**Introduction**

As a company we have a duty of care to ensure that prior to commencing on-site activities we have a detailed and comprehensive understanding of the ecological value of a site relating to all wildlife (including animals, plants, fungi and soil) regardless of whether they are protected by legislation or not. All species-specific legal requirements must be met and we must work to deliver above and beyond legal requirements to minimise any potential adverse impacts on ecology and biodiversity. Where possible we should achieve measurable net gains in biodiversity in accordance with the [UK’s good practice principles on Biodiversity Net Gain (CIEEM, CIRIA, IEMA, 2016).](https://www.cieem.net/data/files/Publications/Biodiversity_Net_Gain_Principles.pdf)

Our activities can negatively impact on protected sites, habitats and species and cause the spread of invasive non-native species. These activities include:

* Damage to vegetation through dust cover;
* Run off of oil/silt or contaminated materials into protected/sensitive ecological features (land and water);
* Accidents and spillages releasing chemicals into protected/sensitive ecological features;
* Excavation or clearance of habitats;
* Killing or injury to wildlife (both protected and non-protected species);
* Tracking injurious and invasive species across, and out of, a project site to another location
* Damage or interference to any protected habitats (including root protection areas);
* Damage, destruction or obstruction of nesting areas, roosting areas, feeding areas and migratory sites;
* Accidental or deliberate killing, injuring, possessing, selling, damaging or obstructing access or a protected species or disturbing a sheltered protected species
* Causing disturbance with noise, vibration, lighting or operations to ecologically sensitive areas (such as foraging areas)

In the UK, legislation is in place to:

* Prevent the loss of sites of ecological and/or geological significance
* Protect vulnerable species and their habitats
* Control the spread of injurious and invasive species

This document sets out the process that Balfour Beatty UK follows to ensure that ecological issues and risks are identified and addressed within the company’s operational activities. It explains how to identify and manage our impacts and associated legislative risk regarding protected sites and species.

Additional reference material is available on:

[ENV-RM-0016e Protected Species](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9518) Handbook

[ENV-RM-0017a Tree and Hedgerow Protection](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8810)

[ENV-RM-0020a Biodiversity Net Gain](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8814)

[ENV-RM-0021c Invasive and Injurious Species Handbook](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9519)

**Abbreviations / Definitions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Biodiversity** | The variety of wildlife within an area |
| **Tree Preservation Order (TPO)** | Put in place by a Local Planning Authority to protect specific trees or a particular area, group or woodland from deliberate damage and destruction. TPOs prevent the felling, pruning, uprooting or otherwise wilful damaging of trees without the permission of the Local Planning Authority. |
| **Habitat** | Habitat can be defined as an area possessing uniformity of land form, vegetation, climate, or any other quality assumed to be ecologically important. Usually, in terms of site assessment and management, it is uniformity of vegetation that characterises a habitat, for example oak woodland, reed beds, bramble scrub and so on. |
| **Injurious Species** | A plant or animal that can cause injury to people or domesticated animals e.g. giant hogweed and ragwort. |
| **Invasive Species** | Any non-native animal or plant that has the ability to spread causing damage to the environment and out competing native species e.g. Japanese Knotweed. |
| **cHECk** | The **H**abitat and **E**cology **C**heck Assessment tool, which has been developed to ensure the Company has conducted the necessary compliance checks when planning and carrying our works, providing assurance of legal compliance with ecological and environmental legislation. |
| **IEMA** | Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment |
| **CIRIA** | Construction Industry Research and Information Association |
| **CIEEM** | Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management |
| **SSSI** | Site of Special Scientific Importance |

**Legislation and Regulation**

There are numerous pieces of nature conservation legislation and the key pieces for our activities are detailed below. For further details refer to [HSES-RM-0001c UK Environmental Legal Register](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-5910).

England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland **(EN) (S) (W) (NI)**

**Environmental Damage (Prevention and Remediation) Regulations** (there are individual variants for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) impose obligations on certain operators to prevent, limit or remediate environmental damage concerning land, water, protected species or natural habitats and SSSIs. If damage is caused there is a requirement to notify the applicable Environmental Regulator/Competent Authority.

They bring into force rules to force polluters to prevent and repair damage caused to water systems, land quality, species and their habitats and protected sites (the ‘Polluter Pays’ principle). The 2015 amendment extends environmental damage to include damage to the status of marine waters.

**Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act** established Natural England, responsible for conserving, enhancing and managing England’s natural environment. The act makes provision in respect of biodiversity, pesticides harmful to wildlife, the protection of birds and in respect of non-native species.

