

WATER VOLES



Water voles have historically been a widespread species occurring in rivers, ditches, lakes and occasionally ponds and canals across England, Wales and Scotland. This species has been in decline since 1900, with an accelerated rate of decline since 1980.

There is no licence available to enable the removal of water vole habitat for the purposes of development or management; however water voles can often be accommodated as part of a development scheme or maintenance schedules, and in exceptional cases may be translocated away from affected areas.

Our Wildlife Biologists can provide:

- ✓ **Habitat Assessments**
- ✓ **Site Surveys to determine the presence/likely absence of water voles**
- ✓ **Water Vole population assessments**
- ✓ **Consultation with stakeholders and interested parties**
- ✓ **Mitigation and compensation strategy and implementation**
- ✓ **Management plans for water vole habitat**
- ✓ **Report production to support planning applications and Environmental Statements**



Although a licence is not required to survey for water voles, knowledge, skills and experience are essential. Our Wildlife Biologists possess extensive experience and knowledge of protected species and development control, and are members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) 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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