

Ecology:

Protected Species surveying and Mitigation

Certain species within Britain are protected by law, and their existence on site may have to be identified prior to planning permission or development.

Early identification of protected species can prevent expensive delays to projects. Many sites will simply require a protected species survey, rather than a full site survey, and the planning authority will often advise on this.

Species which require experienced or licenced surveyors include water voles, bats, badgers, otters, the great crested newt and birds. Bats are so highly protected that killing or injuring one, or damaging its roost, can result in six months imprisonment. Planning applications for any development involving the removal of trees or demolition or modification of any building, particularly roof renovation, will require a survey to provide information on the potential presence or absence of roosting bats, and an assessment of any possible impact on bats which may be caused by the proposed development.

Professional surveys give peace of mind and provide security that you are operating within the law.

Our highly qualified Ecologists are members of the *Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management* and the *Association for Wildlife Trusts Consultancies*. Working with **Wildscapes** not only provides you with an expert service, but also the opportunity to link with a highly respected environmental organisation, adding extra credibility to your development.

If protected species are identified on site, **Wildscapes'** Ecologists can provide, or recommend, mitigation activity, such as creating habitats in nearby locations so that protected species may be encouraged to move and live in a new location.



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