

# Ecological Survey Calendar

		Licence Required?	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
<b>Birds</b>	Surveys	No	Winter bird surveys		Breeding and migrant bird surveys			Breeding bird surveys		Breeding and migrant bird surveys			Winter bird surveys		
	Mitigation	No	No tree, hedgerow or scrub removal during the bird breeding season without a breeding bird survey												
<b>Badgers</b>	Surveys	*	All surveys methods can be used at any time of year however surveys are more effective in the spring and autumn/winter												
	Mitigation	**	Construction of artificial setts. No disturbance of existing setts at this time						Disturbance of existing setts - blocking of entrance holes, sett destruction			See Jan to June			
<b>Bats</b>	Surveys	*	Survey of hibernation, tree and building roosts			No Survey	Inspection of building roosts. Activity Surveys. Emergence counts				No Survey	Survey of hibernation, tree and building roosts			
	Mitigation	**	Maternity roost works		Maternity roost works until mid-May. Hibernation roost works from mid-March			Hibernation roost works			Hibernation roost works until Nov. Maternity roosts from mid-Sept		Maternity roost works		
<b>Dormice</b>	Surveys	*	Nut search	Nest survey	Hair tube and cage trap surveys to mid-October. Nest surveys. Nut searches from September						Nut and nest surveys (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				
<b>Otters</b>	Surveys	*	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												
<b>Red Squirrels</b>	Surveys	*	Surveys can be undertaken at all times of year although weather conditions and vegetation cover may affect survey efficiency												
	Mitigation	**	Avoid all works in known red squirrel habitat									Optimum time to undertake works in red squirrel habitat		See Jan-Sept	
<b>Great Crested Newts</b>	Surveys	*	No surveys		Pond surveys 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 to mid-August. Terrestrial habitat/refuge surveys		Terrestrial habitat/refuge surveys		No surveys		
	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		
<b>Natterjack Toads</b>	Surveys	*	No surveys			Surveys for adults on land. Surveys of breeding ponds for adults. Survey for tadpoles from May onwards					No surveys				
	Mitigation	**	Pond Management			Trapping of adults on land. Trapping of adults in ponds from April to July. Trapping of tadpoles from May to early September.					Pond Management				
<b>White Clawed Crayfish</b>	Surveys	*	Sub-optimum survey time, reduced activity			Surveys	No surveys - females releasing young		Optimum survey period				Sub-optimum survey time, reduced activity		
	Mitigation	***	Capture programmes should be avoided due to low activity levels			See June to October	Avoid capture programmes		Exclusion of Crayfish from construction areas				Capture programmes should be avoided		
<b>Water Voles</b>	Surveys	*	Activity declines	Initial surveys possible	All survey methods can be employed at this time of year although weather conditions and vegetation cover may dictate. Optimum survey period is March to June						Initial surveys possible	Activity declines			
	Mitigation	No	Avoid all works in water vole habitat		Works possible	Avoid all works in water vole habitat		Works in water vole habitat possible		Avoid all works in water vole habitat					

\* If survey techniques involve the capture, handling or disturbance of a protected species surveys must be undertaken by a licenced person.

\*\* Where mitigation involves capture, injury, disturbance or killing of a protected species and/or destruction or disturbance of their habitats a development licence must be obtained from DEFRA. Development licence applications take approximately 30 days to process but can take over 3 months.

\*\*\* Where mitigation involves the capture of white-clawed crayfish a mitigation licence must be obtained from English Nature. Licences will only be granted to people who have proven competence with the species concerned.