

# Site risk assessment record

Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
Oxfordshire



<b>Location:</b> Bucklebury Common	<b>Date of assessment:</b> 18/05/2018	<b>Nearest postcode:</b> RG7 6RP	<b>Main entrance OS Grid Ref :</b> SU 556 691
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Hazards/hazardous events	Who is affected?	Typical outcome	Precautions	Risk Level LxH=RL
Uneven ground due to roots, stones and muddy paths causing slips, trips or falls	Public. BBOWT workers	Bruises, sprains, minor cuts and grazes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn of uneven ground to group</li> <li>take care of footing</li> <li>wear suitable footwear</li> </ul>	Likely x Slight harm = <b>slight</b>
Thorny bushes (esp gorse) along paths and in work areas.	Public. BBOWT workers	Cuts and grazes, Puncture wounds, eye damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide safety glasses if working in thorny area.</li> </ul>	Likely x harmful = <b>moderate</b>
There are numerous public footpaths, bridleways, byways and restricted byways together with a number of informal paths	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury to passer by from conservation work taking place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn people working on site and put up suitable signs when work is being done.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Dead branches in trees. Dead standing trees – risk of falling down	Public. BBOWT workers	Head injuries, cuts and bruises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conform to COP 31 Tree safety assessment at areas where BBOWT is responsible for tree safety (i.e. around carparks).</li> <li>Any areas worked in are to be checked for dangerous trees beforehand.</li> <li>No work should be carried out in high winds</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Irritable and poisonous plants such as bracken and Fungi.	Public. BBOWT workers	Spores are Carcinogenic. Poisoning from ingestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take suitable precautions when working in bracken infested areas in July/August/September. Refer to: <b>Pulling Plants by Hand</b> task risk assessment.</li> <li>Do not eat fungi, berries or other plant material.</li> <li>Wash hands after handling such material</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>

	Slight harm	Harmful	Very harmful
Unlikely	Trivial	Slight	Moderate
Likely	Slight	Moderate	Substantial
Very likely	Moderate	Substantial	Intolerable

Stings from bees, wasps or hornets	Public BBOWT workers	Allergic reaction to stings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be aware of any nests close by and do not get too close.</li> <li>All volunteers / staff should declare any known allergic reactions</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Proximity to highway	BBOWT workers (incl contractors). motorists	Injury from contact with vehicles, or causing RTAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work carried out by staff with a chance of impacting on the highway,</li> <li>Use only certified contractors</li> </ul>	Unlikely x very harmful = <b>moderate</b>
Dry heathland sites are candidates for fire, through accidental ignition or arson. There have been several accidental burns/wildfires on this site.	Public. BBOWT workers	Burns or smoke inhalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work party bonfires must be closely monitored, and never lit in high winds or summer.</li> <li>Always ring Fire Control (<b>0118 9452 888</b>) prior to having a bonfire.</li> <li>Where practical, fire breaks should be considered and then maintained short.</li> <li>Advisory notices are an option if arson/campfires are seen.</li> </ul>	Likely x very harmful = <b>substantial</b>
Adders are known from this reserve.	Public. BBOWT workers	Infected bites, allergic reaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify groups working of presence.</li> <li>Wear suitable clothing/boots when in heath</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Pole mounted HV power lines cross the main common. Lines may arc to earth through direct contact or spray drift. Metal objects may build up static charge.	Public. BBOWT workers (incl contractors)	Electrocution, power cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work carried out by staff with a chance of impacting on the lines.</li> <li>use only certified contractors.</li> <li>Do not park vehicle beneath lines.</li> <li>Kite flying prohibited.</li> <li>Report any inappropriate behaviour or damage to SSE, number on poles.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x very harmful = <b>moderate</b>
Underground services. There are a range of underground services both active and defunct across the common.	Public. BBOWT workers (incl contractors)	Electrocution, gas leaks, disruption of supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult service plans before any digging/excavation in a vulnerable area.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x very harmful = <b>moderate</b>
There are a number of steep wet gullies on the common.	Public. BBOWT workers	Falls, getting stuck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise any workers in the area to be aware of the steep gullies, boggy conditions and stream banks.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x slight harm = <b>minor</b>

