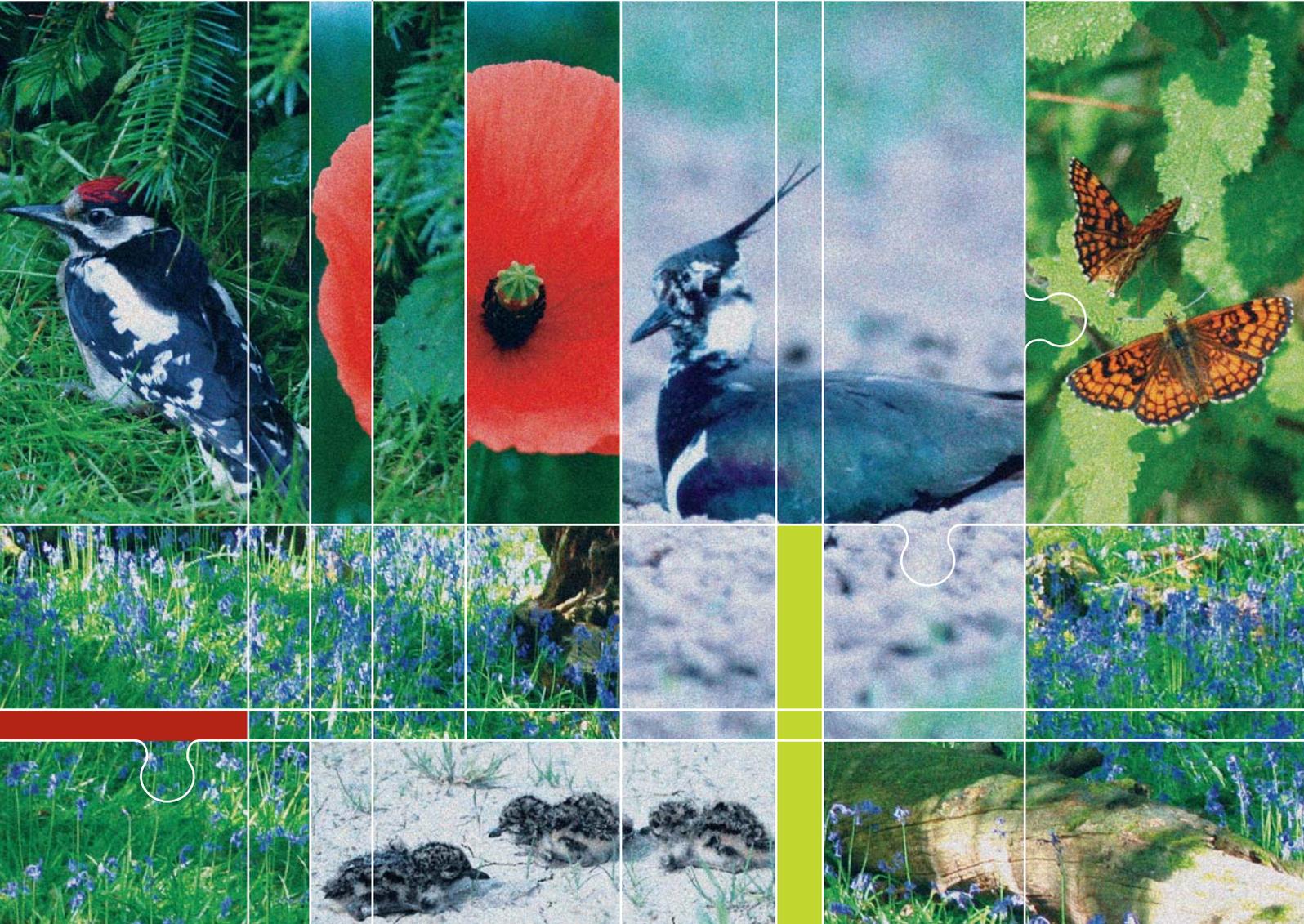


ecology



CAPITA SYMONDS

successful people, projects and performance

a complete ecology service

Capita Symonds Blackburn offers a comprehensive range of ecological services to private, public and voluntary sectors. We work with clients to offer ecological advice and solutions at all stages of a project and tailor our services to meet their needs.

As environmental legislation and enforcement become ever more stringent and public concern about the natural environment grows, ecological survey, assessment and protection of the country's biodiversity is an increasingly critical stage in the planning and development process. This input aids the project development process to ensure compliance with current environmental legislation and planning policies.

We offer a range of ecology surveys, from the initial extended phase 1 habitat surveys to the more detailed habitat and protected species surveys. These surveys are used to inform the ecological constraints and opportunities within a project and to ultimately design and successfully implement and monitor mitigation and compensation measures. Being part of a multidisciplinary property and infrastructure consultancy enables us to integrate ecological considerations more effectively into the overall design process.

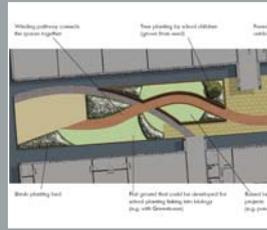
Ecological services include:

- extended phase 1 and other habitat surveys
- protected species surveys
- site appraisals and environmental assessments, including BREEAM
- scoping, desk studies & consultations
- licence applications
- GPS/GIS mapping
- management plan production
- mitigation and compensation scheme design
- research and monitoring

CAPITA SYMONDS

Design, planning and feasibility studies

We provide ecological advice in relation to feasibility and design as an integral part of the planning process. We conduct detailed ecological surveys and advise on protected species, mitigation and enhancement of site biodiversity. We have been involved in over 30 Building Schools for the Future projects.