The act is split into 10 parts:

* Part 1 (Natural England and the Commission for Rural Communities) – England & Wales only
* Part 2 (nature conservation in the UK) – England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland
* Part 3 (wildlife) - England & Wales
* Part 4 (sites of special scientific interest) – England & Wales
* Part 5 (National Parks and the Broads) – England & Wales only
* Part 6 (rights of way) – England and Wales
* Part 7 (inland waterways) – England, Wales and Scotland
* Part 8 (flexible administrative arrangements) – England and Wales. Chapter 2 (powers to reform agricultural bodies) extends also to Scotland and Northern Ireland. Chapter 3 (financial assistance) extends also to Northern Ireland.
* Part 9 (miscellaneous), section 98 (byelaws relating to land drainage) extends to England and Wales only, and section 99 (abolition of certain agricultural committees) extends to the whole of the UK.
* Part 10 (final provisions) - England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

England, Wales and Scotland **(EN) (S) (W)**

**The Wildlife and Countryside Act** forms the basis of most statutory wildlife protection in the UK. It is divided into four parts:

* Part I deals with the protection of animals and plants. It details the level of protection afforded to species listed in the various schedules of the act.
* Part II relates to the countryside and national parks and the designation of protected areas (Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs)
* Part III covers public rights of way
* Part IV deals with miscellaneous provisions of the act

**Animal Welfare Act and the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act** applies when wild animals (vertebrates) come into our care, even if only temporarily. Individual animals must be treated humanely, including not causing unnecessary suffering. The removal of otherwise unprotected species form a site is covered by this, as well as providing additional protection to otherwise protected species (such as when carrying out translocation operations).

**Protection of Badgers Act** provides for the protection of badgers and their setts by making it an offence to:

* Take, kill or injure a badger
* Damage, interfere with or destroy a sett, including obstructing access to a sett
* Interfere with badger while it is in the sett or other place of shelter,

**Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act** deals with problems of pollution making it an offence to knowingly permit the flow of poisonous matter and polluting effluents into river courses.

**Weeds Act** covers 5 injurious (harmful) weeds: common ragwort (Senecio jacobaea), spear thistle (Cirsium vulgare), creeping or field thistle (Cirsium arvense), curled dock (Rumex crispus) and broad leaved dock (Rumex obtusifolius). It is not an offence for these plants to be growing on land, however they are required to be kept under control by the landowner.

England and Wales **(EN) (W)**

**Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations** provides for the designation and protection of ‘European Sites’ and the protection of ‘European Protected Species’. It requires that a marine licence is required for all works in UK inshore waters.

**Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act** containing five Parts and 16 Schedules, the Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land, amends the law relating to public rights of way, increases measures for the management and protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Schedule 12 of the Act amends the species provision of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, strengthening the legal provision for threatened species. The provisions make certain offences ‘arrestable’, create a new offence of reckless disturbance, confer greater powers to police and wildlife inspectors for entering premises and obtaining wildlife samples for DNA analysis, and enable heavier penalties on conviction of wildlife offences.

Scotland **(S)**

**Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act** established Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) whose role covers wildlife and landscape conservation through the management of designated areas, and the provision of advice to developers and local planning authorities on countryside conservation and development issues

**Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act** provides increased protection and management of SSSIs

Northern Ireland **(NI)**

**Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland)** is the principle piece of nature conservation legislation in Northern Ireland. It relates to nature reserves, Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSIs), wildlife protection and the implementation of the European Habitats Directive. It provides for the designation, protection and management of European Protected Sites: SACs (Special Areas of Conservation) listed under the Habitats Directive and SPAs (Special Protected Areas) listed under the Birds Directive.

**Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002** Provides the Department of Environment for Northern Ireland with the power to declare areas of land as Areas of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) where the land is of special interest by reason of its flora, fauna, geological, physiographical or other features and needs to be protected. Consent must be obtained before carrying out any ‘notifiable operation’ specified in the declaration (unless it is carried out as part of a management agreement or management notice).

**Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order 1977** establishes the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside. Provides the Department for Environment Northern Ireland with the power to acquire land for the purpose of managing it as a nature reserve and allows marine nature reserves to be established. Byelaws can be made to protect both nature reserves and marine nature reserves.

**Noxious Weeds (Northern Ireland) Order 1977** defines ragwort, thistle, dock and wild oat as noxious weeds and places a legal responsibility on landowners to prevent the spread of other weeds.

**Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985** makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild birds or their eggs or nests. Specific penalties are available for offences related to birds listed on Schedule 1, for which there are additional offences of disturbing these birds at their nests or their dependent young.

It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take, possess or trade in any wild animals listed in schedule 5, and to interfere with places used for shelter or protection or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places. Certain methods of killing, injuring or taking wild animals are also prohibited.

It is an offence to pick, uproot, trade in or possess (for the purpose of trade) any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, and prohibits the unauthorised intentional uprooting of some plants.

The Order also contains measures for preventing the establishment of species not native to Northern Ireland which may be detrimental to native wildlife, and prohibits the release of animals and the planting of plants listed in Schedule 9.

Licences are used to regulate the activities that may affect protected species and their environment.

