

# Ecological Survey & Mitigation Calendar

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		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Badgers	Surveys	As May - Aug	Bait marking & sett surveys			Bait marking & sett surveys			Sett Surveys			As May - Aug	
	Mitigation	No disturbance of existing setts - Building of artificial setts only						Exclusion or destruction of existing setts					
Bats	Surveys	Inspection of hibernation, tree and building roosts		Limited activity	Summer roost emergence and activity surveys					Limited activity	Inspection of hibernation roosts		
	Mitigation	Initial bat scoping surveys can be undertaken all year. Trees are best surveyed in the winter											
Birds	Surveys	Winter bird surveys		Breeding birds & migrant surveys			Breeding birds surveys			Breeding & migrant surveys		Winter bird surveys	
	Mitigation	Vegetation clearance		No clearance or construction works within 5m of birds nesting - seek ecological advice						Vegetation clearance			
Dormice	Surveys	Nut & nest search			Nest search optimum time (nut search sub-optimum time)							Nut searches and nest searches	
	Mitigation	Above ground vegetation clearance by hand only				Capture & release		Capture only		Above ground vegetation clearance by hand only			
Great crested newts	Surveys	No surveys - newts hibernating		Pond surveys for adults/ terrestrial habitat survey/egg surveys April - mid June. Larvae surveys from mid-May.			Habitat and larvae survey		Terrestrial habitat surveys			No surveys - newts hibernating	
	Mitigation	Pond management only		Newt trapping programmes in ponds and on land			Terrestrial newt trapping only					Pond management only	
Habitats/ Vegetation	Surveys	Phase 1			Phase 1 & NVC						Phase 1		
	Mitigation	Planting and translocation		Planting and translocation sub-optimal		No mitigation for most species				See Mar - Apr	Planting and translocation		
Otters	Surveys	Surveys for otters any time, though vegetation cover and weather conditions may limit the times at which surveys can be carried out. Avoid recent rain or flood.											
	Mitigation	Mitigation can potentially be conducted in any month, but it is likely to be restricted where otters are found to be breeding											
Reptiles	Surveys	No surveys- reptiles hibernating		Limited activity	Peak survey months			Lower detection rates in hot weather		Peak survey month	Limited activity	No surveys - reptiles hibernating	
	Mitigation	Above ground scrub clearance		Capture & translocation programme				Capture & translocation sub-optimal		Capture & translocation programme			Above ground scrub clearance
Water voles	Surveys	Reduced activity	Initial habitat surveys	Habitat and field signs / activity surveys (may be limited by vegetation cover and weather conditions)							Initial habitat surveys	Reduced activity	
	Mitigation	Avoid works in habitat		Trapping exclusion and Translocation		No works during breeding season				Trapping exclusion and Translocation			Avoid works in water habitat
White-clawed crayfish	Surveys	Habitat suitability assessment only					Trapping, torching and hand search					Habitat suitability assessment only	
	Mitigation	No captures			As July - Oct		No captures		Capture & exclusion from construction area				No captures

**KEY SURVEYS / MITIGATION** Optimal Sub-Optimal Surveys / Mitigation not possible