

# Ecology Survey Calendar

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Notes
<b>Habitats and Botany</b>													
Phase 1 Habitat surveys and UK Hab Surveys													Surveys can be undertaken all year round but surveys during the optimal survey allow for more accurate habitat classification and identification of plant species
National Vegetation Classification - Woodland													Optimal survey period for woodland is mid-March to mid-June, for grassland is mid-May to mid-August and for hedgerows is April to September
River Condition Assessment													Surveys ideally undertaken at low flow during Spring or early Summer. Surveys undertaken during sub-optimal months may be less robust where vegetation obscures the banks
<b>Bats</b>													
Buildings - Potential Roost Assessment													Single visit required subject to access to all external and internal areas, including loft space and basements
Trees - Ground-Level Tree Assessments													Surveys can be undertaken all year round potential roosting features will be more easily identified once the leaves have fallen off the trees.
Trees - Potential Roosting Feature Survey													Three surveys between May and September, with at least two before the end of August
Emergence Survey													Up to three surveys between May and September, with the majority undertaken before the end of August
Buildings - Hibernation Survey													Generally two survey visits spread at least four weeks apart. May also involve deployment of static detectors for at least two weeks per month between November and March
Activity Survey													Night time walkovers undertaken seasonally with static detectors deployed for a minimum of five nights either seasonally or monthly depending on habitat suitability
<b>Badger</b>													
													Surveys can be undertaken all year round although signs are likely to be easier to identify during winter when vegetation has died back.
<b>Dormouse</b>													
Nest Tube/box survey													Surveys should ideally be undertaken monthly/bi-monthly throughout survey season. Survey period can be condensed where a higher level of survey effort can be employed
Nut Search													Surveys can be useful where Hazel is present and can confirm presence but would not be sufficiently robust to confirm absence
<b>Otter</b>													
													Surveys can be undertaken at any time of year but should avoid periods following prolonged heavy rainfall, high water levels, heavy frost and recent snow
<b>Water Vole</b>													
													Two surveys required, one between mid-April and June and the second between July and September
<b>Birds</b>													
Breeding													Three to six visits spread evenly throughout breeding season
Wintering													Generally four survey visits required spread across optimal survey months but up to seven visits could be required where passage potential is identified
<b>Great Crested Newts</b>													
Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) Assessment													Can be undertaken at any time of year although some assessment criteria are best undertaken during May to September
eDNA													Single visit. Where presence is confirmed, traditional surveys may also be required.
Traditional surveys													Four survey visits with an additional two surveys visits where presence is confirmed. At least half the surveys should be undertaken between mid-April and mid-May.
<b>Reptiles</b>													
													Survey set-up at least two weeks prior to first survey visits. Seven survey visits to be undertaken in total ideally avoiding July and August
<b>White-clawed Crayfish</b>													
													Two survey visits required comprising multiple survey techniques, as appropriate. Surveys undertaken during sub-optimal months would be restricted to torching only.
<b>Invertebrates</b>													
													Three to seven survey visits spread across season. Number of survey visits dependant on the number and type of different taxonomic groups requiring survey