

SITE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR WORKING ACTIVITIES ON THE BERGH APTON CONSERVATION TRUST

Safety comments

This risk assessment is based on site inspection, knowledge of the site and programme content.

This assessment is intended to provide the basis of a safe operational environment for workday activities on Bergh Apton Conservation Trust (BACT) land, with a general view of related activities planned to take place. The comments are based on the assumptions that

- members of working parties are either adult, or juveniles under the supervision of a responsible adult/adults,
- a first aid kit will be readily available
- an assessment of the variable impact of weather and environmental conditions (path condition, shrub growth, insect activity etc) will be made.
- Anyone working alone on the site to assess the risks of 'lone working', inform a third party of their whereabouts, and safe return from the site

The following grid has been used to determine the risk rating:

Severity of injury	Likelihood of injury or damage			
	Very Likely	Likely	Unlikely	
Major or fatal	9	6	3	Risk rating 9 = Very High Risk
Moderate	6	4	2	Risk Rating 6 = High Risk
Minor/trivial	3	2	1	Risk Rating 4 = Moderate Risk
				Risk Rating 1-3 = Low Risk

Every effort must be made to implement controls and precautions which are deemed to be **reasonably practicable**

Note:

PPE = Personal Protective Equipment

Useful location references in case of emergency

Pond dipping platform

Grid Reference TM30852 99729

Church field parking area

NR15 1BX School Road (Old School House opposite church)

Grid Reference TM31153 99854

Nearest Road – across horse field from Valley Marsh to Bergh Apton Household Waste Recycling Centre / T Farrow Construction

NR15 1AU TM30867 99883

Nearest vehicular access to Valley Marsh, off School Road via unmade-up road, Gravel Pit Lane. Turn right at bottom of hill and proceed along private road between Hall Farm Barn (NR15 1AX) and Bothy cottage to Grid TM31035 99683 (before farm bridge crosses Welbeck stream)

Signed Name Date

Identified risk	Assessment of risk	Risk Rating with NO precautions	Controls/Precautions to manage the risk	Risk Rating with all precautions	Is the risk controlled?
Falling into water – stream (Chet) and dykes (When working and moving around the site)	Water in Chet may be deep in places. Mud in dykes is immeasurably deep and very soft. Possibility of drowning in water. Possibility of injury from falling.	3	Stream – Brief regarding location. Dykes – Brief regarding locations, crossing points and hazards of mud depth. Maintain short vegetation at crossing points. Workers to exercise caution when working in these areas. Jumping across dykes and running on site to be discouraged.	2	Low Risk
Falling into water - ponds (When moving around the site or when working on or around ponds)	Possibility of drowning in water.	4	Maintain clear indication of pond margins. Workers to exercise caution when working in this area. Throw-line or rescue pole available. Personal flotation advised if working on ponds' surfaces.	2	Low Risk
Working with and next to water	Waterborne illness. (Weil's disease etc)	4	Open cuts to be covered with micro-pore tape or waterproof plasters. Waterproof gloves available if cuts are serious.	2	Low Risk
Unsafe trees	Head or body injuries due to falling branches	6	Tree risk assessment prior to activities. Activities curtailed if wind speeds exceed approximately 20 mph. It is recommended that the trees in all areas of the site be assessed regularly to ascertain whether particular risks exist. This is particularly important where dangerous trees may affect paths accessed by public or members, or where work is being undertaken	2	Low Risk
Wet and windy weather	Cold/wet; risk of hypothermia	3	Advise group to wear adequate layered wind and waterproof clothing and footwear. Leaders be prepared to curtail activity if individuals show signs of being cold. Shelter available (vehicles in close proximity to BACT land)	1	Low Risk
Sunburn	Risk of burning by prolonged exposure to the sun.	4	Recommend protection from sun with clothing / sunscreen as appropriate. Individuals to make own sunscreen provision to avoid risk of adverse reactions to unfamiliar products.	2	Low Risk
Slips, trips and falls in local vicinity.	Cuts and bruises, twisted ankles.	4	No running on site. Clear verbal warnings given. Access to be clear and obstacles removed. Adequate footwear to be worn.	2	Low Risk

