



The Mammal Society is the only organisation solely dedicated to the study and conservation of all British mammals and is recognised as the leading national provider of quality mammal training.

TRAINING COURSES 2006

- Dormice and Development
- Dormouse Ecology and Conservation
- Mammal Identification
- Mammal Ecology and Conservation
- Small Mammal Ecology and Survey Techniques
- Radio Tracking Mammals
- Management for Riparian Mammals
- Planning for Protected Species

T: 020 7350 2200





Welcome

Welcome to The Mammal Society's Training Courses 2006 brochure, in this our tenth year of running courses!

The range of courses on offer reflects the diversity of people we train; with introductory courses for people with a general interest, specific skills-based courses for those looking to further their repertoire of mammal-studying techniques, and focused courses tailored to those already working in conservation - be it through consultancies or in planning departments of councils.

In the pages that follow we've summarised the skills and knowledge that participants can expect to acquire by attending any given course. Anyone may attend any course - but we've identified groups that might particularly benefit from each course (see labels above each course title). If you would like more information on any of our courses, do please call The Mammal Society office - we will be delighted to help you find a course that is right for you!

Dates and venues for all courses are listed in the pull-out 'Courses Listing 2006'.



Booking

To book any course, use the pull out booking form in the centre of this brochure, or call 020 7350 2200 today.

All our courses are run on a not-for-profit basis, and the prices reflect the true cost of running the courses. To find out more about supporting The Mammal Society's Training Courses please contact training@mammal.org.uk

Top: Water vole
Bottom: Wild cat
Right: Weasel
Front cover: Otter, Red deer, Training session

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Specifically for consultants

Dormice and Development

Environmental consultants are increasingly aware of the need to acquaint themselves with legislation and practical techniques to detect and protect dormice in potential development sites. The *Dormice and Development* course was created specifically to meet this need.

Course participants will learn the essentials of dormouse ecology – necessary to identify which habitat types are most likely to hold dormice – as well as how to survey for this protected species.

The course covers what must happen if dormice are found on a site – from licence requirements, to suitable mitigations, to on-going monitoring. Participants will also discuss and work through case studies of real and potential development scenarios

Note: This is a classroom based course with no outdoor work



DORMOUSE COURSES



Dormice and Development Course Fee: £130
Discounts available

Suitable for beginners and consultants

Dormouse Ecology and Conservation



Now in its sixth year, the *Dormouse Ecology and Conservation* course is recognised as the definitive course on dormouse ecology and handling.

Equally suited to those with a general interest in these fascinating creatures, and to those working towards their Dormouse Handling Licence (issued by English Nature/CCW).

This course includes a visit to check dormouse nestboxes – with an opportunity to handle dormice under supervision, and with guidance on best practise.

Please note that English Nature & CCW both require TWO (already licenced) referees for any application for a Dormouse Handling licence. The trainer on the Dormouse Ecology and Conservation course is usually happy to provide a reference for any participant, but you will need to serve an apprenticeship with another licensed dormouse handler before applying for your own licence.

Dormouse Ecology and Conservation Course
Fees: Individuals: £80, Organisations: £115
Discounts available

Top: Dormouse tube in-situ

Middle: Dormouse

Bottom left: Torpid dormouse in the hand

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Mammal Identification



The *Mammal Identification* course is our longest running course and is recognised as an excellent introduction to identification techniques.

This course will give you the skills needed to identify all Britain and Ireland's land mammals – be it from sightings, calls or field signs (tracks, droppings, feeding remains).

You will be taught best practise in live trapping of small mammals – with opportunities to set and check traps, as well as weighing, sexing and identifying captures.

Mammal Identification Course Fees:
Residential: Individual: £185,
Organisation: £215
Non-Residential: Individual: £130,
Organisation: £160
Discounts available

One of the most popular aspects of this course is learning to analyse owl pellets – you will receive your own owl pellet to dissect under a microscope and, with guidance, from the contents you will be able to identify all the small mammals 'your' owl had for dinner!

The results from the live trapping and the owl pellet dissection are fed back to the local County Mammal Recorder and the National Owl Pellet Survey – so just by taking part in this course, you are contributing to national mammal records!

Top: 'Scruffing' a trap capture
Right: Microscope work
Bottom: Fox



Field Studies Council (FSC)



The Mammal Society is pleased to work in partnership with The Field Studies Council. Many of our courses are held at FSC centres across the UK, and we jointly accredit the Certificate in Basic Mammal Identification for the Mammal Identification courses. The FSC run additional courses on everything from insects to ferns.

For an FSC brochure, phone 0845 345 4071 or visit their website www.field-studies-council.org

Ideal for beginners

Mammal Ecology and Conservation

In response to requests from members and past course participants, we developed the *Mammal Ecology and Conservation* course to provide an opportunity for people to improve their mammal field skills.

Between three and five species (or species-groups) are selected for each course, tailoring the course to the local area. For example, in Southern England you might expect to learn about the nocturnal habits of dormice or visit a horseshoe bat roost, while in Scotland you might be searching forest floors for the feeding remains of red squirrels or looking for otter spraints along a riverside.