**What you need to do**

Identify the presence of ecological features &/or ecologically protected sites which may be impacted by our activities, directly or indirectly

1

Identify regulatory requirements that need to be met

Yes

Submit formal application and fee to the regulator

4

On completion ensure that the licence can be left to expire or surrender / transfer it as needed

Monitor performance of control measures and of compliance with conditions of any licence/s

Commence works in line with risk assessment and control measures and conditions of any licence/s

Complete review of risks and opportunities posed by activities to ecological features &/or ecological protected sites

2

Is a licence/permission required?

No

Plan in time and financial costs for licence application/s and supporting survey effort

3

Was the application accepted?

No

Yes

5

6

**Note 1 - Identify the presence of ecological features &/or ecologically protected sites which may be impacted by our activities, directly or indirectly**

In order to understand the potential risks our work presents to ecological features, the presence of protected species (plants and wildlife) and protected sites must be identified well in advance (e.g. at least 3 months) of works starting on site.

This may include information received from the client, specialist surveys, and external consultation with environmental/conservation regulators and local wildlife trusts/bodies etc. Any information passed to the project team must be assessed for completeness, including how recently surveys were carried out. Any ecological data (including surveys) more than one year old must be reviewed with a suitably qualified ecologist to determine their accuracy and validity and whether they need to be repeated and/or updated.

If works/activities are demobilised and will be remobilised after 3 months or more, the environmental risks and opportunities assessment ([ENV-SF-0001a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-7128)) must be re-visited and the ecological risks updated as necessary in advance of works re-commencing.

Any ecological mitigation measures must be implemented in accordance with the stipulated requirements which can mean implementing the mitigation prior to works/activities commencing. If the identified mitigation requirements cannot be followed, alternatives must be sought via your HSES Advisor and approved by an ecologist. Ecological mitigation requirements must be briefed to site personnel in advance of works re-commencing.

Ecological mitigation requirements must be revisited in line with [ENV-RM-0016b Ecology Calendar](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8807) with specific attention paid to the lifecycle of protected species and seasonal restrictions on working and ecological surveying activities. We must ensure that seasonally constrained activities are undertaken at the most appropriate time of the year, depending on the species concerned.

As wildlife is mobile and may move into an area, or if work is being carried out at a different time of year from when it was originally planned, or if site conditions have changed (e.g. vegetation has been allowed to re-establish) additional ecological surveys may be required and, if so, must be undertaken to identify whether the planned ecological mitigation has changed.

**Wildlife**

Work should not commence until up-to date and complete ecological data/surveys have been carried out and provided to the project team and recommended mitigation measures implemented.

Where the client has not provided any recent or complete ecological data/surveys (see above) at tender stage, sites identified as having ecological potential and/or trees are present, must be surveyed prior to works commencing.

The following describes the types of assessment available and when they should be used.

Internal Ecology Assessment (BB tool)

These are carried out by company personnel using the Ecology and Biodiversity Assessment Tool ([ENV-SF-0016a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8825)) which is designed to identify the likely species and habitats that the project will come into contact with. Recommendations will be either to conduct a field survey to identify any ecological mitigation requirements for works to proceed, or no field survey is required and works can proceed.

EcoCheck Assessment Tool (BB tool)

EcoCheck is an in-house mobile application (app) which is used primarily in Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) to assess the ecological risk of individual work activities. More information on carrying out an EcoCheck assessment can be found in EcoCheck Assessment User Guide ([ENV-RM-0016c](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8808)).

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)

Also known as an extended phase 1 habitat survey, a preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) is carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist (either client specified, internal or company approved). It can be undertaken at any time of year and consists of:

* **Desk study exercise** - undertaken in order to collect ecological baseline data relating to the site and its surrounds. Ecological data will be requested from a number of consultees; and
* **Phase 1 habitat survey** – a standard technique for classifying and mapping British habitats using a walkover survey with the aim of providing a record of habitats that are present on site. During the survey, the presence, or potential presence, of protected species will be noted.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report will be produced, which will include a detailed map of the habitats on site. This report will summarise the results of both the desk study and the field survey, and will include an assessment of the likely impact of the project on both habitats and notable species. Recommendations for any further works needed to ensure compliance with wildlife legislation and relevant planning policy will be made.

Some recommendations might have seasonal constraints so must be planned and budgeted for early on (see the Ecology Calendar ([ENV-RM-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8807))

Species Specific Surveys

These are carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist (either client specified, internal or company approved) on species identified in the Phase 1 Habitat Survey as requiring more investigation. Following the survey, a report is produced detailing potential impacts of works and any mitigation requirements. These might require a licenced ecologist in attendance during works, for example if works might affect protected species such as badgers, bats, white-clawed crayfish and great crested newts.

Species specific surveys are likely to be subject to seasonal constraints. The Ecology Calendar ([ENV-RM-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8807)) identifies the optimum times for carrying out surveys for specific species.

**Ecologically Protected Sites**

The location of key ecologically protected sites can be identified using the following links:

* England - <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/>
* Wales - <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/designated-sites/?lang=en>
* Scotland - <http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp>
* Northern Ireland - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/searching-protected-areas>

A list of the ecologically protected sites to look for is included in Table 1.

