

Timetable for Conducting Ecological Surveys

Survey type	licence required	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Badgers	*	Sett survey											
			Bait marking			Limited bait marking							
Bats	*	bats hibernating			Limited activity	Roost emergence and activity surveys					Limited activity	bats hibernating	
		Inspection of hibernation roosts			Limited activity	Inspection of hibernation roosts					Limited activity	Inspection of hibernation roosts	
Birds	Schedule 1 species e.g. Barn Owl	Winter species		Breeding birds / Migrant species		Breeding birds		Low activity		Migrant birds		Winter birds	
Dormouse	*	Hazelnut search	Nest search	Hair tube, cage trap and box survey (Hazelnut search from Sept)						Hazelnut and nest search (optimum)			
Great Crested Newt	*	Habitat Suitability Index Survey can be undertaken at any time, although some parameters should be measured in the spring.											
		Newts hibernating		Presence / absence survey and population survey. Note that up to 3 visits required between mid-April and mid-May				Larvae recruitment survey		Newts hibernating			
Natterjack Toads	*	No surveys			Surveys for adults on land.					No surveys			
		No surveys			Trapping: Adults in ponds April to July,					No surveys			
		No surveys			Tadpoles May to early September					No surveys			
Otters	*	Survey can be conducted throughout the year but survey efficiency may be affected by vegetation in summer months											
Red Squirrels	*	Survey can be conducted throughout the year but survey efficiency may be affected by vegetation in summer months											
Reptiles	Sand lizard/ Smooth snake	Reptiles hibernating		Limited activity	Peak survey months - April, May.		Low effectiveness of refugia survey		Peak survey	Limited activity	Reptiles hibernating		
Water Voles	*	Low activity	Habitat survey	Habitat / Field signs / activity survey (May be limited by vegetation and weather conditions)						Habitat survey	Low activity		
White-clawed Crayfish	*	Reduced activity			Torch / hand trapping	Breeding - females releasing young		Torch and trapping survey - Substrate search by hand			Reduced activity		
Invertebrates		Aquatic and terrestrial											
Habitats / Vegetation		Phase 1			Phase 1 and NVC						Phase 1		
Lower plants													

KEY

Optimum survey period

Sub-optimum survey period

Survey not possible

* Where survey techniques involve the capture, handling or disturbance of protected species then only licenced persons can undertake surveys. (Obtained from the relevant statutory body)