

What to do if you suspect that a European Protected Species is likely to be affected by a proposed development on National Trust land.

1 Survey

As early as possible in the project the project manager must establish the presence or absence of EPS (The table below lists the species most likely to be present in different habitats).

Ignorance is no defence. Check Biological Survey and other reports and records. If no one knows, arrange for an appropriate survey to be conducted. Ask your Regional, Northern Ireland or Wales Nature Conservation Adviser for help or contact the Nature Conservation Section of the Conservation Directorate.

Some survey needs are more obvious than others. Here is an obvious one: In building repairs, bats or their roosts could be present. The bats may or may not be known, and our database can be checked and bat surveys arranged. Ideally the project manager should have costed appropriate surveys in to the project. For new properties likely to hold bats (probably all) factor the budget for bat surveys into the acquisition cost.

Here are two less obvious ones: Construction of fishing platforms and clearing of ‘swims’ may ‘disturb’ floating-leaved water plantain; clearing trees and scrub from chalk downland may ‘disturb’ the dormouse population. Both may require Development Licences.

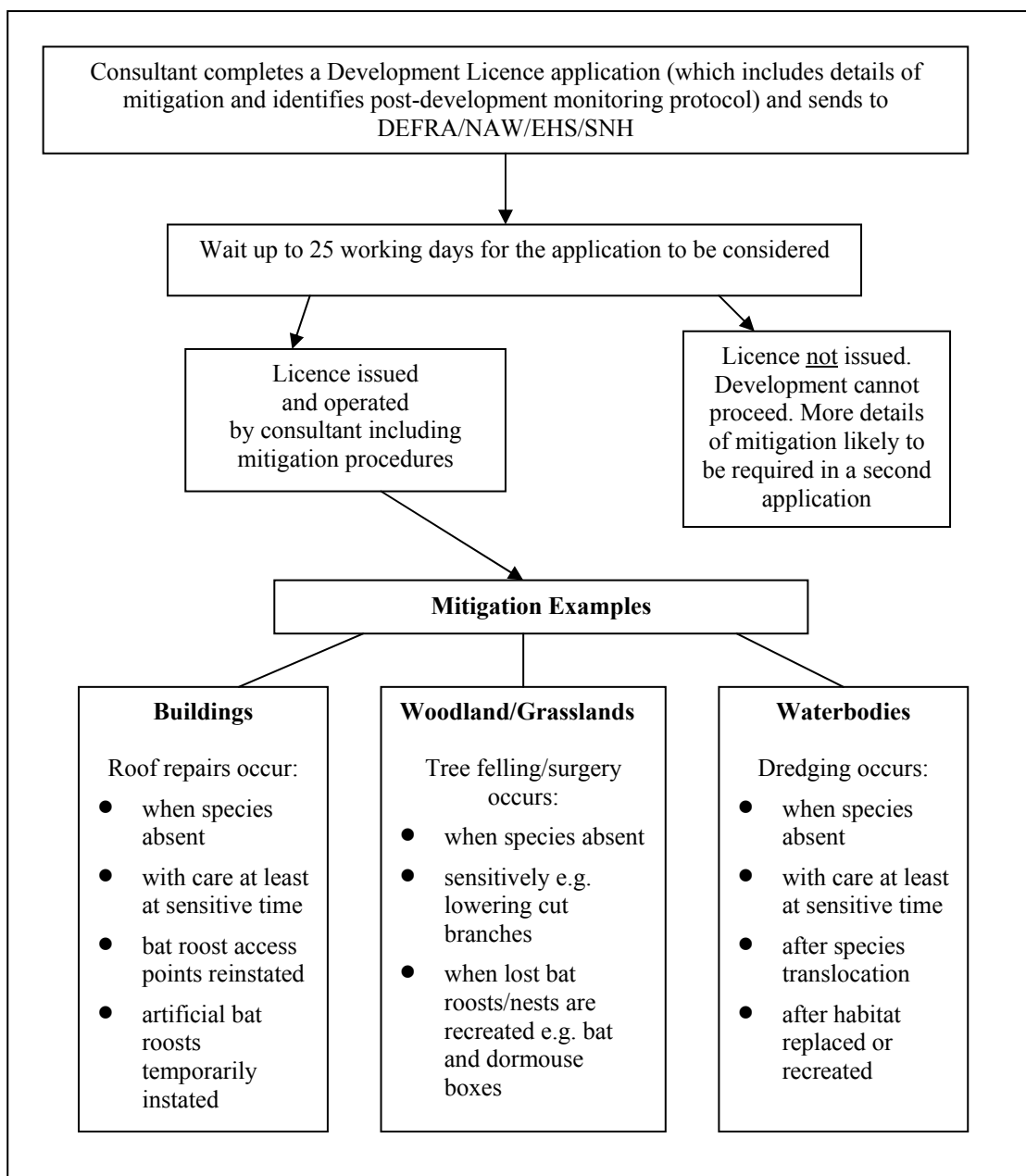
EPS most likely to be present in different habitats			
	Buildings	Woodlands/grasslands	Water bodies
Features affected (examples)	All built structures including underground ones.	Trees and scrub.	Freshwater and marine ponds, lakes, lagoons, rivers, canals, harbours, seashore.
Development activities that may affect	Repairs, restoration, installations, change of use.	Tree surgery, tree felling, scrub control.	Draining, dredging, clearing, repairs to or installations of banks,

