

Site risk assessment record

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



Location: Paices Wood	Date of assessment: 18/05/2018	Nearest postcode: RG7 4PG	Main entrance OS Grid Ref : SU 590 635
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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"> Warn of uneven ground to group. Take care of footing, wear suitable footwear 	Likely x Slight harm = slight
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"> Provide safety glasses if working in thorny area. 	Likely x harmful = moderate
There are several public footpaths and a bridleway together with a number of waymarked routes and informal paths	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury to passer by from conservation work taking place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warn people working on site and put up suitable signs when work is being done. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
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"> Conform to COP 31 Tree safety assessment on areas that BBOWT is responsible for (none at Paices Wood). Ensure any areas worked in are checked for dangerous trees. No work should be carried out in high winds. Notify landowner and WBC of dangerous trees. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Irritable and poisonous plants such as bracken and Fungi.	Public. BBOWT workers	Spores are Carcinogenic. Poisoning from ingestion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not work in bracken infested areas in July/August/September. Do not eat fungi, berries or other plant material. Wash hands after handling such material 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Stings from bees, wasps or hornets	Public BBOWT workers	Allergic reaction to stings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of any nests close by and do not get too close. All volunteers / staff should declare any known allergic reactions 	Unlikely x harmful = slight

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

Proximity to highway and car parks	BBOWT workers (incl contractors). motorists	Injury from contact with vehicles, or causing RTAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No work carried out by staff with a chance of impacting on the highway. Use only certified contractors. Use high viz jackets and sign appropriately when working in or around the main car parks. 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate
There are small areas of heath and grassland, dry heathland sites are candidates for fire, through accidental ignition or arson.	Public. BBOWT workers	Burns or smoke inhalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work party bonfires must be closely monitored, and never lit in high winds or summer. Inform Fire Control 0118 945 2888 prior to lighting bonfire on site. Where practical fire breaks should be considered and then maintained short. Advisory notices are an option if arson/campfires are seen. 	Likely x very harmful = substantial
Adders are known from this reserve.	Public. BBOWT workers	Infected bites, allergic reaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify groups working of presence. Wear suitable clothing/boots when in heath 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
There are steps and small sections of boardwalk/bridge in the reserve	Public. BBOWT workers	Slips, trips, falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise workers of potential hazard 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
There are 7 deep, steep sided lakes on the reserve and a number of small waterfalls/outfalls.	Public. BBOWT workers	Drowning, falls, getting stuck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise any workers in the area to be aware of the steep sided, deep lakes. Do not carry out work near these 7 lakes, without specific precautions (eg throw lines, buoyancy aids etc) 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate
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"> Long Trousers and sleeves should be worn in season. Carry tick removal tool on person or with First Aid kit. Check body over after visit esp waist, legs, armpits. Remove tick with a twist with a tick removal tool, but ensure all mouthparts come free, if in doubt visit GP. Advise groups. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight

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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"> • Notices are in place. • Dog bin at main entrance point. • Warn groups about presence of faeces, urge vigilance. • Conform to CoP 15 	Likely x harmful
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"> • Inform workers or groups to practice good personal hygiene, esp prior to eating. • Conform to CoP 15 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Motorbikes and unauthorised vehicles have been known to use open areas of heath and woodland areas.	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from contact, or confrontation with rider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Motorcycles and vehicles, avoid confrontation, be aware of noise, phone police, • Liaise with WBC, landowner and police 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Antisocial behaviour including camping, parties, drug taking, arson, hunting with dogs have all occurred on this site.	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from confrontation, burns, smoke inhalation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is currently no lone working permitted for BBOWT staff • Avoid confrontation, call police if suspect criminal activity. • Call Fire Brigade if arson or wildfire. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
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"> • Do not undertake work in affected lakes/ponds. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Flytipping occurs in the main car park and on the access road.	Public. BBOWT workers	Cuts or disease from contact with refuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact WBC Waste team to arrange for collection. • If hazardous, EA should be notified. • Liaise with WBC waste team. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight

Nearest telephone (landline): Youngs Industrial Estate	Emergency telephone number 999 or 112	
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Nearest A&E department: Royal Berkshire Hospital A&E, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AN Tel: 0118 322 7020 Basingstoke & North Hants Hospital Aldermaston Rd, Basingstoke RG24 9NA Tel: 01256 473202 Minor Injuries – West Berks Community Hospital Rookes Way, Thatcham, RG18 3AS Tel: 01635 273 300	Type of access for emergency services (delete as appropriate) Pedestrian 2WD 4WD Air Depending on location	Access point/route for emergency services from road: Vehicular access is possible from the main car park, top car park and Industrial Estate (see map).	
Assessment undertaken by: Simon Barnett	Position: Berks LM (People & Estates)	Manager confirming assessment: Alex Cruickshank	Date for revision: March 2019

Work identified from site risk assessment	By whom	Date completed
Ensure safety notices are posted (tree work, path works, ,contractors machinery present)	Reserves staff/ contractors	As required
Task/work party leaders convey relevant information to participants	Reserves staff/Volunteer Reserve Warden	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		1, various
2	Drowning risk – deep water [pools, streams, rivers]	Yes		1, various
3	Fall hazards – rock outcrops, buildings, building foundations		No	
4	Areas liable to flooding	Yes		Various
5	Areas of permanent soft ground	Yes		Various
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		Various
10	Dry weather fire hazard – heath, scrub, grass	Yes		2
11	Sun exposure – poor shade - burn / dehydration	Yes		various
12	Site used for walking [Inc dogs]	Yes		All
13	Children playing	Yes		All
14	Site used for horse riding	Yes		3
15	Site users include people with mobility problems	Yes		Various
16	Site history of abuse [drunks, vandals, drugs, needle stick injury]		No	
17	Site history of staff and/or volunteer intimidation	Yes		Various
18	Fly-tipping	Yes		4, various
19	Unauthorised and/or authorised shooting [i.e. poaching/stalking]		No	
20	Unauthorised vehicles [cars and motorbikes]	Yes		Various
21	Difficult or restricted access / egress [esp. for heavy plant]	Yes		Various
22	Authorised vehicles	Yes		Various
23	Areas inaccessible to vehicles	Yes		various
24	Former landfill site		No	
25	Proximity to public highway	Yes		5
26	Proximity to Public Rights of Way	Yes		6
27	Overhead service lines		No	
28	Underground service lines	Yes		various
29	Barbed wire		No	
30	Personal hygiene facilities		No	
31	Poisoning from blue / green algae	Yes		1
32	Exposure to bracken [carcinogenic spores] (see CoP 15)	Yes		Various
33	Puncture wounds [blackthorn / hawthorn]	Yes		Various
34	Wild parsnip burns		No	
35	Giant hogweed burns (see CoP 15)		No	
36	Poisonous berries		No	
37	Poisonous fungi	Yes		All
38	Standing dead wood	Yes		All
39	Risk of Weils' disease (see CoP 15)	Yes		All
40	Site known for wasps	Yes		Various
41	Site known for bees	Yes		Various
42	Site known for hornets	Yes		Various
43	Site known for adders	Yes		7
44	Site known for stray dogs	Yes		Various
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	

Paices Wood SRA 2015 SU 590635