**Note 2 - Identify regulatory/permit requirements that need to be met**

**Wildlife**

A licence may be required by anyone who wishes to carry out an activity prohibited under wildlife legislation. For example:

* to kill or take certain protected species to prevent problems
* to carry out surveys or conservation work
* to disturb or damage the habitat of certain protected species (even accidentally)
* to possess or keep certain wildlife.

To use a licence you must follow the conditions contained in each licence and submit records and annual reports if required.

Wildlife protection laws are different in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Professional ecological guidance must be sought and followed. The regulator in your area can also be contacted to find out which species are protected and what you can and can’t do.

* England – [Natural England](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england)
* Wales – [Natural Resources Wales](https://naturalresources.wales/?lang=en)
* Scotland – [Scottish Natural Heritage](https://www.nature.scot/)
* Northern Ireland - [Northern Ireland Environment Agency](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/)

To use any licence you must follow the conditions written in each licence and submit records and annual reports if the regulator asks you to do so. There are three main types of licence

General Licences

A set of standardised licences that anyone who satisfies the eligibility criteria may use. They are used for activities that carry a low risk to the conservation or welfare of a protected species. e.g. to remove abandoned or unsuccessful bird eggs. These licences do not need to be applied for but the conditions must be followed on any licence used. The licences differ depending where the work is taking place.

For further information on general licences refer to:

* England - <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/general-licences-for-wildlife-management>
* Wales - <http://www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/protected-species-licensing/uk-protected-species-licensing/general-licences-2018-birds/?lang=en>
* Scotland – <https://www.gwct.org.uk/scotland/advice/scottish-general-licences/>
* Northern Ireland - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/wildlife-licensing>

Class Licences (England only)

Are needed if you are doing work that needs a specific skill or experience to avoid the risk to the conservation or welfare of a protected species. These licences are typically held by registered ecologists carrying out specific activities such as surveying for protected species. If work is going to be carried out under a class licence you:

* Must be registered to use most class licences (or have a licensed ecologist)
* Must apply to be registered for each licence you use
* Remain eligible to use the licence(s) for as long as you remain registered
* Meet the recording and reporting requirement for each licence

For further information on class licences in England refer to:

* <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/class-licences-for-wildlife-management>

Individual Licences (including European protected species)

Must be applied for if any activity is being carried out that affects a protected species (including European protected species) and is not covered by a general or class licence. This includes activities such as:

* Disturbing, trapping or handling protected species
* Disturbing their habitats, for example by cleaning out a pond or building a housing development

If a licence is granted, its conditions will require a suitable scheme of mitigation to be implemented, i.e. measures aimed at minimising or even cancelling the negative impact of plans and projects during or after their completion. The licences differ depending where the work is taking place.

For further information on individual licences refer to:

* England – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wildlife-licences#types-of-licence>

If works affects a European protected species, a [mitigation licence](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-protected-species-apply-for-a-mitigation-licence) is also required if your work will have impacts European protected species that would otherwise be illegal such as:

* + capturing, killing, disturbing or injuring them (on purpose or by not taking enough care)
  + damaging or destroying their breeding or resting places (even accidentally)
  + obstructing access to their resting or sheltering places (on purpose or by not taking enough care)

Further information on mitigation licences is available from [Natural England](http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4727870517673984?category=12002)

* Wales – <http://www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/protected-species-licensing/?lang=en>
* Scotland - <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/licensing/species-licensing-legislation>
* Northern Ireland - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/wildlife-licensing>

In order to successfully apply for a European protected species licence (mitigation licence in England), a licence application must pass 3 legal tests:

* The activity must be for a certain purpose such as preserving public health or public safety or other imperative reasons of overriding public interest
* There must be no satisfactory alternative
* The activity will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in their natural range (the creation of new habitats to offset any damage may be required)

**Ecologically Protected Sites**

There are various ecological designations for ecologically protected sites which can be protected under European and national law. In addition Local Authorities have the ability to establish and maintain sites of regional and local importance.

When our activities could affect a protected site, discussions with the appropriate regulatory authority must take place as early as possible before starting works to allow consultation on any required permissions and working conditions. These specific working requirements must be built into methods of work and site teams must be briefed on the specific working requirements at the start of work. Work requirements can also require watching briefs by suitably qualified ecologists, which must be planned and budgeted for as early as possible.

Copies of any permit for working in, or near a protected site must be included in the site files or Project Management Plan, and be available to every visitor to site upon request. ‘Near’ can be many miles away depending on the qualifying feature for the designation and connectivity from the works to the protected site.

