

Case study: M25 Widening Scheme – Section 1

- This project involved the proposed widening of 27km of the M25 between Junctions 16 and 22
- MKA Ecology were commissioned by Hyder Consulting to undertake breeding bird surveys and great crested newt (GCN) surveys within a 500m corridor of the proposed works.
- The ornithological value of sites was assessed on four criteria: Density, Diversity, Rarity and Community and ranked in order of importance.
- Point count analysis was used to assess the ornithological importance of woodland areas whilst transects were used in more open areas.
- Targeted surveys were undertaken for protected and important bird species including, barn owl, nightjar, quail and black redstart.
- A detailed report was produced illustrating key ornithological areas, enabling efficient targeting of mitigation measures.

MKA Ecology

Consultant Ecologists

The Holt, 7 The Sidings,
Shepreth, SG8 6PZ
01763 262211
www.mkaecology.co.uk
Email: info@mkaecology.co.uk



- Presence/absence and relative abundance surveys for GCN's were conducted for 107 ponds falling within the 500m survey corridor.



Great crested newt.

- Ponds locations and survey results were recorded using GPS recorder to allow digital maps of density and distribution to be produced.
- Mitigation proposals were designed to ensure that existing populations of GCN would not be adversely affected by the proposed development

