

Don't miss the survey season!

Waterman's ecological calendar has been produced as a useful guide to illustrate the optimal survey periods for the various key species in planning terms. If you would like to discuss survey requirements for your project please get in touch.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Phase 1 - Hedgerows												
Phase 2 - Detailed Flora ¹												
Breeding Birds												
Wintering Birds												
Migratory Birds ²												
Badgers ³		Bait marking surveys					Licensable period					
Bats ⁴	Tree and building roost inspection (surveys possible all year round)											
	Hibernation			Activity and emergence surveys								
Dormice	Nut search only (mid Aug-December Optimal)			Nest tube/box surveys								
Invertebrates												
Otters ⁵	Surveying possible all year round, weather and vegetation cover can be limiting factors											
Water Voles ⁷												
Reptiles												
Great Crested Newt ⁶				Aquatic surveys				Terrestrial habitat surveys				
White-Clawed Crayfish					No survey - females release their offspring							

Surveys optimal

Surveys sub-optimal

No survey

¹ The timing of detailed flora surveys is dependent on specific habitat type to be investigated.

² Dependant on species on site.

³ Badger surveys better in winter when vegetation has died back.

⁴ Internal building searches for evidence of bats can be undertaken at any time; winter is the best time for assessing trees for roosting potential, with further work to confirm potential undertaken in spring/summer. Bat activity and emergence survey timings to be agreed with an ecologist.

⁵ Surveys can be undertaken year round, giving due consideration to the impact of water levels and vegetation cover.

⁶ Three surveys for population size class assessment must be undertaken between mid-April - mid-May.

⁷ Surveys involve two visits conducted at either end of the breeding season (i.e. one visit in mid-April - June and a second visit in July-October. Dependant on the site, dense vegetation cover in June-August may make survey conditions sub-optimal.

This calendar is based on published best practice guidelines available at the time of writing and is intended as a guide only, however it indicates the time periods when different surveys can be carried out. Please speak to one of our ecologists before scheduling any work.



Ecology Survey Seasons

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