**Table 1 – Key Ecologically Protected Sites**

| **Sites of International importance** | |
| --- | --- |
| RAMSAR  (The UK is a signatory to  this international convention) | Sites listed under the convention of wetlands of international importance. The protected sites are of importance as wildfowl habitats.  **UK Statutory Designation**  UK Statutory Designation: a RAMSAR site is always designated as a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) in England, Wales & Scotland  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) |
| Special Protection Area (SPA) | Classified under the European Community Directive on the conservation of wild birds.  UK Statutory Designation: SPA - all SPA’s are SSSI’s in England, Wales & Scotland  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) |
| Special Area of Conservation (SAC) | This legislation is based on the European Community Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna (the Habitats Directive).  UK Statutory Designation: SAC (all SAC’s are SSSI’s in England, Wales & Northern Ireland)  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (Northern Ireland) |
| **Sites of National Importance** | |
| Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)/ Areas of Special Scientific Interest in Northern Ireland. | All SSSIs / ASIs have been studied in detail prior to being awarded protected status. The reason for protection of an individual SSSI / ASI will be included within the site schedule. The SSSIs/ASSI designation may extend into intertidal areas.  UK Statutory Designation: SSSI / ASSI  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, and Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| National Nature Reserve  (NNR) | An NNR is managed primarily for nature conservation benefits.  UK Statutory Designation: NNR  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, and Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| Areas of Special Protection (England & Wales)/Wildlife Refuges (Northern Ireland) | Designation aims to prevent the disturbance and destruction of the birds for which the area was identified, by making it unlawful to damage or destroy either the birds or their nests and in some cases by prohibiting or restricting access to the site. Wildlife Refuges are equivalent to Areas of Special Protection in Northern Ireland. Sites in Northern Ireland with a ‘Bird Sanctuary’ designation may be afforded similar protection to Wildlife Refuges.  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, and Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) | Marine Conservation Zones can be established to protect nationally important marine wildlife, habitats, geology and geomorphology and can be designated anywhere in English and Welsh inshore and UK offshore waters.  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, and Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) - Scotland | Nature conservation Marine Protected Areas can be designated in offshore waters around Scotland. MPAs may also be designated for demonstration and research and for historic/cultural conservation.  Regulator: Scottish Natural Heritage |
| Marine Nature Reserves (MNRs) | Marine Nature Reserves are used to protect an area of the sea and seabed (which can include intertidal areas) to conserve marine flora and fauna and geological features of special interest, while providing opportunities for study of marine systems.  They are a mechanism for the protection of nationally important marine (including subtidal) areas. These are being slowly replaced by MCZs in England and Wales only.  Regulator: Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Natural Resources Wales, and Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| UK BAP priority species and habitats  and  The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework | UK BAP priority species and habitats were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). The original lists of UK BAP priority species and habitats were created between 1995 and 1999, and were updated in 2007. Now superseded, the UK BAP lists of priority [species](http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5717) and [habitats](http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5718) remain important reference sources as they have been used to help draw up statutory list of priority species in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.  [The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework](http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-6189), published in July 2012 has succeeded the UK BAP and much of the work previously carried out under the UK BAP is now focused at a country level. |
| Common Land  and Village Greens | Common land is owned e.g. by a local council, privately or by the National Trust. The public usually have the right to roam on it, using it for certain activities like walking and climbing. Some common land has different rights, so it may be able to be used for other activities e.g. horse-riding.  Town and village greens can usually be used for sports and recreation. Some also have ‘rights of common over them’ like grazing livestock. The right to roam doesn’t apply. Many green are owned and maintained by local parish or community councils and some are privately owned.  In order for Balfour Beatty to carry out any work activities across common land or village greens (including parking plant or vehicles or the establishment of a site compound), formal permission must be obtained. Find out where your local common land of village green is by contacting your local council as it keeps the ‘Register of Common Land and Village Greens’ for your area. |
| **Sites of Regional or Local Importance** | |
| Local Nature Reserve  (LNR)/Local Authority Nature Reserves (LANRs) in Northern Ireland | A habitat of local significance that makes a contribution to nature conservation and to the opportunities for the public to enjoy wildlife  Regulator: Local Authority |
| Non-statutory nature reserves | These areas are established and managed by a variety of public and private bodies for specific ecological interest  Regulator: County Wildlife Trusts, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds etc. |
| Site of Importance for Nature Conservation/Key Wildlife Site | Usually adopted by the local authority for planning purposes. The name and status of this type of site varies considerably.  Regulator: Local Authority |

**Note 3 - Submit formal application and fee to regulator**

**Wildlife**

When applying for a licence, the correct application form must be used. For details of the forms, use the links below:

* England - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wildlife-licences>
* Wales - [http://www.naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/protected-species- licensing/uk-protected-species-licensing/?lang=en](http://www.naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/protected-species-%20%20%20%20%20%20licensing/uk-protected-species-licensing/?lang=en)
* Scotland - <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/licensing>
* Northern Ireland - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/wildlife-licensing>

It is usual that a “named ecologist” (i.e. the ecologist named on the licence) will need to apply for a licence on behalf of a specific, responsible individual on the project (such as the Project Director, Site Lead, Environmental Specialist etc). For some licensed activities (e.g. surveys, certain research activities or implementing mitigation works in relation to developments), the applicant may be required to provide information or references demonstrating technical expertise. The relevant application form will explain what you must provide.

