








# Ecology Year Planner

Protected Wildlife THE TIME GUIDE HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS TABLE MAY VARY DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, Please check locally.		JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER			
 <p><b>Badgers</b> Setts can be almost anywhere. Badgers and their setts are protected under the 1992 Protection of Badgers Act. Licence may be required to work within 30 metres. You can exclude badgers from sett / destroy empty sett under licence.</p>	<p>Work close to setts may require a licence which restricts certain activities to minimise disturbance. A license can take up to 8 weeks for approval.</p> <p>A license not always required but still seek advice from a specialist</p> <p>Work close to setts may require a licence which restricts certain activities to minimise disturbance. A license can take up to 8 weeks for approval.</p>	Best time to survey for Badgers is you suspect a sett					Survey's for Badgers can still be done but less effective in these months					Best time to survey for Badgers is you suspect a sett				
		Artificial sett construction can take place by Ecologists to relocate												Artificial sett construction can take place to relocate		
		Avoid damaging habitat												Avoid damaging habitat		
		Avoid disturbance near ponds		Work in water may require a licence which restricts certain activities									Avoid disturbance near ponds			
 <p><b>Great Crested Newts</b> 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.</p>	Avoid disturbance near ponds		Work in water may require a licence which restricts certain activities													
					Best time for work on land, as all newts will be found in breeding pool											
	Vegetation clearance may take place outside of bird nesting season									Vegetation clearance may take place outside of bird nesting season						
 <p><b>Birds</b> All nesting birds are protected - it is illegal to kill or disturb them. Some species have extended protection covering them away from nests.</p>				Any work done should not disturb nesting birds. A survey should be done prior to works and exclusion zone or license should be obtained if working near nesting bird habitat												
	Avoid disturbance in habitat in hibernation season										Avoid disturbance of habitat in hibernation season					
 <p><b>Bats</b> 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.</p>			Work around breeding roosts may require a licence													
	Avoid scrub clearance. Seek advice before starting work								Avoid scrub clearance. Seek advice before starting work							
 <p><b>Reptiles</b> Many habitats including grassland, field/woodland edges, heathland, sand dunes, scrub, hedgerow banks. Reasonable precaution must be taken to avoid incidental mortality. No work close to setts. Artificial sett construction can take place</p>					Best time to survey, capture and relocate reptiles			Best time to survey, capture and relocate reptiles								
	Avoid damaging habitat								Avoid damaging habitat							
 <p><b>Water Voles</b> Habitat - streams, ditches, rivers, canal, ponds and marsh banks. Illegal to damage / destroy animals in burrows unless habitat is replaced to Environment Agency approval</p>					Best time to work near water vole area			Best time to work near water vole area								
	Best time for water vole surveys															
	Avoid disturbance of habitat when working in or near watercourses. Seek advice from a specialist						Avoid disturbance of habitat when working in or near watercourses. Seek advice from a specialist									
 <p><b>White Clawed Crayfish</b> 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.</p>	Avoid disturbance of habitat when working in or near watercourses. Seek advice from a specialist						Avoid disturbance of habitat when working in or near watercourses. Seek advice from a specialist									

Where licences and restrictions are indicated, please seek advice from either a licenced ecologist or from an Environment Specialist