



Wind energy projects

MKA Ecology is experienced in carrying out the wide range of surveys required for proposed wind energy developments. This includes appropriate desk studies, habitat evaluation, flightline and breeding bird surveys, bat activity and 'at height' surveys, badger, reptile and Great Crested Newt surveys. It can also include winter bird, hedgerow, otter and water voles surveys and producing Environmental Statement chapters.

Case studies: Seven Trent Water

MKA Ecology was commissioned to carry out ecological assessments for five separate wind energy projects for Seven Trent Water.



One of the met-masts that a bat detector was attached to for 'at height' surveys.

A full desk study and field survey of each site was conducted to identify the potential presence of protected species and to map the vegetation using the standard Phase 1 habitat survey methodology.

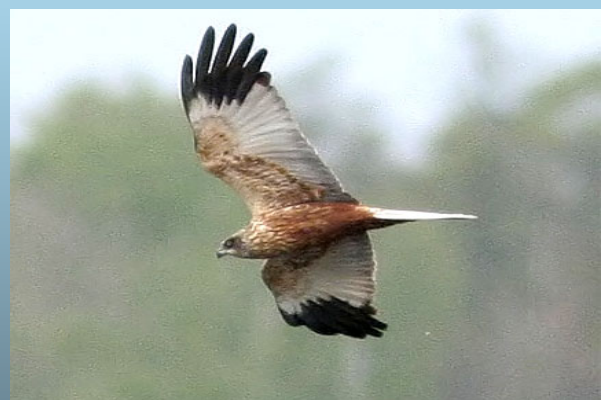
Timetables were drawn up to ensure that the full range of protected species surveys required for each site were carried out.

Our ornithologists have widespread survey experience and carried out breeding bird and flightline surveys that provided data for collision risk analysis for impact assessment.

For three of the sites, MKA Ecology was required to write the ornithological chapter for the Environmental Statements.

The full range of bat surveys were carried out at each site including activity, building, tree and 'at height' surveys. MKA is one of the few consultancies capable of undertaking bat surveys at altitude to critically evaluate whether bat activity is occurring at the height of the proposed turbine blade. These surveys allow informed impact assessment to be undertaken.

Using our expertise in protected species we were also able to offer mitigation advice and how to enhance the developments to encourage wildlife.



Marsh Harriers are one of the species targeted during surveys at potential wind energy sites.