Mammal Ecology & Conservation Course Fees:

**Residential: Individual: £205,
Organisation: £240**

**Non-Residential: Individual: £150,
Organisation: £185**

Discounts available

As well as plenty of field trips, the course will enable you to find out more about the ecology and conservation of some of our best loved and most protected species.

To find out which species are covered at your preferred venue/date, please contact the Training Officer on 020 7350 2200

This course has a large outdoor component, which includes evening activities (for example: bat walks or badger watching). It is, therefore,

recommended that all course

attendees are fit and

healthy – and bring suitable

outdoor clothing.



Top: Water vole
Top right: Red squirrel
Right: Checking dormouse boxes
Left: Badger
Bottom: Badger sett (disused)



Please note, photographs taken on all training courses may be used in future publicity and training materials.

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TECHNICAL COURSES

Small Mammal Ecology

Suitable for all mammal workers

& Survey Techniques



Small Mammal Ecology & Survey Techniques

Course Fees:

Individuals: £85, Organisations: £120

Discounts available

The *Small Mammal Ecology and Survey Techniques* course is specifically aimed at people who know the principles of live trapping but wish to take their knowledge further.

This course will be of particular benefit to anyone who is considering designing a survey to establish which small mammals are in their area, or to those who have already done some surveying but wish to check they're collecting the most appropriate data. We will also cover how to analyse collected data.

The course includes small mammal identification and a practise session on live trapping/ handling, with consideration of conservation issues and relevant legislation for small mammals. Group discussion is encouraged, particularly for classroom activities and the survey case study.

Top: Weighing a small mammal

Right: Radio tracking using VHF

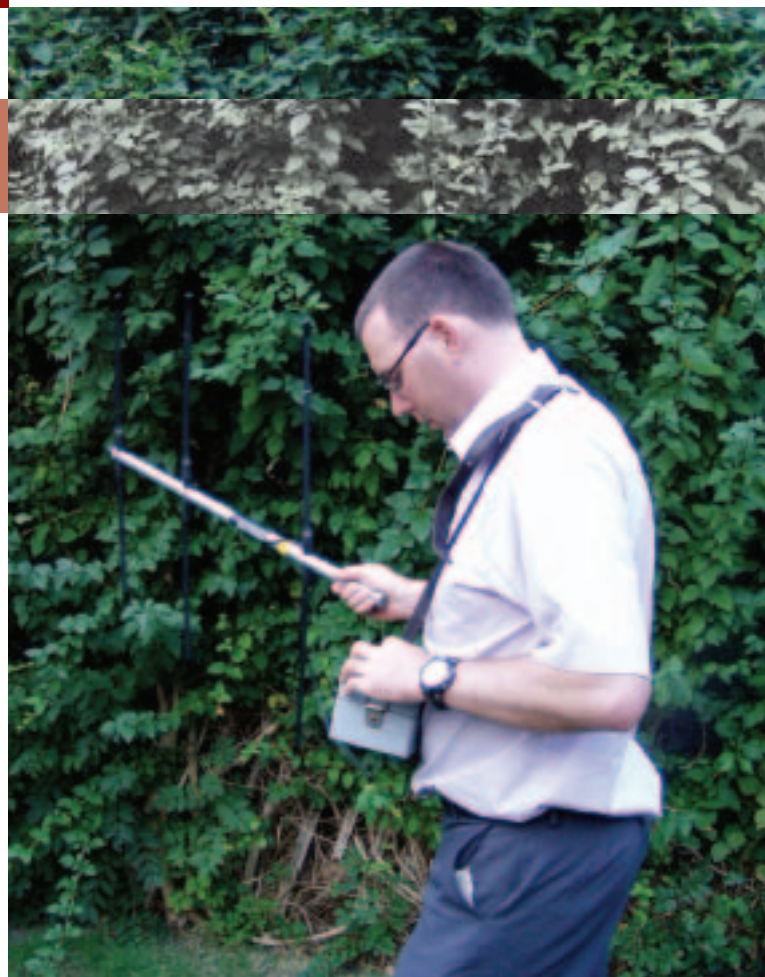
Suitable for researchers & consultants

Radio Tracking

Building on the success of last years' *Radio Tracking Mammals* course, we have now teamed up with Biotrack to offer this comprehensive course on the use of modern technology for remotely monitoring animals movements.

The *Radio Tracking* course covers the range of techniques available – such as the use of GPS and mobile phone technology – and looks at the advantages/disadvantages of each, but will concentrate on the practicalities of using VHF tracking for wild mammals.

Two trainers will take participants through the process of designing radio tracking studies, from selecting appropriate methods for the study species, to practicalities of map reading to reviewing the project - considering legal requirements and welfare issues along the way. The afternoon is dedicated to using VHF radio tracking equipment for locating collars, with every participant gaining valuable experience under guidance from our tutors.



Radio Tracking Course Fees:

Individuals: £120, Organisations: £150

Discounts available



The *Radio Tracking* course is run in association with Biotrack – the leading provider of biotelemetry equipment in the UK. Visit www.biotrack.co.uk or call 01929 552992 for information and advice on all types of equipment.