Identified risk	Assessment of risk	Risk Rating with NO precautions	Controls/Precautions to manage the risk	Risk Rating with all precautions	Is the risk controlled?
Injuries due to vegetation. (brambles, sedge, reed etc)	Cuts to hands.	4	Clear warnings given. It is recommended that protective gloves be worn. Make First Aid kit available.	2	Low Risk
Working with power tools Power scythe/brush cutter/other.	Damage to hearing/sight. Risk of serious injury to self or others.	6	User should be sufficiently strong to control equipment. Use of adequate and appropriate PPE recommended; ear defenders/eye protection/equipment harnesses, etc. A safe distance from other workers in the area to be maintained.	2	Low Risk
	Vibration White Finger	4	Prolonged use of equipment without a break is not recommended, keep hands warm, take breaks and monitor self for any symptoms, stopping if any detected.	2	Low Risk
Use of chain saw	Risk of serious injury from equipment, flying debris and falling trees/boughs	6	Our insurers (Zurich) confirm that we are covered for using a chainsaw if used by qualified persons, for cutting up fallen trees and for no more than two days a month. Appropriate level of PPE to be used. Third party to be in position to safeguard any member of the public entering vicinity of work. Hazard indication tape to be deployed if the third party cannot marshal all approaches to the area of work. BACT Trustees may request sight of current Certificate of Competence (e.g. Lantra)	2	Moderate Risk
Use of hand saws	Risk of injury from falling branches/trees	4	Individual situations to be adequately risk-assessed by worker before commencing activity. A safe distance to be maintained from other workers in the area	2	Low Risk
Working with long-handled tools	Hitting self or others with tool or handle.	4	A safe distance to be maintained from other workers in the area	2	Low Risk
Stings by nettles or stings or bites by insects	Pain, discomfort. Anaphylactic shock.	4	Workers should be made aware of risk of anaphylactic shock and location of first aid kit. Make First Aid kit available.	3	Low Risk

Bonfires					
<p>General guidance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risk assessment to be carried out before lighting any fire; dry conditions, wind strength and direction to be assessed and no fire to be lit if conditions are likely to cause damage or annoyance. Size of any fire to be appropriate to the assessment of conditions. 2. Location of fire to be selected so as not to pose a risk of spreading or of damage to trees/adjacent vegetation. 3. Petrol and other accelerants not to be used in the vicinity of any naked flame. 4. Workers to be made aware of location of first aid kit. 5. A filled bucket of water to be kept near the working party in case of emergency/injury. 6. Long branches should be trimmed to a manageable size to allow size of fire to be controlled, and to avoid danger of tripping. 7. Workers to maintain a safe distance from the fire so avoid trip hazards and falling onto burning materials, and to pay attention to wind direction, working up-wind to avoid smoke and sparks. 8. It is recommended that protective clothing – gloves, long sleeves, etc to be worn in the vicinity of the fire. 9. No running in the vicinity of the fire. 10. No plastics, and only readily-combustible material to be burned so as to avoid creation of noxious or excessive smoke. 11. Long-handled forks and rakes to be on hand to facilitate control of fire. 12. Fire to be allowed to die down before working party departs the site so it will only be smouldering when left unattended, with no combustible material in the immediate vicinity to enable re-ignition/spreading of the fire. 					
Fire	Burning out of control or spreading.	4	General guidance outlined above to be followed	2	Low Risk
	Injury and damage risk from flying embers	4	As above.	2	Low Risk
Smoke	Injury from inhalation, disorientation caused by pain from smoke in the eyes.	4	General guidance outlined above to be followed	2	Low Risk
	Danger or annoyance to road users or nearby properties.	4	It is not envisaged that bonfires will be lit on the plantation; Valley Marsh is sufficiently isolated that observance of general guidance outlined above will control this risk	2	Low Risk