



# Ecological Survey Calendar

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		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Bats	Survey	Surveys of hibernation tree and building roosts			Limited Activity	Emergence and activity surveys					Limited Activity	Surveys of hibernation tree and building roosts	
	Mitigation	Maternity roost work					No works affecting maternity roosts			Maternity roost works			
		Potential roost and internal surveys are possible all year round. Trees are best surveyed in winter.											
Badgers	Survey	All survey methods can be used at any time of the year, however surveys are more effective in the spring and autumn/winter.											
	Mitigation	Limited survey	Bait marking and sett survey			Limited sett/bait survey				Sett surveys			Limited survey
		Construction of artificial setts. No disturbance of existing setts at this time.						Disturbance of existing setts – blocking of entrance holes, sett destruction				See Jan - June	
Reptiles	Survey	Reptiles Hibernating		Sub-optimal survey	Peak survey months		Sub-optimal survey	Reduced basking time lowers effectiveness of refugia survey		Peak survey month	Limited activity	Reptiles Hibernating	
	Mitigation	Reptiles Hibernating			Reptile translocation							Reptiles Hibernating	
Water Voles	Survey	Low activity	Initial habitat survey	Habitat and field signs/activity surveys. May be limited by weather and vegetation cover. Optimum survey program is one survey between April and June and another between July and September.							Initial habitat survey	Low activity	
	Mitigation	Avoid all works in water vole habitat, but dredging works may be possible		Vegetation displacement (dependent on weather and extent of works). Trapping and translocation.		Avoid all works in water vole habitat			Trapping and translocation		Avoid all works in water vole habitat		
Dormice	Survey	Nut and old nest searches			Nest tube and box surveys. Nut searches from September.							Nut and old nest searches (optimum)	
	Mitigation	No clearance works in dormice habitat				Works in dormice habitat	No clearance works in dormice habitat			Works in dormice habitat (optimum time)		No clearance works in dormice habitat	
Birds	Survey	Winter bird surveys		Breeding and migrant bird surveys			Breeding bird surveys		Breeding and migrant bird surveys			Winter bird surveys	
	Mitigation	Vegetation clearance		No tree, hedgerow or scrub removal during the bird breeding season without a nest check survey.							Vegetation clearance		
Otters	Survey	Surveys can be undertaken at all times of year although weather conditions and vegetation cover may affect survey efficiency.											
	Mitigation	Mitigation works can potentially be undertaken at any time. Where otters are found to be breeding disturbance should be avoided.											
Great Crested Newts	Survey	Newts hibernating		Pond survey for adults. At least two survey visits should be undertaken between mid-April and mid-May. Egg surveys from April to mid-June. Larvae surveys from mid-May. Terrestrial habitat/refuge surveys.				Pond surveys for larvae. Terrestrial habitat/refuge survey		Terrestrial habitat/refuge surveys		Newts hibernating	
	Mitigation	No trapping or translocation of newts. Pond and habitat management only.		Newt trapping in ponds and on land				Newt trapping on land only				No trapping or translocation of newts. Pond and habitat management only	
White-clawed crayfish	Survey	Sub-optimum survey time. Reduced activity.		Surveying		No surveys – female releasing young		Substrate search by hand. Torchlight and trapping surveys.				Sub-optimum survey time. Reduced activity.	
	Mitigation	Capture programmes should be avoided due to low activity levels		See June to Oct		Avoid capture programmes. Breeding torchlight survey only		Exclusion of Crayfish from construction areas				Capture programmes should be avoided	