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Tailored for consultants

Management for Riparian Mammals

Riparian, or river-dwelling, mammals pose their own unique set of problems for consultants – not only are they harder to get to (thanks to the wet stuff!) and even more elusive than their land-dwelling counterparts, there is also the legal status of each species and how they interact to get to grips with.

This year we will be piloting a course which will help consultants understand this group of species, and the increasingly important legislation that covers them.

The course will involve plenty of *in-situ* practical work on spotting field signs, and cover the use of survey equipment and mitigation techniques.

Contact the Training Officer on 020 7350 2200 to be kept informed of course developments.

Tailored for planners

Planning for Protected Species



Combining the expertise of The Mammal Society and the Bat Conservation Trust, we have developed this course specifically for land-use planners to enable them to deal with protected species in their day-to-day role. Includes: how to recognise situations where surveys are needed and what to do when legislation and planning come into conflict. This course is a 'must' for all planners.

Contact 020 7350 2200 OR 0845 1300 228 for further information, and the latest dates.

Top: Visiting riparian habitat Right: Grey long-eared bat Below: Polecat

Tailored for YOU

In-house Courses

We can offer any of our courses – or even a hybrid of several - as an 'in-house' course.

Such courses are especially suited to organisations with a number of staff or volunteers to train, and because we come to you, you can select the most convenient location and dates for your chosen course.

Contact the Training Officer on 020 7350 2200 to discuss your requirements.



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The Mammal Society Trainers

Our trainers are many and varied, all chosen for their exceptional knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm. Each has experience directly relevant to the courses they teach, and they are always willing to discuss participants' own projects or study species during the course breaks.

Right: Trainer Rachel Ansell

Below: Hallsannary Field Centre

Course Venues



Our courses run in various venues across the UK and Ireland (see map).

We choose centres for their location and proximity to suitable field sites.

We are always looking for new venues - particularly in areas we cannot currently run courses (due to lack of a venue!). If you think your location is under-represented in our course programme and know of a suitable venue, we'd love to hear from you!

Mammal Photos by Dot Lines (www.dotlinesphotography.com), Rollin Verlinde (www.vildaphoto.net) and Andrew Parkinson. Other photos by: C Bryant, P Carter, G Dower, A Gall, S Gardner, M Woods, FSC Kindrogan. Illustrations by Gayle Dower Design: Sally Geeve (geeve@blueyonder.co.uk) Printing SP Press (sppress@btconnect.com)



SCOTLAND

Fairburn (1)
Kindrogan (2)
Mabie Forest (3)

ENGLAND

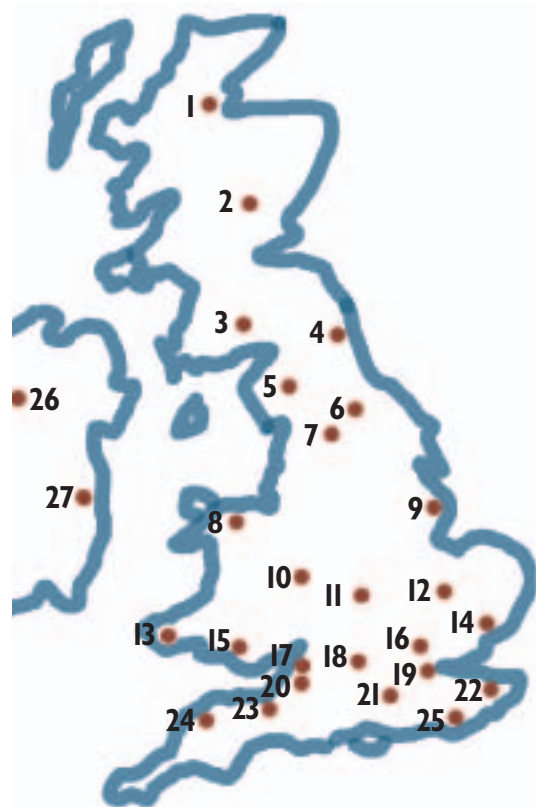
Blencathra (5)
Bramley Frith (18)
Bristol (Avon) (17)
Cheddar (20)
Conkers (11)
Epping Forest (16)
Flatford Mill (14)
Foxglove Covert (6)
Gibraltar Point (9)
Hallsannary (24)
High Elms (19)
Juniper Hall (21)
Malham Tarn (7)
Mallydams (25)
Nettlecombe (23)
Northumberland (4)
Preston Montford (10)
Wicken Fen (12)
Wildwood (22)

WALES

Dale Fort (13)
Rhyd y Creuau (8)
Tondur (15)

IRELAND

Derrygonnelly (26)
Trinity (Dublin) (27)



Contact details



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Mammal
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The Mammal Society is the only organisation solely dedicated to the study and conservation of all British mammals. To find out more about membership of The Mammal Society, details of your Local Mammal Group, the books we sell and our surveys and monitoring projects please telephone 020 7350 2200 or visit www.mammal.org.uk