






# Survey calendar





Surveys not possible

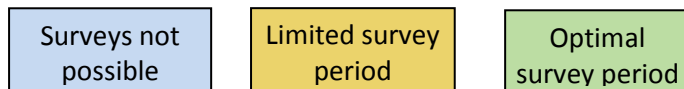
Limited survey period

Optimal survey period

Habitats/ Vegetation	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Phase 1 (sub-optimal) No other detailed plant surveys Mosses and lichens only			Detailed habitat assessment surveys, National Vegetation Classification, Surveys for higher plants and ferns. Mosses and lichens in April, May and September only						Phase 1 (sub-optimal) No other detailed plant surveys Mosses and lichens only			
Badgers	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Limited sett/bait surveys	Limited activity, sett surveys			Limited bait marking and sett surveys				Sett surveys			Limited sett/bait surveys	
Bats	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Inspection of hibernacula, tree and building roosts for Potential Roost Features			Limited activity	Summer roost emergence and activity surveys (maternity roosts start to form in May, females give birth in June, mating starts in September)				Limited activity		Inspection of hibernacula, tree and building roosts for Potential Roost Features		
	<p><b>Note:</b> Potential Roost Features and internal building inspection surveys are possible all year round. Trees are best surveyed in winter when there are no leaves.</p>												
Birds	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Winter species		Breeding birds/migrant species		Breeding birds		Low activity		Migrant species		Winter species		
Cetaceans - whales, dolphins, porpoises	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Cetaceans can be surveyed all year, but the appropriate survey methodologies can depend on the type and scale of the development and/or the proximity to protected sites - see <a href="#">SNH guidance</a> .												

Freshwater Pearl Mussels	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Surveys not possible			Optimal survey period								Surveys not possible	
Fish	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	For coastal, river and stream dwelling species, the timing of the surveys will depend on the migration pattern of the species concerned. Where surveys require information on breeding, the timing of surveys will need to coincide with the breeding period, which may be during summer or winter months, depending on the species.												
Great Crested Newts	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Newts hibernating		Pond surveys for adults / Terrestrial surveys Egg surveys April to mid-June / Larvae surveys from mid-May				Terrestrial habitat and larvae surveys		Terrestrial habitat surveys		Newts hibernating		
Invertebrates	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Invertebrates hibernating		Limited activity	Terrestrial invertebrate surveys						Limited activity	Invertebrates hibernating		
Amphibians	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Amphibians hibernating			Surveys of breeding ponds for adults Surveys for tadpoles from May onwards					Surveys for adults on land		Amphibians hibernating		
Otters	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Limited by vegetation cover and weather conditions rather than seasons												
Pine Martens	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Surveys may be conducted all year-round weather permitting Optimum time is spring and summer. Surveys for breeding dens from March to May												
Red Squirrel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Surveys may be conducted all year-round weather permitting Optimum time is spring and summer. Surveys for breeding dens from March to May												

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Reptiles	Reptiles hibernating		Peak survey months are April and May				Reduced basking time reduces effectiveness of refugia surveys		Peak survey month	Limited activity	Reptiles hibernating		
Seals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Grey seals moult Aerial surveys				Grey seals- aerial surveys			(Grey S.) aerial surveys	Grey seals- aerial and ground surveys			See Jan- Apr	
	Harbour seals-aerial surveys						Ground surveys- Beginning of moult	Harbour seals- ground surveys	Ground surveys- End of moult	Harbour seals- aerial surveys			
Vantage point surveys can be carried out year-round. To assess connectivity with Special Areas of Conservation, Photo ID surveys and Telemetry can be carried out year-round.													
Water Voles	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
	Low activity	Initial habitat surveys	Habitat and field signs/ activity surveys May be limited by vegetation cover and weather							Initial habitat surveys	Low activity		



Note: This survey calendar should be used as a reference guide only with advice being sought from a qualified ecologist as site and project specific circumstances may alter seasonal windows