
DORMICE



Dormice live in woodlands and hedgerows across the southern counties of England and Wales where there is good continuity of arboreal habitat.

As they hibernate during the winter months, species surveys can be carried out between May and October. Surveys generally involve placing nest-boxes or sampling nest-tubes in suitable habitat, and checking for the presence of dormice or dormouse nests at regular intervals throughout the spring, summer and autumn.

Licenses may be granted to permit otherwise unlawful activities, but can only be given for certain purposes. Natural England issues licenses for scientific, educational and conservation purposes, which would include nest-box and nest-tube surveys of potential development sites. Natural England is able to issue site-specific licenses for the purposes of '*preserving public health or safety or imperative reasons of over-riding public interest*' (including development). However a licence cannot be granted unless it can be shown the action permitted will not have '*a detrimental effect on the favourable conservation status of dormice*'.

Our Wildlife Biologists can provide:

- ✓ Habitat assessments to determine the potential for dormice on a site
- ✓ Dormouse surveys and impact assessments.
- ✓ Population monitoring
- ✓ Natural England licence applications
- ✓ Mitigation and compensation strategy, implementation and monitoring
- ✓ Management plans for dormouse habitat
- ✓ Report production to support planning applications and Environmental Statements
- ✓ Consultation with interested parties and stakeholders



Dormouse nest in samolina nest-tube

Our Wildlife Biologists possess extensive experience and knowledge of dormice and development control, and hold Natural England licenses disturbance to survey for dormice. They are also members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEM) and the Royal Society of Biology and abide by their codes of professional conduct. By consulting with us at the early stages of your project we are able to identify potential constraints and assist in resolving any potential conflicts between development and these protected species.

Please refer to our survey calendar for optimal time periods for surveys. However if the timing falls out of the survey period please get in touch, as surveys and inspections could possibly still be carried out in a bid not to hold up development.



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