The time a regulator takes to determine whether a licence should be issued is typically 30 working days (6 weeks), but this may vary depending on the time of year and the type of licence (and can be much longer). Sufficient time must be built into the project programme for licence applications to be made. If an application is put on hold for any reason by the regulator at any stage, the clock will stop until the issue has been resolved.

In certain ‘emergency’ situations licences can be issued more quickly. An emergency situation is where there is an immediate risk to health, life, property or environment. The regulator must be consulted about licences needed in such situations.

You may not assume that consent has been granted if you do not receive a response within 30 working days. In this instance, the licence application must be followed up with the regulator. Work must not commence until the licence has been received from the regulator.

Some licences and general advice are provided free of charge. The relevant application form will give full guidance. The regulator can also be contacted to confirm current licence and advice costs.

**Ecologically Protected Sites**

When applying for consent/assent to work in an ecologically protected site, the correct application form must be used. For details of the forms to use when applying for SSSI/ASSI consent/assent, use the links below. For all other designations, contact the regulator in the area where you are working.

* England – <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sites-of-special-scientific-interest-public-body-responsibilities>
* Wales – <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/guidance-to-site-of-special-scientific-interest-sssi-land-owners-and-occupiers/?lang=en>
* Scotland – <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-designations/sites-special-scientific-interest>
* Northern Ireland - <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/land-and-landscapes/areas-special-scientific-interest>

The time a regulator takes to determine SSSI consent/assent varies:

* England - 28 working days
* Wales – 28 days
* Scotland – up to 4 months
* Northern Ireland – up to 3 months

Sufficient time must be built into the project programme for licence applications to be made. If an application is put on hold for any reason by the regulator at any stage, the clock will stop until the issue has been resolved.

A fast track service may be available if consent/assent is required more quickly. The regulator must be consulted about this.

If a written response is not received within the timeframe detailed above it must be assumed that consent/assent has been refused. In this instance the regulator must be contacted for further information. Work must not commence until formal consent/assent has been received from the regulator.

**Note 4 – Application refused**

The letter issued regarding the licence application and its refusal will set out how an appeal against the decision can be made

**Note 5 – Commence works in line with identified risk and control measures and conditions of any licence**

Where wildlife has been identified, appropriate working methods must be developed and implemented by suitably qualified professionals to minimise the risk of harm, regardless of whether it is protected or not. Mitigation measures must be interrogated to ensure they are fit for purpose.

If works are being remobilised after 3 months or more, [BMC-SF-0001e Sales to Delivery Handover Checklist](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-114) must be completed again, ensuring that ecology risks are reviewed.

Work activities must be programmed with regard to the life cycle of protected species, including nesting birds, to first avoid and then minimise disturbance and to ensure compliance with legislation. See Ecology Calendar ([ENV-RM-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8807)).

If mitigation requirements are identified following ecological surveys, these must be followed or alternatives sought via your HSES Advisor and approved by an ecologist.

All ecological risks and control measures must be:

* Included in [PRM-TF-0001a Project Management Plan](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9011) by documenting activities that will impact on ecological features and how these activities will be managed i.e. the mitigation measures to be implemented
* Included in Work Package Plans and Task Briefing Sheets, as well as CEMPs
* Included in method statements
* Briefed to employees and subcontractors before work commences as part of project induction training. It must highlight the wildlife and habitat protection controls in place at relevant locations, and periodic refresher training must be carried out using toolbox talks on wildlife and habitat protection.

Details and information of ecological receptors must be included in the Emergency/Incident Response Plan and if required, a specific Ecological Management Plan must be produced.

Copies and requirements of licences must be available on site and complied with in full. Deviations from licence conditions must be reported as an environmental incident as per [HSES-PR-0005 Incident Reporting and Investigation](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8639).

Protected sites and species must be fenced off if required, and clearly demarcated as ecological exclusion zones prior to works starting. Ecological exclusion zones must be marked on site plans and communicated to employees and subcontractors. The type of demarcation and signage required will depend on the location of the exclusion zone and the reason for protection. Consideration must be given to the wording of any signage, for example to avoid bringing unwanted attention to the area e.g. badger sett.

If an ecological watching-brief is required on site this would normally be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist. Specially licenced ecologists may be required if working near protected species such as badgers, bats, white-clawed crayfish, dormice and great crested newts. The advice of ecological specialists and/or consultants must be followed at all times.

**Note 6 - Monitor performance of control measures and of compliance with conditions of any licence/s**

An inspection of any mitigation measures and controls such as barriers and reptile fences must be undertaken by the Management Environmental Representative (MER) and recorded on [ENV-TF-0004a Environmental Management Representative Inspection](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-10481).

If the control measures fail, the emergency arrangements set for the activity must be followed if needed. The work must be stopped and the risk assessment, control measures and compliance with any licence/s reviewed.

Environmental incidents must be reported as per [HSES-PR-0005 Incident Reporting and Investigation](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8639).