EPS (examples)			locks, jetties.
EPS likely to be affected if present	Bats, great crested newt, otter, floating-leaved water plantain.	Bats, dormouse, great crested newt	Great crested newt, otter, natterjack toad, bats, floating-leaved water plantain; shore dock.
Others EPS potentially affected		Sand lizard, smooth snake, wild cat (Scotland), Killarney fern, large blue butterfly, early gentian, lady's slipper orchid.	Dolphins, porpoises, whales, sturgeon, marine turtles, slender naiad, fen orchid, creeping marshwort, yellow marsh saxifrage.

For information on the EPS that are most likely to be affected by 'development' on National Trust land see the [Information Sheets](#) link

2 If EPS are present, consult the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation (SNCO)

The SNCO should advise whether or not the consultee should apply for a Development Licence. If one is considered necessary (if in doubt quiz the SNCO further or consult a Nature Conservation Adviser), arrange to contract a consultant to prepare the licence application as follows:



¹ The Habitats Directive: 'EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora came into force on 21 May 1992. The central aim of the Directive is to conserve biodiversity across the area of the European Union through a coherent network of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). SACs together with 'Special Protection Areas' (SPAs) identified under the Birds Directive will create a network of sites described as 'Natura 2000'.

² The Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations:

- England: English Nature (EN), Northminster House, Peterborough PE1 1UA
Tel: 01733 455142 - the licensing service.
<http://www.english-nature.org.uk/science/licensing/>

- Wales: Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), Plas Penrhos, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2LQ Tel: 01248 385500 – ask for the licensing unit.
<http://www.ccw.gov.uk/generalinfo/index.cfm?Subject=Licensing&lang=en>
- Northern Ireland: Environment and Heritage Service (EHS), Calvert House, 23 Castle Place, Belfast BT1 1FY Tel: 028 9024 6502 – direct licensing.
<http://www.ehsni.gov.uk/>
- Scotland: Scottish Natural Heritage, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EH9 2AS
Tel: 0131 447 4784 or 2 Anderson Place, Edinburgh, EH6 5NP Tel: 0131 447 4784 and ask for the licensing unit
<http://www.snh.org.uk>

³ DEFRA: Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Wildlife Division, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN Tel: 0117 372 8000
<http://www.defra.gov.uk>

⁴ NAW: National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff CF99 1NA Tel: 029 2082 5111
<http://www.wales.gov.uk>