



Alexander Douglas MSc SSSTS

Director / Senior Ecologist

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SPEEDWELL ECOLOGY LTD, 5 Canon Court, Institute Street, Bolton, BL1 1PZ

CERTIFICATION

CSCS Academically Qualified
Highways England Passport
ITC Outdoor First Aid Trained L6
ITC Water Safety Trained
C&G Asbestos Awareness
Trained

City & Guilds NPTC

CS30 Chainsaw Maintenance &
Cross Cut

CS31 Tree Felling <380mm

CS38 Tree Climbing & Aerial
Rescue

Safe Use of Brushcutters

MEMBERSHIP

CIEEM Qualifying Member

QUALIFICATIONS

MSc Ecological Consultancy
Newcastle University 2019-20

BSc (Hons) Geography
Northumbria University & Arup
2016-2019

REFERENCES

REDACTED FOR PRIVACY

REFERENCES AVAILABLE
UPON REQUEST

SUMMARY

A seasoned Ecologist with practical approach and strong work ethic. I run and support a range of projects as both a surveyor and supervisor. I enjoy working with my clients to achieve their goals while maintaining professional integrity and legal / best-practice compliance.

ABILITIES

- Ecological Clerk of Works
- Protected Species Surveys
- Environmental Sampling
- Vegetation Management

EXPERIENCE

SPEEDWELL ECOLOGY LTD / DIRECTOR / PRESENT

Our new venture has so far involved running surveys for several local consultancies with my wife and business partner Ruby, as well as providing ECoW and vegetation management services directly to the client. Our variety of projects so far has ranged from small residential developments to major road schemes, and our novel combined nest check and devegetation package has had very positive feedback.

ECONORTH LTD / ECOLOGIST / 2021-25

After being hired by EcoNorth my ecology skills began to develop exponentially – life within a small consultancy meant working on every aspect and stage of projects. These works included planning, conducting and managing every type of species-specific ecological survey, hundreds of hours as an ecological supervisor ECoW on some of the largest UK infrastructure projects, conducting large scale sampling for a variety of needs.

FREELANCE / ECOLOGIST / 2020-21

After graduating from my masters degree, I assisted several local ecological consultancies with their survey effort until being asked to join one of them as staff. As a freelance, I led bat and great crested newt surveys, managed survey schedules and data, and produced GIS maps for the work I had done. While long hours and demanding workload were tough, I thoroughly enjoyed managing my own schedule and ensuring I was always there for clients.

PREVIOUS PROJECT EXAMPLES

Below are a list of projects that I've worked on during my current and previous jobs – they do not encompass all works, but are intended to be representative of the range of my experience with a focus on the types of job I'm most competent at.

A9 ROAD UPGRADES / ECONORTH / SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS / 2021-23

During my time at EcoNorth I was the designated ECoW for the A9 dualling upgrades, run by Arup, near Aviemore in the Highlands. This work threw me in at the deep end of supervision, and involved identifying ecological constraints and best working methods in order to preserve the local habitats and fauna. Still new at my job, this project inspired my passion for ECoW supervision and working with the client to make progress both for the project and nature. My section of the project successfully concluded in 2023.

SENSITIVE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS / ECONORTH / YORKSHIRE / 2021-2025

These two extensive projects involved delivering hundreds of hours of ecology surveys, ECoW supervision and management works for Balfour Beatty on a project spanning the ~60-80km landing sections of large undersea cables. I assisted on and ran surveys for the initial site walkovers, which highlighted potential for ecological constraints, primarily from badger setts and nesting birds. From here, weekly walkovers and ECoW were required, the majority of which were conducted by me during my time at EcoNorth. Aside from surveying and advising the client, I undertook remote monitoring of known constraints and closed setts under license.

NEST CHECK AND DEVEGETATION / SPEEDWELL ECOLOGY x ECONORTH / TYNEMOUTH / 2025

In this recent work, Speedwell Ecology conducted nest checks and same-day vegetation removal for EcoNorth on behalf of North Tyneside Council. A small courtyard in Tynemouth was overgrown with ruderal vegetation and required removal during peak nesting season. We ensured no nests were present within the site or surrounding buffer, devegetated with electric chainsaw, left the area safe and clear to client specifications, and provided a same-day report on the works. Both EcoNorth and NTC were very happy with the operation, us having taken far less time, planning and money than the conventional method.

PEAT AND VEGETATION SURVEYS / ECONORTH / KIELDER AND CUMBRIA / 2023-24

While working at EcoNorth this project involved collecting habitat and soils data for Northumberland Peat Partnership, as part of a nationwide effort to identify areas for targeted peat restoration. The surveys were conducted to compare ground-truthed data from core samples and vegetation quadrats classified under UKHab definitions. Aside from working in very remote bog and marsh habitats under harsh conditions and being physically challenging, this project significantly furthered my plant identification skills and sparked my interest in soils and peats – something I've been lucky enough to see more of at Speedwell Ecology.

GREAT CRESTED NEWT SURVEYS / OS ECOLOGY / BURGHAM / 2020-21

As a freelance ecologist after graduating from my masters degree, one of my main jobs involved 100+ hours of great crested newt pitfall trapping at the site of a planned housing development in Northumberland. Handling hundreds of newts under license was great for my ID skills, and at several other locations I had the opportunity to bottle trap, conduct torching surveys and carry out egg searches.