

Ella Dangerfield

Senior BNG Ecologist

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Ella Dangerfield is an Ecologist with a BSc (Hons) in Environmental Science with Professional Training.

Specialising in botany, she holds a level 3 FISC certificate and focuses her skills on habitat surveys using the UK Habitat Classification, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) calculations and strategies. In the context of BNG, she has trained and experience in MoRPh Pro river surveys and River Condition

Assessments. She is experienced in conducting Preliminary Ecological Appraisals, including scoping for protected species and in conducting National Vegetation Classification surveys. She is also competent at surveying for a range of protected species, such as bats and reptiles.

Key Skills

Level 3 FISC certificate. Experienced in Phase 1 habitat, UK Habitat Classification system, NVC survey and data analysis, Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) calculations and the development of BNG strategies. MoRPh Pro river surveys and River Condition

Assessment trained and experience. Experienced in the preparation of Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Ecological Impact Assessment, Habitat and Protected Species reports, Natural Environment Reports for local parish Neighbourhood Plans and contributions

to Environmental Statements, as well as sections of Environmental Statements. Experienced in bat activity, emergence and re-entry surveys, bat data analysis and in reptile surveys, in addition to reptile translocations, and related reporting.

Professional Experience

Senior BNG Ecologist
Burton Reid Associates
June 2020 – present

Panel member Design West
Voluntary position
May 2025 – present

Contract Ecologist
Various consultancies
May – October 2019

Work experience
Tor Ecology Ltd.
May 2018 – October 2019

Professional Memberships

Associate Member of the
Chartered Institute of Ecology and
Environmental Management

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Selected Project Experience

Collaton St Mary, Torbay Development Agency

Conducting surveys for reptiles across a large site, reptile translocations and update reptile report. Bat transect surveys, bat data analysis. NVC and hedgerow update surveys, data analysis and update habitat report.

Splashdown, Paignton, Lemur Waterparks Ltd.

Phase I Habitat survey, UK Habitat Classification survey, Biodiversity Net Gain baseline calculations, contributions to biodiversity compensation and enhancement plans, contributions to EclA report.

Warren Wood, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

UK Habitat Classification survey. Targeted survey for arable plants. Bat surveys Contribution to Environmental Statement.

Dartington Parish Council

Desk-based study of ecological features and opportunities in Dartington Parish and production of a Natural Environment Report to inform the development of policies within the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. Assistance in the writing of Neighbourhood Plan policies to ensure ecological consistency and accuracy in wording.

Riseholme Campus, University of Lincoln

Baseline UK Habitat Classification surveys of the Riseholme Park Estate. The purpose of this commission was to establish the baseline BNG units at the site to assist the University in developing their future strategy across the 200ha estate, identifying the areas affording the best potential uplift in BNG value and to inform future development proposals.

Central Park, Plymouth City Council

Project lead, baseline UK Habitat Classification surveys, reporting and highlighting of ecological constraints and opportunities. The objective of the contract was to deliver site surveys and BNG assessments to establish the area's baseline ecological conditions to understand any constraints and opportunities associated with surface water SuDS attenuation proposal for the park and to identify any potential habitat management actions that may provide wider biodiversity benefits.

Plymouth Nature Recovery Network, Plymouth City Council

We were appointed between March 2023 and December 2024 to provide consultant support to Plymouth City Council working with Steering Group partners (including the wider Devon LNRS project team) to create Plymouth's Local Nature Recovery Strategy. This work included a comprehensive review of the existing evidence base, stakeholder engagement and highlighting potential locations for creating new areas of habitat as well as where PCC can better manage existing and potential nature areas. We successfully delivered mapping of Plymouth's Nature Recovery Network based on Lawton principles informed by a series of stakeholder workshops, and the preparation of the Plymouth Nature Recovery Network Evidence Report. We presented a series of high level recommendations including city-wide targets to enhance and connect the network through interventions such as woodland creation and natural flood risk management aligned to local, regional and national objectives.

Our work will provide strategic context for Plymouth's nature recovery delivery including through PCC's Habitat Bank – Ocean City Nature, LNRS priority making as part of the wider Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy as well as forming part of the evidence base for the forthcoming Joint Local Plan review.