



Ornithological Surveys

MKA Ecology has an extensive track record in carrying out the wide range of ornithological surveys to assess the potential impacts of a variety of developments from small barn conversions through to large scale wind energy projects.

MKA Ecology ornithological staff hold many years experience in undertaking a comprehensive suite of ornithological survey techniques including Common Bird Census, Vantage Point watches, winter bird surveys, inter-tidal surveys as well as a host of species-specific techniques.

Case study: Proposed wind energy development, Powys

MKA Ecology was commissioned to carry out ecological assessment of the potential impacts of a proposed multi-turbine wind energy development in Powys, Wales.

In order to assess the potential impacts on bird species MKA Ecology undertook breeding and wintering bird surveys together with Vantage Point watch surveys.



The proposed wind energy site in Powys, Wales

A Common Bird Census was undertaken between March and June. This was followed up by six wintering birds visits during October through to March.

A series of Vantage Point watch surveys were also carried out throughout the year to assess the potential impact on birds using the airspace above the site.

Hen Harrier is a key species breeding in an adjacent SPA (Special Protected Area) and, as such, was an important target species in the VP watch surveys, together with Red Kite and Merlin.



A male Hen Harrier

The breeding and wintering surveys uncovered other key species such as Crossbill which is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act.



A male Crossbill