Ecology Survey Calendar

Indicative survey windows for project planning

KEY

- **Optimal** — Best time to survey
- **Sub-optimal** — Possible, but may need repeat visits or give inconclusive results
- **Not recommended** — Outside the survey window

Survey or task	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
DESK AND SCOPING												
Desk study, AA screening and EcIA scoping	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
HABITATS AND FLORA												
Habitat survey and mapping	□	□	▒	■	■	■	■	■	▒	▒	□	□
Detailed botanical and Annex I survey	□	□	□	▒	■	■	■	▒	□	□	□	□
Invasive plant species survey	▒	▒	▒	■	■	■	■	■	■	▒	▒	▒
BATS												
Preliminary roost assessment	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Emergence, re-entry and activity[1]	□	□	□	□	■	■	■	■	▒	□	□	□
Hibernation inspection, where relevant	■	■	▒	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	▒	■
BIRDS												
Breeding bird survey	□	□	▒	■	■	■	▒	□	□	□	□	□
Wintering bird survey	■	■	▒	□	□	□	□	□	▒	■	■	■
TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS												
Badger survey	■	■	■	■	▒	▒	▒	▒	▒	■	■	■
Otter survey	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Pine marten survey	▒	▒	▒	▒	■	■	■	■	■	▒	▒	▒
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES												
Amphibian breeding ponds	□	▒	■	■	■	▒	□	□	□	□	□	□
Common lizard survey	□	□	▒	■	■	▒	▒	▒	■	▒	□	□
INVERTEBRATES												
Marsh fritillary, adults	□	□	□	□	■	■	■	□	□	□	□	□
Marsh fritillary, larval webs	□	□	□	□	□	□	□	▒	■	▒	□	□

Windows are an indicative planning aid, not a survey specification. Weather, altitude, site conditions, survey method and licensing can move any window. Confirm the scope for each site against current NPWS, Bat Conservation Ireland and CIEEM guidance.

[1] Principal roost presence or likely-absence window, May to September, following current Bat Conservation Trust guidance. April and October only by exception.