

Site risk assessment record

Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
Oxfordshire



Location: Wildmoor Heath	Date of assessment: 18/05/2018	Nearest postcode: RG45 7PP (Edgebarrow Cottage)	Main entrance OS Grid Ref : SU 837 631
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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"> Ensure paths are kept clear. Provide safety glasses if working in thorny area. 	Likely x harmful = moderate
There area a number of footpaths and a bridleway, as well as permissive paths, and some of the reserve is CROW access land. Paths on the western side are particularly used by school children	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 and any areas worked in are to be checked for dangerous trees. No work should be carried out in high winds 	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
Proximity to highway	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 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate

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

Dry heathland sites are candidates for fire , through accidental ignition or arson. There is a history of arson on this reserve.	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. 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 esp heathy compartments	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
HV power lines cross the northern compartments running from the main car park on the western side, to South Road. 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"> No work carried out by staff with a chance of impacting on the lines, use only certified contractors. Do not park vehicle beneath lines. Kite flying prohibited. Report any inappropriate behaviour or damage to National Grid (numbers on towers). 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate
Underground services. There is a gas line running east to west adjacent to the HV overhead lines. There are also services to Edgebarrow Cottage.	Public. BBOWT workers (incl contractors)	Electrocution, gas leaks, disruption of supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult service plans – held in reserve office – before any digging/excavation in a vulnerable area. 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate
Underground Services. A sewage pipeline (Thames Water) runs from near the school playing fields across the site southeast until it reaches the corners of comp 3,4 and 2 where it turns and runs south parallel to the boardwalk and out at Thibet rd. Spillages have occurred, leaving dirty water and solid sewage on the surface	Public, BBOWT workers	Disease form contact with dirty water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If any leakage is observed, place signs to notify public and if possible tape off area. Contact Thames water. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
There is a stream – not deep, but with a steep bank – in compartment 4	Public. BBOWT workers	Falls, getting stuck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise any workers in the area to be aware of the stream and its banks 	Unlikely x slight harm = minor
Soft and tussocky ground in mire	Public. BBOWT workers	Getting stuck, falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise of need for care in placing feet, keep good balance 	Likely x slight harm = slight
Ticks are known from the heath at this 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, check body over after visit esp waist, legs, armpits. Remove with a twist, but ensure all mouthparts come free, if in doubt visit GP. Advise groups. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight

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Grazing animals are present at certain times during the year	Public. BBOWT workers	Contact injury, incl crush	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice notices posted by access points, keep dogs on leads. Only stock accustomed to public used 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Dog faeces is present across large areas of the site, as it is so busy with dog walkers on the site	Public BBOWT workers	Disease such as Toxocara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notices are in place – warn groups about presence of faeces, urge vigilance. Conform to CoP 15. 	Likely x harmful = moderate
Barbed wire fences are present around grazing compartment	Public. BBOWT workers	Scratches or entanglement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain fences in good order. 	Unlikely x slight harm = minor
Livestock and/or 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 have been known in the open and wooded parts of reserve, although occurrence is less than in the past. There is an informal cycling area in the southeast of compartment 5, with steep jumps and a course.	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from contact, or confrontation with rider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Motorcycles, avoid confrontation, be aware of noise, phone police, consider notices if problem persists. Cycling is tolerated, but monitor jumps, and if anything dangerous appears then it should be made safe. Locals are aware of the area and risk of collision is therefore low. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Antisocial behaviour including camping, parties and arson (see above) have all been known at this site	Public. BBOWT workers	Injury from confrontation (see arson above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid confrontation, call police if suspect criminal activity 	Unlikely x harmful = slight
Unexploded munitions. During winter 2004 an unexploded WWII smoke grenade was found in Compartment 5.	Public. BBOWT workers	Shrapnel injury if explosion occurs, chemical burn from leaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If any suspicious devices are found they should not be touched, people should not approach it. Dial 999. 	Unlikely x very harmful = moderate
Flytipping occurs in the main car park, South Road, and from the backs of properties on the north and south side of the site, mostly domestic or garden rubbish, but industrial/commercial waste has also occurred	Public. BBOWT workers	Cuts or disease from contact with refuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a judgement on whether material is safe to collect, if not contractors will be needed and possibly police; if hazardous, EA should be notified. 	Unlikely x harmful = slight

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Nearest telephone (landline): Crowthorne High Street (1 mile) Sandhurst High Street (1.5 miles), or residential properties	Emergency telephone number 999 or 112		
Nearest A&E department: Royal Berkshire Hospital A&E, London Road, Reading, RG1 5AN Tel: 0118 322 7020	Type of access for emergency services (delete as appropriate) Pedestrian 2WD 4WD depending on location	Access point/route for emergency services from road: This is a large site with several access points. Vehicular access is possible from the main car park (see above), from where you can get on site either under the power lines to comp 1, 2, 3; or through the barrier to comp 1, 5, 6. Vehicles can also access from Thibet Road on the southern edge or Pinehill Road to the north. Parking for the eastern side of the reserve is available at South Road, but no further access on to site from here, except on foot.	
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
Carry out tree safety assessments	Reserves staff	annual
Ensure safety notices are posted (livestock grazing, tree work, path works, contractors machinery present, flooding)	Reserves staff/ contractors	
Task/work party leaders convey relevant information to participants	Reserves staff/Volunteer Reserve Warden	

