

Ecology year planner

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		
Badgers Setts can be almost anywhere. Badgers and their setts protected under the 1992 Protection of Badgers Act. Licence is required to work within 30 metres. Exclude badgers from sett / destroy empty sett under licence only. 	No work close to setts											No work close to setts		
	Badger exclusion licensing season													
	Best time for field surveys					Best time for field surveys								
	Still OK for field surveys but they won't be as effective													
	Artificial sett construction can take place												Artificial sett construction can take place	
		Territorial bait marking surveys can be done												
Water Voles Habitat - streams, ditches, rivers, canal, ponds and marsh banks. Illegal to damage / destroy animals in burrows unless habitat is replaced to Environment Agency approval 	Avoid damaging habitat									Avoid damaging habitat				
					Best time to work in water vole area						Best time to work in water vole area			
	Best time for water vole surveys													
Great Crested Newts Habitat - medium sized ponds, flooded pits, large ditches. Well vegetated, moderate shade, no fish, few wildfowl. Can be found 500m from pond on land. Illegal to kill, capture, disturb newts and obstruct access. Licence is needed for survey and any work in 500m radius of breeding pond. 	No work in inhabited ponds											No work in inhabited ponds		
	No work in water													
				Best time for terrestrial work										
Birds All nesting birds are protected - it is illegal to kill or disturb them. Some species have extended protection covering them away from nests. 	No work in nesting habitat													
	Vegetation clearance can take place									Vegetation clearance can take place				
Bats Roosts - buildings, underground structures, bridges, tunnels, trees, caves. Feeding - woodland, hedgerows. It is illegal to kill, disturb or capture bats, or disturb, destroy or obstruct access to roosts even when bats are seasonally absent. 	No work in hibernation roosts									No work in hibernation roosts				
							No work in breeding roosts							
White clawed Crayfish Lives in clean water with a high oxygen content, little sediment with rocks or tree roots for refuges. It is illegal to catch and/or handle without a licence. 	Cannot disturb at this time as activity is reduced and females are carrying eggs									Cannot disturb				
Reptiles Many habitats including grassland, field/woodland edges, heathland, sand dunes, scrub, hedgerow banks. Reasonable precaution must be taken to avoid incidental mortality. 	Avoid work									Avoid work				
					Best time for captures						Best time for captures			

Sources of further information...

English Nature
 Northminster House
 Peterborough
 PE1 1UA
 Tel - 01733 455000
 Fax - 01733 568834
www.english-nature.org.uk

Environment Agency
 Rio House
 Bristol
 BS32 4UD
 Tel - 01454 624 400
 Fax - 01454 624 409
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Countryside Council of Wales
 Plas Penrhos
 Bangor
 LL57 2LQ
 Tel - 01248 385500
 Fax - 01248 355782
www.ccw.gov.uk

Scottish National Heritage
 12 Hope Terrace
 Edinburgh
 EH9 2AS
 Tel - 0131 447 4784
 Fax - 0131 446 2277
www.snh.org.uk

SEPA
 Erskine Court, Castle Business Park
 Stirling
 FK9 4TR
 Tel - 01786 457700
 Fax - 01786 446885
www.sepa.org.uk

The Wildlife Trusts
 The Kiln, Waterside
 Newark
 NG24 1WT
 Tel - 01636 677711
 Fax - 01636 670001
www.wildlifetrusts.org

Mammals Trust UK
 15 Cloisters House
 8 Battersea Park Road
 London
 SW8 4BG
 Tel - 020 7948 5262
www.mammalstrustuk.org

The RSPB
 The Lodge
 Sandy
 Bedfordshire
 SG19 2DL
 Tel - 01767 680551
www.rspb.org.uk

www.foe.co.uk/wildplaces
 A list of SSSI's in the UK
www.naturenet.net
 Information on nature conservation and legislation.
www.uksafari.com
 Information on nature conservation and other information including reptiles.

In the first instance contact your site environmental co-ordinator or environment advisor.