



Otter ecology and survey

This introductory course will provide you with the knowledge and skills to undertake otter surveys and provide reports in accordance with best practice guidance.

Attendees should be comfortable with walking outdoors on rough terrain, as the course will include a visit to a watercourse used by otters.

COURSE CONTENT

- Legislation/protection and conservation priorities
- Otter ecology
- Identifying field signs and potential confusion with other species
- Assessing habitat potential for otters
- Survey methods, including identification of field signs, use of trail-cams, endoscopes, eDNA, infra-red and thermal imaging technologies.
- Biosecurity precautions and procedures
- Reporting survey results
- Health and safety considerations

Attendees must be fit and able to walk across rough terrain, and require appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear.

A course certificate will be issued following completion of a test



Otters and development inc. mitigation focusing on highway projects

This advanced course is aimed at people who have attended our 'Otter ecology and survey' course or are already experienced in undertaking otter surveys and have a good understanding of otter ecology.

Following attendance, you should be able to design appropriate survey and mitigation strategies and successfully apply for otter mitigation licences.

COURSE CONTENT

- Legislation, protection and planning considerations
- Impacts of development proposals on otters
- Licensing
- Survey requirements
- Mitigation techniques, including habitat enhancement, replacement holt construction, fencing from roads and fisheries, and providing safe crossings for otters under roads
- Case study reviews, including good and bad practice

A course certificate will be issued following completion of a test.