

Surrey Wildlife Trust Ecology Services

Survey Calendar



This survey calendar presents the optimal and sub-optimal survey seasons for types of survey commonly undertaken in the UK. It should be used as guidance only and is based on current industry best-practice. Your ecologist will provide you with an indication of which surveys are likely to be required to inform your planning application, and a proposed survey schedule based on this survey calendar.

Survey type	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Vegetation				Extended Phase 1 habitat and NVC (April – June: woodland; June to August: grassland)								
Badger		Bait marking and sett search							Bait marking and sett search			
Bats	Preliminary Roost Assessment (all year); Preliminary Ground Level Tree Roost Assessment (optimal between November and March)											
	Hibernation				Emergence/return to roost and activity							Hibernation
Hazel Dormouse				Nest tube (nut search from September to December)								Nut search
Otter			Preferable survey season									
Water Vole												
Birds	Wintering birds		Migratory/ breeding birds	Breeding birds					Migratory birds		Wintering birds	
Great Crested Newt	Habitat suitability index											
				eDNA presence/absence								
			Presence/absence and population size class assessment									
				Refugia search								
Natterjack Toad												
Reptiles												
Invertebrate												
White-clawed Crayfish												

	Survey optimal
	Survey sub-optimal
	Outside acceptable survey season