The regulator must be notified of any proposed changes to the methodology/mitigation measures which were agreed as part of the licence application process.

Injury or death to plants & wildlife

The injury or death of a protected species (plants & wildlife) must be reported to the regulator. When work is taking place within or adjacent to a protected site, the death or injury of plants & wildlife must be reported to the regulator regardless of whether the species is protected or not.

**Additional Information**

**Discovery of unknown or unexpected ecology**

In the event of a suspected protected species, unprotected species or an invasive or injurious species being discovered the following actions must be taken:

* Stop works in the area, as soon as safe to do so, and cordon off. Restrict access to the area until additional advice is obtained
* Contact the appointed ecologist or HSES Advisor for advice
* Identify methodology for dealing with the issue
* In the case of protected species and designated sites, the appropriate authority must also be informed after consultation with the ecologist
* Identify, discuss and agree measures required ensuring compliance with legislation, when works can be completed, and what should be included within the method statement. Agreement and discussions must be recorded and kept on file.
* Report any expected findings in line with [HSES-PR-0005 Incident Reporting and Investigation](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8639).

**European Protected Species**

European protected species are those species listed in Annex IV to the Habitats Directive and include:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Annex IV to the Habitats Directive** | | |
| Large blue butterfly (Maculinea arion) | Bats (all species) | Pool Frog (Rana lessonae) |
| Otter (Lutra lutra) | Sand lizard (Lacerta agilis) | Great Crested Newt (Triturus cristatus) |
| Smooth snake (Coronella austriaca) | Natterjack toad (Bufo calamita) | Wild cat (Felis silvestris) |

A full list of Annex IV species can be found [here](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-annex-iv-a-species).

**Invasive or Injurious Species**

Methods of work must be adopted that prevent the spread of invasive or injurious species and ensure that any waste is disposed of appropriately. If you encounter any invasive or injurious species stop works and contact your HSES Adviser.

Note: Although invasive or injurious weeds are not classed as hazardous/special waste their disposal routes are restricted and so they must not be mixed with other waste. The disposal location and/or waste broker must be notified of the weed type prior to collecting the waste/taking it to the disposal location.

Guidance on commonly found invasive or injurious species and how to manage them is provided in [ENV-RM-0021c Invasive and Injurious Species Handbook](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9519).

**Biosecurity**

Biosecurity is a set of measures put in place to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful organisms and invasive species that are a threat to other plants and animals. Where a risk has been identified through site surveys, biosecurity measures must be put in place.

Guidance on implementing biosecurity measures is provided in [ENV-RM-0021a Biosecurity Measures](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8812).

**Trees**

Trees are a vital part of our cities, towns and countryside landscapes and offer many benefits. Where work is taking place in close proximity to trees, appropriate mitigation measures must be put in place to prevent harm to them, including to their branches, foliage trunk and roots, regardless of whether or not they are protected. Trees must not be pruned/cut during the bird nesting season. If this is unavoidable the presence of nesting birds must be checked for prior to works on the tree commencing.

Detailed guidance is provided in [ENV-RM-0017a Tree and Hedgerow Protection](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8810).

**Hedgerow Management**

In England, it is a criminal offence to deliberately remove or otherwise destroy a ‘protected’ hedgerow without permission. A hedgerow will be protected if it is mature and over 20 metres in length, or connected at both ends to another hedgerow of any length. Hedgerows which mark the edge of a garden are not protected.

Where work is taking place in close proximity to hedgerows, appropriate mitigation measures must be put in place to prevent harm to them regardless of whether or not they are protected.

Detailed guidance is provided in [ENV-RM-0017a Tree and Hedgerow Protection](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8810).

All Cornish and Devon hedgerows are protected by local by-laws, and permission and advice is needed from the Local Planning Authority prior to the start of works. For further information see [ENV-TB-0017c Devon and Cornish Hedgerows](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8843).

In all cases, hedgerows must not be pruned/cut during the bird nesting season. If this is unavoidable the presence of nesting birds must be checked for prior to works on the hedge commencing. If nesting birds are present, no works may be carried out to the hedge. Hedgerows also provide a valuable habitat for invertebrates and small mammals (including dormice) and appropriate surveys must be carried out prior to undertaking any works on a hedge.

**Peat Management**

The effective management of peat soils is important for the following reasons:

* Significant carbon storage - Peat soils in Scotland contain almost 25 times as much carbon as all other plant life in the UK
* Peatlands are internationally important wildlife habitats
* Peatlands absorb atmospheric pollutants, improving water quality downstream, leading to productive fisheries and high quality drinking water
* Peatlands help with flood regulation

Peat habitats may need to be inspected during works. Inspections can be recorded using [ENV-SF-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-10143) Peat Management.

A peat management plan may be required when working on, or near, peat-based soils. This is normally in any one of the following situations;

* Client or ‘other’ stakeholder requirement
* Handling, movement or removal of more than 50m3 of peat
* On any site where there is a significant risk of peat slide or pollution from disturbed peat, or degradation of peat
* If the storage of peat is for longer than four months

If you think a peat management plan may be required for the project contact your HSES Advisor and, where appropriate, seek specialist environmental advice.

