



Environmental Records
Information Centre
North East

Services for Ecological Consultants

Accessing environmental data
for the North East of England



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About ERIC North East



Who is ERIC North East?

The Environmental Records Information Centre (ERIC) North East collates and shares biodiversity and geodiversity information for the North East of England to help people make sound decisions about land management, development planning and nature conservation work.

We are hosted by Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums based at the Great North Museum: Hancock and are part of a national network of local records centres.

Our data holdings

We collect data from professional and volunteer surveyors and currently hold over 2.5 million species records.

We can provide you with data on species, habitats and wildlife sites in Northumberland, County Durham, Tyne & Wear and the Tees Valley, including:

- statutory and non-statutory nature conservation site boundaries
- records for legally protected species and notable species
- records for other species
- information on habitats
- descriptions of local wildlife sites (not available for all areas)

Please visit our website to find out more about our data holdings and to see example products.

How accurate are the data?

Data held by ERIC North East are verified by an appropriate local or regional expert. Information on the verification status of each record is provided to all data users.

Accessing Information

How do I request data?

To request data to inform your work, please visit our website and complete our Data Request Form. Once you have accepted our quote, we will send you the results of your search within 5 working days.

Does ERIC North East charge for its services?

No charge is made for the data itself, however we do charge an hourly rate of £80 + VAT to cover administration and data handling costs. These include time spent collating, processing and managing data, as well as supplying a high quality data service to end users.

Service Level Agreements

If you are planning on using our services regularly over the course of a year, we offer a 'bulk-buy' deal for consultants. You can pay for our time in advance (minimum purchase 10 hours), saving 10% on our usual hourly rate. As well as being cost-effective, such an arrangement can also help you save on administration time.



www.northeastwildlife.co.uk

Why do I need to access environmental data?

Up to date environmental data should be sought to ensure compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Biodiversity Code of Practice for Planning and Development (BS42020) best practice. In addition, the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)'s 'Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal' state that an ecological report should include "a desk study to identify notable or protected sites, habitats or species potentially affected by the proposal under consideration".

Why use data from ERIC North East?

Commercial organisations and members of the public may refer to the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway for wildlife data and designated site information for their own private use. Environmental consultants cannot use NBN Gateway data in ecology reports for planning applications unless they have obtained written permission from all the data providers. ERIC North East also holds a number of datasets which are not available on the NBN Gateway, ensuring you receive a full picture.





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Sharing data with ERIC North East

Data collected by ecological consultants is of a high standard and often of protected and notable species. If we received all data collected by ecological consultants, our database would be even more useful to you than it is now.

Why share your records?

- You will meet BS42020 and CIEEM guidelines for best practice.
- Your records will help protect and enhance local biodiversity and geodiversity by increasing the quality and quantity of data we hold.
- Our database will be even more useful for you when planning surveys.
- We are a 'not for profit' organisation so rely on receiving data from every source possible to improve our database of environmental information.

You can log your records online at www.ericnortheast.org.uk/wildlife or contact us to discuss the easiest data submission route for you.

Contact us

www.ericnortheast.org.uk

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