



Ecological Surveys – A Timing Guide

Species		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Badgers	Surveying	All survey techniques can be used throughout the year. Surveys are most effective in Spring, Autumn and Winter											
	Mitigation	Do not disturb existing setts Construct artificial setts						Disturbance/Exclusion/Destruction of setts - Under license				As Jan.	
Bats	Surveying	Hibernation, Tree potential & Buildings			Maternity roost and activity surveys			Activity surveys			Hibernation, Tree & Building		
	Mitigation	Maternity Roost Works			No Maternity Works			Maternity Roost Works			No Hib. Wks.		
Birds	Surveying	Winter Bird surveys		Breeding bird surveys						Migratory bird surveys		Winter Bird surveys	
	Mitigation	No tree, scrub or hedge removal without a breeding bird survey											
Dormice	Surveying	Nut & Nest surveys		Trapping surveys						Nut & Nest surveys			
	Mitigation	No clearance work in dormice habitat			Work	No clearance work in dormice habitat			Work in Dormice habitat		No clearance work		
Fish (Salmonids)	Surveying	Population surveys (EA Licensed)											
	Mitigation	Out-of-stream works				In-stream Works				Out-of-stream works			
G.Crested Newts	Surveying	No surveys		Terrestrial habitat surveys						No pond		No surveys	
	Mitigation	Only habitat management		Terrestrial and aquatic trapping			Only terrestrial trapping			Only habitat management			
Marine Mammals	Surveying	Surveying can take place all year. Marine mammals are protected.											
	Mitigation	Work can commence all year with appropriate method statements; Marine Mammal Observers and construction "soft start" normally required.											
Natterjack Toads	Surveying	No surveys			Terrestrial & breeding pond adult surveys. Tadpole surveys (May onwards)						No surveys		
	Mitigation	Pond management			Adult and juvenile trapping						Pond management		
Otters	Surveying	Surveys can be conducted throughout the year. Surveys are most effective in Spring, Autumn and Winter											
	Mitigation	It is possible to commence mitigation work at any time, however disturbance should be avoided.											
Red Squirrels	Surveying	Surveys can be conducted throughout the year. Surveys are most effective in Spring and Autumn											
	Mitigation	No work to be conducted in red squirrel habitat									Work can be conducted		No work
Reptiles	Surveying	No surveys (hibernation)		Reptile surveys (temperature dependent)						No surveys (hibernation)			
	Mitigation	Scrub management subject to survey											
Seahorses	Surveying	Surveying can take place all year. Seahorses and their habitats are protected.											
	Mitigation	Net sweeps and translocation (NE Licensed)						Captive breeding programs all year (NE Licensed)					
White-Claw Crayfish	Surveying	Survey, but reduced activity			Survey	No surveys - birthing		Optimum survey period			Survey, but less activity		
	Mitigation	Avoid capture programs			Reloc.	Avoid capture programs		Relocation and exclusion programs			Avoid capture programs		
Water Voles	Surveying	No survey	Initial survey	All survey techniques can be used. Surveys are most effective in Spring/Summer						Initial survey	No survey	No survey	
	Mitigation	No work in water vole habitat			Work allow e	No work in water vole habitat			Work allow ed		No work in water vole habitat		

Notes on all species

*All surveys must be carried out by a suitably qualified person or persons to establish the necessity of European Protected Species license application.

*The timing of surveys and mitigation works may vary due to seasonal and site variables.