

Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec

Habitats / Vegetation	Surveys	Phase 1 - sub-optimal	Phase 1 and NVC - Optimal survey period				Phase 1 - sub-optimal
	Mitigation	Clearance / Planting / Translocation	No clearance works. Planting and translocation unsuitable for most species.				Clearance / Planting / Translocation
Bats	Surveys	Hibernation, tree and building roost surveys.	Activity surveys, emergence counts, and inspection of building roosts				Hibernation, tree and building roost surveys.
	Mitigation	Works on maternity roosts.	Works on hibernation roosts.				Works on maternity roosts.
Birds	Surveys	Wintering birds	Migrant and breeding birds	Breeding birds	Migrant and breeding birds	Wintering birds	
	Mitigation	Vegetation clearance	No clearance or construction works without prior surveys for nesting birds				Vegetation clearance
Badgers	Surveys	Sett and activity surveys	Sub-optimal survey period				Sett and activity surveys
	Mitigation	Construction of artificial setts. No disturbance of existing setts.			Blocking and destruction of existing setts		As Jan-Jun
Otters	Surveys	Surveys can be conducted all year round but vegetation cover and weather conditions may restrict the timing of surveys					
	Mitigation	Mitigation works can potentially be conducted at any time of year but must avoid disturbance of breeding otters					
Newts	Surveys	Hibernation - no surveys	Pond surveys for adults, egg surveys, larvae surveys, and terrestrial habitat surveys				Hibernation - no surveys
	Mitigation	Habitat creation and management only	Trapping in ponds and on land	Trapping on land only		Habitat creation and management only	
Reptiles	Surveys	Hibernation - no surveys	Activity surveys - April, May and September are optimal				Hibernation - no surveys
	Mitigation	Vegetation clearance	Capture and translocation				Vegetation clearance
Aquatic Ecology	Surveys	Sub-optimal period	Optimal survey period for macroinvertebrates, macrophytes and water quality surveys				Sub-optimal period
	Mitigation	Aquatic mitigation works are likely to be limited by other receptors					

This calendar serves as a guide to the likely timings of ecological surveys and mitigation works but is not an exhaustive list. The actual timings of all surveys and mitigation works will ultimately be dictated by climate, weather and site-specific constraints. Where surveys or mitigation works involve the disturbance, capture, translocation or interference with protected species or their habitat features it is likely that a derogation licence will be required from the relevant statutory agency (e.g. Northern Ireland Environment Agency).

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