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There are a range of man-made and semi-natural ponds and holes (possibly relating to former drainage) on the reserve	Public. BBOWT workers	Drowning, getting stuck in deep silt, falls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advise of need for care in placing feet, keep good balance, wear suitable clothing/boots.</li> <li>Any reports of new drainage pits/uncovered manholes to be investigated, signed and fenced off until appropriate remedial action can be taken. Notify/liaise with Bucklebury Estate.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x very harmful = <b>moderate</b>
There are several footbridges and boardwalks on the common (maintained by WBC Rights of Way), surfaces can be slippery when wet.	Public, BBOWT workers	Slips, trips, falls and drowning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn groups or workers to watch footing crossing bridges and boardwalks.</li> <li>Inform WBC of any damage/repairs needed.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
There are several steep sided pits on the common created by gravel digging and deep silty traps and pools created by unauthorised 4x4 activity.	Public. BBOWT workers	Drowning, falls, getting stuck.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warn groups working in these areas and tape off for duration of nearby works using orange hazard fencing.</li> <li>Notify/liaise with WBC Rights of way team and Bucklebury Estate.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x very harmful = <b>moderate</b>
Ticks are known from bracken-rich parts of the reserve	Public. BBOWT workers	Infected bites or at worst Lyme's Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long Trousers and sleeves should be worn in season, check body over after visit esp waist, legs, armpits.</li> <li>Keep tick removal tool on site with work party/on person.</li> <li>Remove tick with a twist, but ensure all mouthparts come free, if in doubt visit GP.</li> <li>Advise groups accordingly.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Dog faeces are present near main access points. The site is widely used by dog walkers.	Public BBOWT workers	Disease such as Toxicara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notices are in place</li> <li>Dog bins at main entrance/exit points.</li> <li>Warn groups about presence of faeces, urge vigilance. Conform to CoP 15</li> </ul>	Likely x harmful = <b>moderate</b>
Wild animals' (incl rats') dung/urine, and dirty water may be present with the possibility of water borne disease	Public. BBOWT workers	Illness with leptospirosis or Weil's disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform workers or groups to practice good personal hygiene, esp prior to eating.</li> <li>Conform to CoP 15</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Algal blooms such as blue-green algae (cyanobacteria)	Public (specifically dog owners), BBOWT workers	Illness if ingested; skin irritation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not undertake work in affected lakes/ponds.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>

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Motorbikes and 4x4s have been known to use open areas of heath and woodland areas, away from recognised vehicular routes.	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from contact, or confrontation with rider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Motorcycles and 4x4 vehicles, avoid confrontation, be aware of noise, phone police, liaise with WBC, Parish Council, Bucklebury Estate and police.</li> <li>CCTV and signage is being installed in key problem areas. Traffic Regulation Orders prohibiting vehicular access, backed up with signage and barriers are in force on some paths.</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>
Antisocial behaviour including camping, parties, drug taking and arson have all occurred on this site.	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from confrontation (see arson above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid confrontation.</li> <li>Call police if suspect criminal activity</li> </ul>	Unlikely x harmful = <b>slight</b>

<b>Nearest telephone (landline):</b> Private properties around perimeter of common.	<b>Emergency telephone number</b> 999 or 112			
<b>Nearest A&amp;E department:</b> Royal Berkshire Hospital A&E, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AN Tel: 0118 322 7020  Minor Injuries – West Berks Community Hospital Rookes Way, Thatcham, RG18 3AS Tel: 01635 273 300	<b>Type of access for emergency services (delete as appropriate)</b> Pedestrian 4WD Air	<b>Access point/route for emergency services from road:</b> This is a large site with many access points (see attached map). 4WD Vehicular access is possible from most points.		
<b>Assessment undertaken by:</b> Simon Barnett	<b>Position:</b> Land Manager (People & Estates)	<b>Manager confirming assessment:</b> Alex Cruickshank	<b>Date for revision:</b> March 2019	

Work identified from site risk assessment	By whom	Date completed
Carry out tree safety assessments in car park areas	Tree Safety and Woodlands Officer/Reserves staff	annual
Ensure safety notices and fencing are posted (tree work, car park works, contractors machinery present, flooding, vehicular damage, open manholes)	Reserves staff/ contractors	As required
Task/work party leaders convey relevant information to participants	Reserves staff	As required