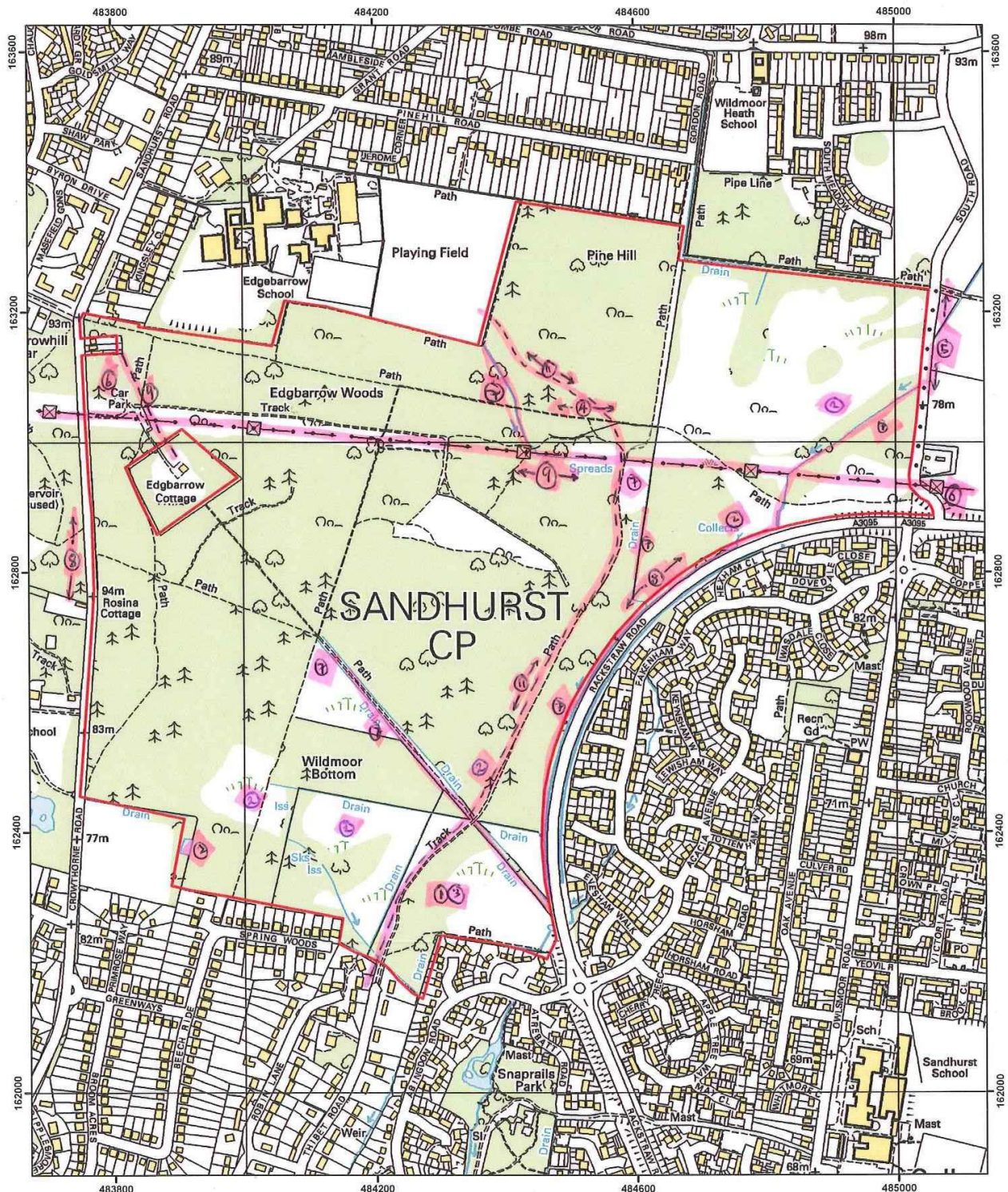
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This checklist is designed to assist in the production of Site Risk Assessments. For those hazards present, more specific information should be provided, e.g. location within site and precautions required entered on SRA form. **This list is not comprehensive.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

No.	Risk	Present		Recorded on map
1	Steep slopes and banks	yes		1
2	Drowning risk – deep water [pools, streams, rivers]	yes		7, various
3	Fall hazards – rock outcrops, buildings, building foundations		no	
4	Areas liable to flooding		no	
5	Areas of permanent soft ground	yes		2
6	Areas of soft ground following rain	yes		2
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		All
11	Sun exposure – poor shade - burn / dehydration		no	
12	Site used for walking [Inc dogs]	yes		All
13	Children playing	yes		3
14	Site used for horse riding	yes		4
15	Site users include people with mobility problems		No	
16	Site history of abuse [drunks, vandals, drugs, needle stick injury]	yes		5
17	Site history of staff and/or volunteer intimidation	yes		various
18	Fly-tipping	yes		6
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		8
26	Proximity to Public Rights of Way	yes		4, various
27	Overhead service lines	yes		9
28	Underground service lines		yes	9, 11
29	Barbed wire	yes		all
30	Personal hygiene facilities		no	
31	Poisoning from blue / green algae		no	
32	Exposure to bracken [carcinogenic spores] (see CoP 15)	yes		various
33	Puncture wounds [blackthorn / hawthorn]		no	
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		no	
41	Site known for bees		no	
42	Site known for hornets		no	
43	Site known for adders	yes		various
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	

Wildmoor Heath, Reserve Boundaries SU 8431 6282

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Scale 1:5,500

0 87.5 175 350

Metres

6 July 2011