded railways, secondary habitat, time limited captivity, Habitats Directive.