**Biodiversity Net Gain**

In 2016, IEMA, CIRIA and CIEEM published the UK industry’s first Good Practice Principles on Biodiversity Net Gain. They defined Biodiversity Net Gain as development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before, and as an approach whereby developers partner with local wildlife groups to support their priorities for nature. This means that Biodiversity Net Gain is not just outweighing losses of biodiversity with gains. It is about developers making a meaningful and long-term contribution to local priorities for conserving and enhancing nature.

Opportunities should be sought to create and reinstate landscape features that will provide a net gain in biodiversity in line with local, national or client Biodiversity Action Plans or similar. Where loss of biodiversity is a possible output of workplace activities, consideration should be given to eliminate, reduce or offset this. Further information can be found in [ENV-RM-0020a Biodiversity Net Gain](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8814).

**Insect and Rodent Control**

To control animals such as rats, wasps and cockroaches an appropriate qualified contractor must be used.

**Common Land and Village Greens**

Consent must be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to carry out any works that would prevent or impede access to common land or for works for the resurfacing of land. These works could include:

* Putting up new fences
* Erecting buildings
* Making ditches or banks
* Resurfacing the land
* Building new solid surfaced roads, paths or car parks

England

A [section 38 application form](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/application-form-for-consent-to-construct-works-on-common-land) must be completed and submitted to the [Planning Inspectorate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/carrying-out-works-on-common-land#contact) in order to carry out work which needs consent. Further information is available from [Common land and village greens](https://www.gov.uk/common-land-village-greens) and [Carrying out works on common land](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/carrying-out-works-on-common-land).

Wales

An application must be completed and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in Wales in order to carry out work which needs consent. Further information is available from [Common land consents: guidance](https://beta.gov.wales/common-land-consents-guidance) and [Common land, village greens and applications to work on](https://beta.gov.wales/land-management).

Scotland

The issue of common land was referred to The Scottish Land Commission for review in 2016. They should be contacted for further information:

[info@landcommission.gov.scot](mailto:info@landcommission.gov.scot)

0300 244 4452

[www.landcommission.gov.scot](http://www.landcommission.gov.scot)

**Further Information**

Supply Chain Sustainability School [Biodiversity Toolbox Talk (video)](https://www.supplychainschool.co.uk/uk/sustainability/construction/support/toolbox-talks.aspx)

UK Documentation

| **Reference** | **Type** | **Title** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [ENV-RM-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8807) | Reference Material | Ecology Calendar |
| [ENV-RM-0016c](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8808) | Reference Material | EcoCheck Assessment User Guide |
| [ENV-RM-0016e](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9518) | Reference Material | Protected Species Handbook |
| [ENV-TB-0016a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8836) | Toolbox Talk | Amphibians |
| [ENV-TB-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8837) | Toolbox Talk | Badgers |
| [ENV-TB-0016c](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8838) | Toolbox Talk | Bats |
| [ENV-TB-0016d](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8839) | Toolbox Talk | Birds |
| [ENV-TB-0016e](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8840) | Toolbox Talk | Dormice |
| [ENV-TB-0016f](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8841) | Toolbox Talk | Great Crested Newts |
| [ENV-TB-0016i](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8844) | Toolbox Talk | Otters |
| [ENV-TB-0016j](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8845) | Toolbox Talk | Reptiles |
| [ENV-TB-0016k](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8846) | Toolbox Talk | Water Voles |
| [ENV-TB-0016l](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8835) | Toolbox Talk | Wildcats |
| [ENV-TB-0016m](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9299) | Toolbox Talk | Stag Beetle |
| [ENV-TB-0016n](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9300) | Toolbox Talk | Harvest Mouse |
| [ENV-TB-0016o](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9301) | Toolbox Talk | Ecological and Biodiversity Assessment |
| [ENV-TB-0016p](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9302) | Toolbox Talk | Nesting Birds and Vegetation Clearance |
| [ENV-TB-0016q](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9303) | Toolbox Talk | Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) |
| [ENV-SF-0016a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-8825) | Standard Form | Ecology and Biodiversity Assessment Tool |
| [ENV-SF-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-10143) | Standard Form | Peat Inspection |
| [ENV-AD-0016a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-9670) | Advice Note | Water Vole and Water Vole Habitat – Police Investigation |
| [ENV-AD-0016b](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-10243) | Advice Note | Protected Sites and Species Permits |
| [ENV-AD-0016c](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-11154) | Advice Note | Ecology Calendar – Protected Species Planning |
| [ENV-AD-0016d](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-11155) | Advice Note | Managing Ecological Constraints |
| [ENV-AL-0016a](https://home360.balfourbeatty.com/ghoreferencecentre/Group%20BMS/_layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=2KHUWT73P6SE-1572-12892) | Alert | Wildlife Duty of Care - Trackways |