



# Ecological Survey Timetable

**Key**

Optimal time

Sub-optimal time

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		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Desk Study	Record search	Possible anytime of year											
<b>Habitats</b>	Surveys (Phase 1 and hedgerow)	Sub-optimal survey time			Optimal survey time						Sub optimal survey time		
	Mitigation	Planting and translocation		Not possible						Planting and translocation			
<b>Vegetation</b> (NVC and other Phase II/III)	Surveys (woodland)			Sub-optimal time		Optimal		Sub-optimal time					
	Surveys (grassland)			Sub-optimal time			Optimal time		Sub optimal time				
	Mitigation	Planting and translocation		No mitigation for majority of species						Planting and translocation			
<b>Badgers</b>	Surveys	Search for setts can be carried out any time of year but most effective in spring and autumn/winter. Bait marking possible autumn/winter. Bait marking possible									Bait marking not possible		
	Mitigation	Building of artificial setts. No disturbance of existing setts						Disturbance of existing setts-blocking of entrance holes, sett destruction			See Jan-Jun		
<b>Bats</b>	<b>Surveys</b>	Inspections of hibernation, tree and building roosts			No surveys		Activity surveys and inspection of building roosts, emergence counts			No surveys		Inspection of hibernation, tree and summer	
	Mitigation	Works on maternity roosts		Works on maternity until mid May. Works on hibernation			Hibernation roost works			Hibernation roost works until Nov.		Maternity roost works	
<b>Birds</b>	Surveys	Winter bird		Breeding birds/migrant			Breeding birds		Breeding birds/migrant			Winter birds	
	Mitigation	See Sept-Dec	No tree, hedgerow or scrub to be removed without a breeding bird survey						Works possible but must stop if breeding birds found				
<b>Dormice</b>	Surveys	Nut search	Nut survey	Hair tube and cage trap surveys to mid-October. Nest surveys. Nut searches from September						Nut and nest surveys (optimum)			
	Mitigation	No clearance works				Clearance works	No clearance works			Clearance works (optimum time)		No clearance works	
<b>Fish</b>	Surveys	Where applicable migration patterns of the species affected will need to be considered. Fish breeding periods vary between species and this may need to be considered when planning surveys											
	Mitigation	Water courses require protection at all times of year. Mitigation for particular fish species will need to be timed to avoid the breeding season.											

<b>Great crested newts</b>	Surveys	No surveys	Pond surveys for adults. Surveys must include visits undertaken between mid		Larvae surveys to mid-August. Terres-	Terrestrial habitat surveys	No surveys		
	Mitigation	No newt trapping. Pond and habitat man-	Newt trapping programs in ponds and on land		Newt trapping on land only		No newt trapping. Pond and habitat management		
<b>Natterjack toads</b>	Surveys	No surveys	Surveys of breeding ponds for adults. Surveys for adults on land. Surveys for		Surveys for adults on land	No surveys			
	Mitigation	Pond management works	Trapping of adults on land. Trapping of adults in ponds from April-July. Trapping of tadpoles from May to early			Pond management works			
<b>Otter</b>	Surveys	Surveys can be undertaken year round although seasonal variation in vegetation and weather may affect survey efficiency							
	Mitigation	Mitigation can be conducted at any time of year although breeding otters should not be disturbed.							
<b>Pine martin</b>	Surveys	Survey possible	Den survey can be carried out between March and May			Survey possible			
	Mitigation	Works in area of used habitat and dens	No works in pine martin habitat			Works in areas of used habitat and dens			
<b>Red squirrels</b>	Surveys	Survey possible throughout year	Survey possible throughout year			Survey possible throughout year			
	Mitigation	Avoid all works in known red squirrel habitat				Optimum time for works in red squirrel habitat	See Jan-Sept		
<b>Sand lizards, smooth snakes and common lizards</b>	Surveys	No surveys	Activity surveys to be conducted March-June and Sept-Oct. Surveys limited by high temperatures in July and August				No surveys		
	Mitigation	Scrub clearance	Scrub clearance. Capture and translocation while animals active from March-June and Sept-Oct. Surveys restricted by high temperatures in peak summer months of July and August				Scrub clearance		
<b>Other reptiles</b>	Surveys	No surveys	Surveys possible		Surveys possible	Surveys possible	No surveys		
	Mitigation	Scrub clearance	Scrub clearance. Capture and translocation of animals possible		Scrub clearance and capture translocation	see March to June	Scrub clearance		
<b>Water voles</b>	Surveys	Activity low	Search for field signs and latrines.		Search for field signs and latrines.	Search for field signs and latrines.	Initial surveys possible	Activity low	
	Mitigation	Avoid all works in water vole habitat		Works possible	Avoid all works in water vole habitat	Works possible	Avoid all works in water vole habitat		
<b>White clawed crayfish</b>	Surveys	Activity low		Surveys possible	No surveys	Optimum survey period		Activity low	
	Mitigation	Avoid capture programs			See June-Oct	Avoid capture programs	Exclusion of crayfish from construction areas		Avoid capture programs
<b>Other aquatic invertebrates</b>	Surveys	Sub-optimal survey time		Optimal survey time		Sub-optimal survey time		Optimal survey time	See Jan-Feb
	Mitigation								

**NB: This timetable should be used as a reference guide only with advice also being sought from a qualified ecologist as site and project specific constraints may alter seasonal windows**

If you require any further information please contact **Southern Ecological Solutions** on **01245 475565** or Email on **Team@SES-eco.co.uk** or visit our web site: **www.ses-eco.co.uk**