

# Ecological, Habitat & Electrofishing Survey Timings

= Optimal  
 = Sub-Optimal

|                                    |                             | Jan   | Feb                                  | Mar  | Apr                                       | May                                    | Jun   | Jul                                  | Aug             | Sep  | Oct                                    | Nov                                | Dec           |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Freshwater Pearl Mussel</b>     | Surveys                     | Optimal survey time.  |                                      |  |   |  |   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | Avoid all works in freshwater pearl mussel habitat.   |                                      |  |   |  |   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
| <b>Great Crested Newt</b>          | Pond Surveys for adults     | No Surveys.   |                                      | Optimal survey time (must usually include visits mid Apr - mid May). |   |  |   | No surveys.                          |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Egg Surveys                 | No Surveys.   |                                      |  | Optimal survey time.                      |  |   | No surveys.                          |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Larvae Surveys              | No Surveys.   |                                      |  |   | Optimal survey time.                   |   | Sub-Optimal survey time.             |                 | No surveys.  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Terrestrial Habitat Surveys | No Surveys.   |                                      | Optimal survey time.   |   |  |   | Sub-Optimal survey time.             |                 |  |  | No surveys.                        |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | No trapping. Pond Management only.  |                                      | Newt trapping programs in ponds and on land.                         |   |  |   | Newt trapping on land only.          |                 |  |  | No trapping. Pond Management only. |               |
| <b>Otter</b>                       | Surveys                     | Surveys can be carried out year round although seasonal variation in vegetation and weather may affect survey efficiency.   |                                      |  |   |  |   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | Mitigation can be conducted at any time of year although breeding otters should not be disturbed.   |                                      |  |   |  |   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
| <b>River Lamprey</b>               | Electro-fishing Surveys     | See Jun - Dec.  |                                      |  | No surveys.                               |  | Electrofishing is best method of carrying out a survey as long as it is not carried out during the migration (April and May) and spawning season (when water temperature rises above 9°C - usually late April/May in Scotland). |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | See Jun - Dec.  |                                      |  | Avoid all works in River Lamprey habitat. |  | Watercourses require protection at all times of year. Mitigation will need to be timed to avoid the breeding season of River Lamprey and other fish species in the watercourse.   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
| <b>Other aquatic invertebrates</b> | Surveys                     | Sub-Optimal survey time.  |                                      | Optimal survey time.   |   |  | Sub-Optimal survey time.  |                                      |                 | Optimal survey time.   |  | Sub-Optimal survey time.           |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | Minimise potential impact by timing proposed works accordingly and adopting good practice.  |                                      |  |   |  |   |                                      |                 |  |  |                                    |               |
| <b>Salmonids</b>                   | Electro-fishing Surveys     | Incubation and hatching of salmon alevins. Growth to fry and onto parr. Smolts (previous years' parr also leave watercourse). Resident brown trout and migratory brown trout (sea trout) hatching and smolting also occurs during this timeframe. |                                      |  |   |  | Optimal survey time. Where applicable migration patterns and breeding seasons of other potentially affected species will need to be considered.   |                                      |                 | Atlantic salmon and trout spawning (for salmon usually Nov - Dec but for some larger rivers Oct - Feb). For trout mid Oct - early Jan. |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | No electrofishing   |                                      |  |   |  | Watercourses require protection at all times of year. Mitigation for other fish species may need to be timed to avoid the breeding season for these.  |                                      |                 | No electrofishing  |  |                                    |               |
|                                    | Habitat Survey              | Sub-Optimal survey time.  |                                      | Optimal survey time (when flows at or around Q95).                   |   |  |   |                                      |                 | Sub-Optimal survey time.   |  |                                    |               |
| <b>Water voles</b>                 | Surveys                     | Activity low.   | Search for field signs and latrines. |  |   | Search for field signs and latrines.   |   | Search for field signs and latrines. |                 |  |  | Initial surveys possible.          | Activity low. |
|                                    | Mitigation                  | Avoid all works in water vole habitat.  |                                      |  | Works possible.                           | Avoid all works in water vole habitat. |   |                                      | Works possible. |  | Avoid all works in water vole habitat. |                                    |               |

|                       |            |                         |                   |                         |  |                         |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| White clawed crayfish | Surveys    | Activity low.           | Surveys possible. | No surveys.             | Optimum survey time.                           | Activity low.           |
|                       | Mitigation | Avoid capture programs. | See Jun - Oct.    | Avoid capture programs. | Exclusion of crayfish from construction areas. | Avoid capture programs. |



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