

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec			
<b>Preliminary Ecological Appraisal</b>		Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal			
<b>Habitat surveys</b>		Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal			
<b>Bats</b>	Preliminary Roost Assessment (buildings)	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal			
	Preliminary Roost Assessment (trees)	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Signs of bat roost potential can be obscured when trees are in leaf	
	Stage 2 surveys					Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal			Up to 3 surveys, conducted a minimum of 2 weeks apart		
	Transect surveys				Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal				Spread over the survey season	
<b>Great Crested Newts</b>	Preliminary Habitat Assessment	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal			
	eDNA				Optimal	Optimal	Optimal									
	Presence/Absence surveys			Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal						Up to 6 pond surveys mid-March to mid-June, at least 50% mid-April to mid-May	
<b>Reptiles</b>	Presence/Absence surveys			Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal			Optimal	Sub-optimal			2 week set up, 8 survey visits, temperature dependant		
<b>Badgers</b>	Preliminary Scoping Assessment	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal		
	Full Surveys	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	A minimum of 3 weeks of activity checks	
<b>Birds</b>	Nesting Bird Check			Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal				Not required outside of bird breeding season		
<b>Otters</b>		Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Surveys more limited by vegetation and weather conditions, rather than season		
<b>Water voles</b>		Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Optimal	Sub-optimal	Sub-optimal	Surveys may be limited by vegetation		
<b>Key to colours</b>		Optimal Survey Period		Sub-optimal Survey Period		Surveys not possible										

Some species or survey types will require the whole survey season. Please refer to [midlandecology.co.uk](http://midlandecology.co.uk) for individual surveys including more details on timings, and factors that may affect these timings.

Surveys should ideally be carried out in the optimum survey window (shown in green) in order to get the most accurate results. Although surveys are still possible in the sub-optimal survey window (shown in yellow), in some instances the results may be inconclusive, and so the surveys may need to be repeated or further justification required by the planning authority.

Unusual/changing weather conditions may influence the survey results even within the optimum survey season.

These are the most commonly requested surveys, but if you would like information on a different survey, please don't hesitate to e-mail us on [info@midlandecology.co.uk](mailto:info@midlandecology.co.uk) or give us a call on 0121 517 0841