

# Ecology Survey Calendar

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 <sup>1</sup>													
Breeding Birds													
Wintering Birds													
Migratory Birds <sup>2</sup>													
Badgers <sup>3</sup>		← Bait marking surveys →					← Licensable period →						
Bats <sup>4</sup>	← Preliminary roost assessments (ground based & aerial tree assessments) →											←	
	← Preliminary roost assessments (buildings) →												
	← Hibernation surveys (trees & buildings) →												←
						← Evening emergence & pre-dawn re-entry surveys (trees & buildings) →							
						← Activity surveys (including automated survey techniques) →							
					← Advanced Licence bat survey techniques (including trapping & radio tracking surveys) →								
Dormice	← Nut search only (mid Aug-December Optimal) →			← Nest tube/box surveys →								←	
Invertebrates													
Otters <sup>5</sup>	← Surveying possible all year round, weather and vegetation cover can be limiting factors →												
Water Voles <sup>7</sup>													
Reptiles													
Great Crested Newt <sup>6</sup>				← Aquatic surveys →			← Terrestrial habitat surveys →						
White-Clawed Crayfish					No survey - females release their offspring								



Surveys optimal
  Surveys sub-optimal
  No survey

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

<sup>2</sup> Dependant on species on site.

<sup>3</sup> Badger surveys better in winter when vegetation has died back.

<sup>4</sup> Targeted survey timings could be required pending on site, scheme and animal welfare requirements.

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

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

<sup>7</sup> 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.

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