

Other amphibians

46. Common frogs are listed in Annex V of the Habitats Directive, and common frogs, common toads and smooth newts are listed under Schedule 5 of the WCA 1981 (as amended) and protected under section 9(5) only.

48. Natural England (2002) advises that disturbance of an active sett can include:

- Light work such as hand digging within 10m
- Use of light machinery (generally wheeled vehicles) within 20m.
- Use of heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30m.

49. The word "disturbance" includes anything from the trivial to the lethal. An example of a trivial disturbance may be extra traffic noise on or near to an application area. In contrast a lethal disturbance may be as a result of a badger sett being destroyed in order to make way for the planned works.

50. An extended radius of 30m around the application site was surveyed for evidence of badger setts and characteristic field signs in accordance with accepted standards, methodologies and guidelines. Field evidence includes; well defined desire line tracks through vegetation, snuffle holes, latrines and sett entrances. The presence of badger hair, fresh spoil heaps and active latrines are indicators that the sett entrance active.

Bats

(protected status EPS, WCA, UKBAP, LBAP)

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Inspection of Hibernation roosts- semi optimal survey			Limited activity-sub optimal	Summer roost emergence & re-entry surveys-Optimal survey period					Limited activity-sub optimal	Hibernation roosts- semi optimal survey	
Internal roost surveys are possible / Trees are best surveyed during Winter											

51. All species of bats are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the European Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994 and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. This legislation makes it illegal to possess or control any live or dead specimens, to damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter, protection or breeding, and to intentionally disturb a bat while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for that purpose.
52. Bats are considered as being an indicator species of biodiversity and ecosystem quality. If bats are found to be present on the application area, then a European Protected Species (EPS) development license issued by Natural England (NE) may be required prior to any development. If required, further presence/absence survey should be undertaken and a mitigation strategy be implemented with Natural England and the Local Planning Authority.