

Cambridge Ecology and Windfarms

In ecological terms key issues for windfarm developments relate to the identification, avoidance and/or mitigation of adverse impacts on valued ecological receptors.

Cambridge Ecology addresses these issues on behalf of its clients allowing the sustainable delivery of renewable energy generation projects, which also deliver measurable and long lasting benefits to biodiversity.

Cambridge Ecology has undertaken a number of ecological surveys and assessments for windfarm developments throughout the UK.



Cambridge Ecology

Ecological Survey and Management Consultants

Cambridge Ecology provides the following services and capabilities to the renewable energy industry:



▲ Red Kite - Milvus milvus. The red kite is afforded the highest degree of legal protection under the Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Once critically endangered and confined to a population in Wales, the species is now on the road to recovery through a successful UK wide re-introduction scheme. As with other birds of prey this species is vulnerable to turbine collision if the windfarm is sited insensitively.



▲ Integrated digital GIS mapping of target species flightlines enables the results of vantage point surveys to be analysed and interpreted clearly and effectively.



A - General Ecology

- Protected species surveys. Phase 1 habitat surveys.
- ▶ EU and UK legislative compliance advice
- ▶ Stakeholder and decision-maker negotiation.
- ► Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) using industry standard methodologies.
- Mitigation and habitat creation planning and design.

B - Specialist Ornithology Expertise

Cambridge Ecology is familiar with the complex issues associated with windfarms and ornithology. The team has gained experience of a range of skills required in this specialist area. These include:

- Use of various industry standard bird surveys methods such as Vantage Point Surveys.
- Development of remote sensing techniques e.g. using infrared-camera technology.
- Undertaking Ornithology Impact Assessments (OIA) using industry standard methodologies.
- Development and supervision of mitigation and habitat creation measures including collision avoidance measures.
- Development and review of post-construction monitoring methods.
- Undertaking independent review audits of ornithology chapters in Environmental Statements submitted to Scottish Natural Heritage.

C - Specialist data analysis

- Ecological survey data analysis.
- Spatial and temporal distributional analysis.
- Ornithological collision risk modelling
- Flexible management planning and windfarm layout design.

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◀ White-fronted Geese - Anser albifrons - on migration a species at risk from turbine collision.