

Ecological Survey Calendar

		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Bats	Survey	Inspection of hibernation roosts			Limited Activity	Emergence and activity surveys					Limited Activity	Surveys of hibernation tree and building roosts		
		Potential roost and internal surveys are possible all year round. Trees are best surveyed in winter												
	Mitigation	Maternity roost work				No works affecting maternity roosts				Maternity roost works				
		No works affecting hibernation roosts			Hibernation roost works								No works affecting hibernation roosts	
Badgers	Survey	Survey methodologies acceptable all year however optimum periods autumn/winter and spring												
		Limited Survey	Bait marking and sett survey			Limited sett/bait survey				Sett surveys			Limited survey	
	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 - 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 affected by vegetation cover and weather conditions							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	Gnawed nut hunts and old nest searches				Works in dormice habitat	No clearance works in dormice habitat			Works in dormice habitat (optimum time)		Gnawed nut hunts and old nest searches		
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 vegetation removal without prior surveying for nesting birds							Vegetation clearance			
Otters	Survey	Surveying possible all year round – vegetation cover and weather conditions possible limiting factors												
	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		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	Management of ponds only		Newt trapping in ponds and on land				Newt trapping on land only					Management of ponds only	
White-clawed crayfish	Survey	Low activity, no surveys			Surveying	No surveys – female releasing young		Substrate search by hand. Torchlight and trapping surveys				Low activity, no surveys		
	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		
Habitats / Vegetation		Phase 1 and NVC (sub-optimal)			Phase 1 and NVC						Phase 1 and NVC (sub-optimal)			