

Ecology

Arcus provides a range of ecological and ornithological services and works closely with clients to deliver development-focused solutions. Our ecologists are members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, hold relevant survey licences, and are able to provide a range of specialist services.

Site Surveys and Services

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisals
- Habitat and Vegetation Surveys (e.g. Phase 1, NVC)
- Protected Species Surveys (e.g. bats, great crested newt, water vole)
- Ornithology Surveys (Terrestrial, Coastal, Marine)
- Pre- and Post-Construction Monitoring Surveys
- Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW)

Reports and Plans

- Habitat Management Plans
- Protected Species Mitigation and Licensing
- Invasive Species Management Plans
- Code for Sustainable Homes and BREEAM Assessments
- Planning Applications

Expert Services

- Ecological and Environmental Impact Assessment (EclA and EIA)
- Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)
- Public Inquiry and Expert Witness
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Ecological Research
- Peer Review

Our ecologists engage with other in-house disciplines, such as our Planning and Hydrology teams, and with clients and stakeholders to develop approaches that are tailored to individual projects. Our approach balances the competing demands on a project to provide solutions that are ecologically meaningful, legally compliant, and commercially viable.



Selected projects

Coal Clough Wind Farm, Lancashire

Arcus provided a full life-cycle of services for this major wind farm and associated bypass road, including baseline surveys, EIA/planning support, discharge of planning conditions, Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW), and Natural England-licenced Great Crested Newt mitigation.

Housing Developments, York

Arcus has carried out Extended Phase 1 habitat surveys to support planning applications for several housing developments around York. Our ecologists were also able to use their survey data and experience to help clients maximise Code for Sustainable Homes credits.

Beinneun Wind Farm, Highlands

Arcus carried out detailed ecological and ornithological surveys and advised on the design of this large-scale wind farm to avoid highly sensitive habitats, an approach that was commended by Scottish Natural Heritage.

Exploratory Boreholes, Northern England

Arcus has provided ecological support for major borehole appraisals throughout northern England including habitat and protected species surveys, as well as Habitat Regulations Appraisals, to support planning applications and protected species mitigation prior to development.

Emberton Solar Park, Milton Keynes

Arcus provided an Extended Phase 1 habitat survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment in support of a planning application for a large-scale solar park. Our services also included the development of a Biodiversity and Landscape Management Plan, in consultation with the LPA, covering the construction and operation of the development.

Beatrice Grid Connection, Moray

Arcus undertook habitat and protected species surveys and prepared the Ecological Impact Assessment of the Environmental Statement for the 20km onshore grid connection of the Beatrice offshore wind farm.

