

Heritage Environmental Ltd: Specialist Bat Surveys

Tree Climbing Surveys



Heritage Environmental Ltd (HEL) have in-house capability to undertake tree climbing assessments for bats. This is considered the most robust method to survey trees for bat roosts, and is very cost effective. Dave Dowse, Pete Etheridge and Jenny Wilson have all passed the NPTC Level 2 *Certificate of Competence to Climb Trees and Perform Aerial Rescue*. Jenny

Wilson is also a Scottish Natural Heritage Licensed Bat Worker.

Endoscope

A high quality, 3 m long steerable endoscope with digital photographic and video capability is used for the inspection of tree and other cavities. This equipment is also available for hire on request.

Aerial Bat Surveys of Proposed Windfarms

HEL has the capability to undertake aerial surveys of proposed windfarms to assess impacts of collision and barotrauma on bats. A 3.5 m long, helium-filled blimp (non-rigid airship) has been modified to fly with an Anabat bat detector to allow remote recording of bat echolocation at heights up to 60m above ground. Conventional bat surveys from the ground using bat detectors are capable of recording only c.30 m above the ground, which is outwith the sweep of commercial turbines.

For further information on HEL's specialist bat survey capability or to discuss a specific project requiring bat surveys please contact: Dave Dowse (Senior Ecologist) or Jenny Wilson (Consultant Ecologist) on 01764 660067.