BRE Environmental Assessment (BREEAM) process

BREEAM credits can be gained through assessment of a development's impact on land use and ecology. We assess the site ecology and advise on enhancing and protecting its ecological value, and can provide recommendations for increasing the ecological value and species-richness of the site.

Surveys

We survey and advise on protected species including bats, amphibians, reptiles, water voles, badgers and birds. We offer phase 1 and phase 2 (NVC) habitat surveys, specific botanical and tree surveys, protected hedgerows surveys in accordance with the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, and can survey habitats for wildlife suitability.



Habitat management, creation and enhancement

Our advice on habitat mitigation and enhancement meets current legislation and promotes sustainable development. We have advised on habitat reinstatement in the Lake District National Park, habitat creation and enhancement as part of the BREEAM process and mitigation and compensation on BSF projects.

Invasive species

We hold particular experience in surveying urban and disturbed sites. We survey for, and identify, invasive species and advise on control measures, relevant legislation, best practice and sustainable solutions on site.



Birds

We offer a comprehensive surveying and monitoring service. We can provide advice on bird habitat assessment and conservation management, we are able to conduct bird diversity and bird census surveys and can undertake advanced statistical analyses of data and produce scientific reports.

Environment and specialist advisory service

From our Blackburn office we offer an integrated ecological, public rights of way and countryside management approach. Services include moorland restoration, upland erosion control, multi-user routes design and implementation and management of the public rights of way network.



Ecological Impact Assessments

Our EIAs include scoping and desk studies, consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees, design and implementation of habitat and species-specific surveys and the subsequent interpretation of information and the reporting of mitigation, compensation and enhancement.

Licence application

Licences may be required if a proposed activity is likely to have an impact on a European protected species, or the protected habitat of certain species, such as bats (all bat species), great crested newts and water voles. We can advise on licence requirements and assist with the preparation of licence applications prior to any works.

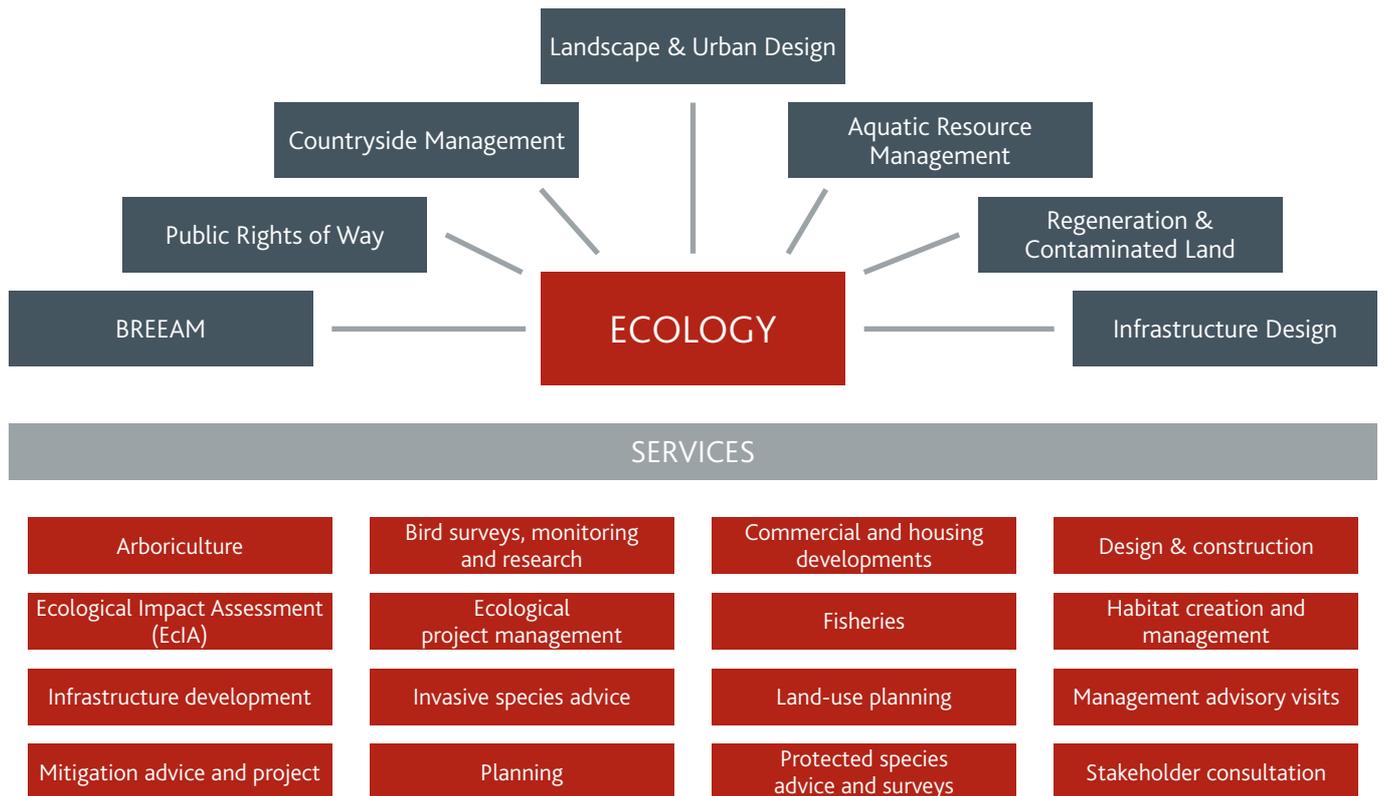


GPS/GIS mapping

GPS technology is used to accurately map vegetation and species locations on the ground; the data collected is then inputted into GIS programmes and can be used to inform further surveys as well as mitigation and compensation designs and proposals.

successful people, projects and performance

Summary of Capita Symonds, Blackburn ecology capabilities



www.capitasymonds.co.uk/ecology

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