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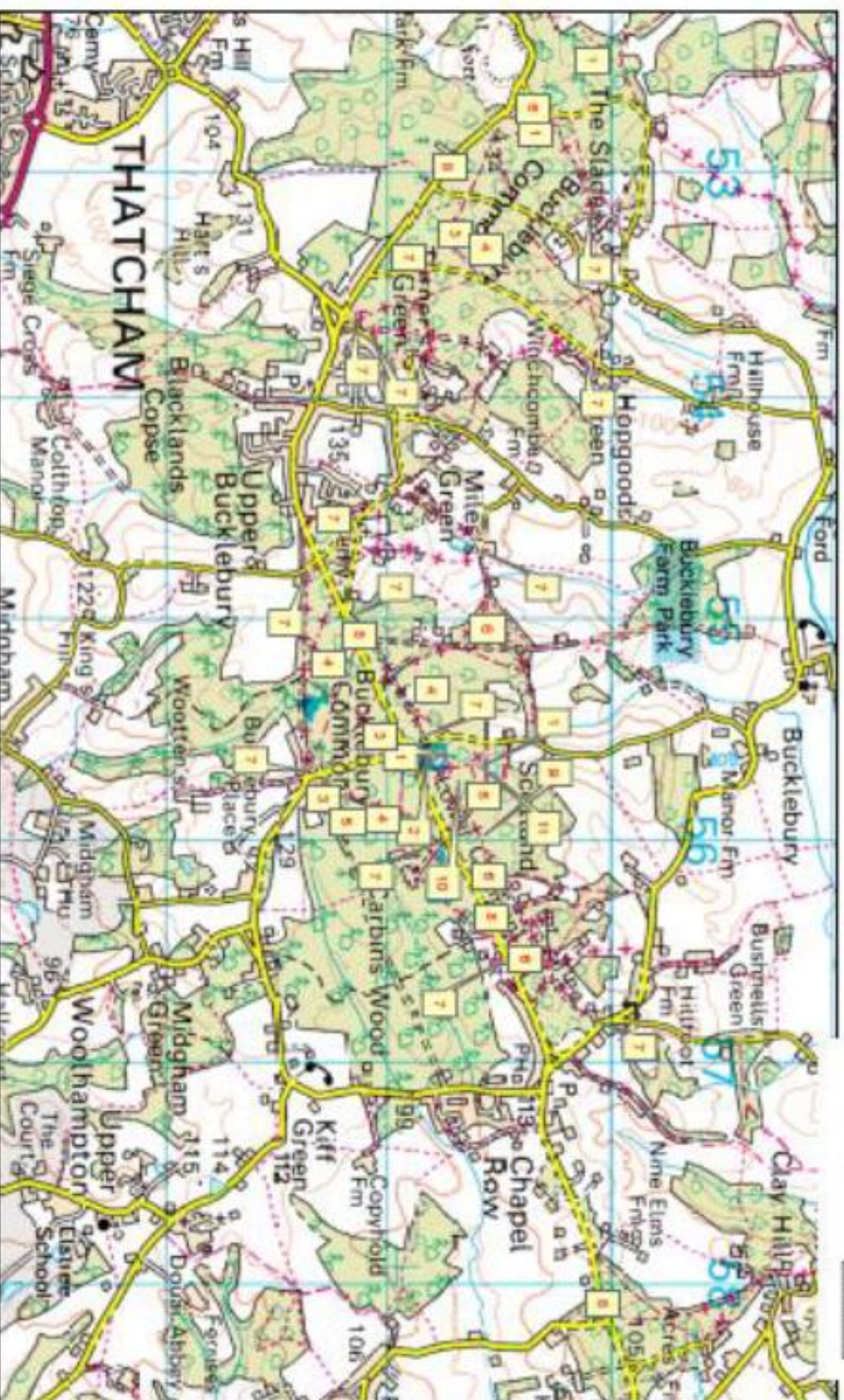
This checklist is designed to assist in the production of Site Risk Assessments. For those hazards present, more specific information should be provided, e.g. location within site and precautions required entered on SRA form. **This list is not comprehensive. Map is located in reserves office.**

No.	Risk	Present		Recorded on map
1	Steep slopes and banks	Yes		All
2	Drowning risk – deep water [pools, streams, rivers]	Yes		1
3	Fall hazards – rock outcrops, buildings, building foundations	Yes		2
4	Areas liable to flooding	Yes		3
5	Areas of permanent soft ground	Yes		All
6	Areas of soft ground following rain	Yes		All
7	Uneven path / track surfaces	Yes		All
8	Uneven ground	Yes		All
9	Remote areas	Yes		All
10	Dry weather fire hazard – heath, scrub, grass	Yes		4
11	Sun exposure – poor shade - burn / dehydration	Yes		All
12	Site used for walking [Inc dogs]	Yes		All
13	Children playing	Yes		All
14	Site used for horse riding	Yes		All
15	Site users include people with mobility problems		No	
16	Site history of abuse [drunks, vandals, drugs, needle stick injury]	Yes		Various
17	Site history of staff and/or volunteer intimidation		No	
18	Fly-tipping	Yes		Various
19	Unauthorised and/or authorised shooting [i.e. poaching/stalking]	Yes		5
20	Unauthorised vehicles [cars and motorbikes]	Yes		6
21	Difficult or restricted access / egress [esp. for heavy plant]	Yes		All
22	Authorised vehicles	Yes		7
23	Areas inaccessible to vehicles	Yes		Various
24	Former landfill site		No	
25	Proximity to public highway	Yes		8/Various
26	Proximity to Public Rights of Way	Yes		Various
27	Overhead service lines	Yes		9
28	Underground service lines	Yes		10/Various
29	Barbed wire	Yes		Various
30	Personal hygiene facilities		No	
31	Poisoning from blue / green algae	Yes		11
32	Exposure to bracken [ carcinogenic spores] (see CoP 15)	Yes		All
33	Puncture wounds [blackthorn / hawthorn]	Yes		All
34	Wild parsnip burns		No	
35	Giant hogweed burns (see CoP 15)		No	
36	Poisonous berries	Yes		All
37	Poisonous fungi	Yes		All
38	Standing dead wood	Yes		All
39	Risk of Weils' disease (see CoP 15)	Yes		Various
40	Site known for wasps	Yes		Various
41	Site known for bees	Yes		
42	Site known for hornets		No	
43	Site known for adders	Yes		4
44	Site known for stray dogs	Yes		All
45	Site known for ticks [Lyme disease] (see CoP 15)	Yes		All
46	Site known for allergens [pollen / spores]	Yes		All
47	Injury to pregnancy – exposure to lambs [listeria, chlamydia]		No	



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