
REPTILES



All species of reptile in the UK are protected under UK or European law. Licenses may be granted to permit otherwise unlawful activities. A licence is not required to carry out surveys or disturb our common species of reptiles which are slow worm, grass snake, adder and common lizard; however, a class licence is required from Natural England to carry out surveys for sand lizard or smooth snake.

Natural England issues licenses for scientific, educational and conservation purposes, which would include surveys of potential development sites for these two rare species of reptile- Sand Lizard and Smooth Snake. Natural England is also 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 conservation status of smooth snakes or sand lizards'*.

Our Ecologists can provide:

- ✓ Site surveys and habitat appraisal
- ✓ Species surveys and population size class assessment
- ✓ Mitigation and compensation strategy and implementation
- ✓ Impact Assessment
- ✓ Consultation with stakeholders and interested parties
- ✓ Species monitoring
- ✓ Natural England class licence applications
- ✓ Report production to support planning applications and Environmental Statements



Our Ecologists possess extensive experience and knowledge of protected species and development control, including applying for Natural England Class licences and implementing mitigation strategies. They are also members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and the Royal Society of Biology and abide by their code 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.



ELMAW Consulting
Consultant Ecologists
& Wildlife Managers