



ECOLOGICAL SURVEY CALENDAR

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Feature	Work	Licence required?	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Habitats / Vegetation	Survey	N	Phase 1			Phase 1 and NVC						Phase 1		
	Mitigation	N	New planting/movement of existing habitat/species			No mitigation possible in the majority of situations						New planting/movement of existing habitat/species		
Badgers	Survey	*	Limited sett / bait surveys	Bait marking and sett surveys			Limited bait marking and sett surveys			Sett surveys			Limited sett / bait surveys	
	Mitigation	**	Work should cause no disturbance to known setts, building of artificial setts is possible						Work to existing setts; disturbance, blocking or destruction			As Jan		
Bats	Survey	*	Inspection of hibernation roosts		Limited activity	Survey for summer roosts and activity surveys possible for all areas with suitable habitat				Limited activity	Inspection of hibernation roosts			
	Mitigation	**	Works affecting maternity and summer roosts only		Works affecting maternity and hibernation roosts only		Works affecting hibernation roosts only			Works affecting maternity and hibernation roosts only		Works affecting maternity and summer roosts only		
Birds	Survey	Schedule 1 species e.g. barn owl*	Wintering bird surveys		Breeding bird surveys, and those for migrant species		Breeding bird surveys		Low activity, survey not advisable	Surveys for migrant species		Wintering bird surveys		
	Mitigation	N	Clearance		Avoid clearance / construction works as birds nesting				Clearance					
Dormice	Survey	*	Gnawed hazel nut search			Nest tube survey from April to November. Gnawed hazel nut search (best from Sept to Dec)								
	Mitigation	**	Habitat must not be cleared/impacted by works			Clearance, release, and translocation		Habitat must not be cleared/impacted by works		Clearance, release, and translocation		Habitat must not be cleared/impacted by works		
Great crested newts	Survey	*	Newts hibernating, no survey possible		Pond surveys for adults / Terrestrial survey / Egg surveys April to mid-June / Larvae surveys from mid-May			Survey for habitat suitability and the presence of larvae		Survey possible to determine habitat suitability		Newts hibernating, no survey possible		
	Mitigation	**	Pond management only (newts in hibernation)		Trapping possible in both aquatic and terrestrial habitat			Trapping possible in terrestrial habitat				Pond management only (newts in hibernation)		
Otters	Survey	*	No distinct seasonal constraints to survey, however survey efficiency may be effected by vegetation cover and weather conditions											
	Mitigation	**	No seasonal constraints but likely to be restricted by where otters are breeding											
Reptiles	Survey	Sand lizard/ Smooth snake*	Reptiles hibernating, no survey possible		Peak survey months are April and May			Reduced basking time lowers effectiveness of refugia survey		Peak survey month	Limited activity	Reptiles hibernating, no survey possible		
	Mitigation	Sand lizard/ Smooth snake**	Scrub clearance only (reptiles in hibernation)		Capture & translocation programmes and scrub clearance			Sub-optimal		Capture & translocation programmes and scrub clearance		Scrub clearance only (reptiles in hibernation)		
Water voles	Survey	*	Low activity	Surveys for habitat suitability		Habitat and field signs / activity surveys may be affected by vegetation cover and weather						Surveys for habitat suitability		Low activity
	Mitigation	**	Habitat must not be impacted by works			Trapping / exclusion		No works as breeding season			Trapping / exclusion		Habitat must not be impacted by works	
White-clawed crayfish	Survey	*	Low activity, no survey possible		Substrate search by hand / trapping surveys		Avoid survey. Likely to have young where present		Substrate search by hand / trapping surveys			Low activity, no survey possible		
	Mitigation	**	Avoid capture programmes		As Jul-Oct		Avoid capture programmes		Trapping and translocation from areas impacted by works			Avoid capture programmes		

Surveys recommended	Sub-optimal survey period	Surveys not possible
Mitigation possible	Mitigation restricted	Mitigation not possible

* Where survey techniques involve the capture, handling or disturbance of protected species then only licensed persons can undertake surveys; personal survey and monitoring licences are obtained from the relevant statutory body (CCW, Environment and Heritage Service, SNH or NE).
 ** Where mitigation involves the capture and/or disturbance of protected species and/or the damage, destruction or obstruction of their habitats, a development licence must be obtained from the relevant statutory body. Licences will be granted only to persons who have proven competence in dealing with the species concerned. Licence applications should be prepared and submitted as soon as possible as they can be subject to lengthy negotiations.