

Trafford Wildlife Risk Assessment

LOCATION: Birch Moss, Black Moss, Brookheyes, Hogswood, Seamons Moss, Sinderland Green, White Oak and locations with similar risks. Locations with dissimilar risks to be subject to separate risk assessment	RISK ASSESSED BY: Geoff Densham 0161 973 9221, David Reeves 07709245280
DATE RISK ASSESSMENT PREPARED: 04.01.2020	DATE RISK ASSESSMENT LAST UPDATED: 04.12 .21
NEAREST HOSPITAL: Wythenshawe Hospital, Southmoor Rd, Wythenshawe, Manchester M23 9LT	EMERGENCY SERVICE ACCESS: For Black Moss & Seamons Moss a padlock key to the Seamons Road TPT gate is held by G.Densham. Other locations have nearby road access.

Introduction: The Risk Assessment is read by all volunteers they confirm they have read them. Adults supervising children (under 18) to confirm on their behalf. The Task Leader should identify themselves to all volunteers. Volunteers participate in an event entirely at their own risk, as Trafford Wildlife is not a legal entity. Ensure the risk assessment and area to be covered is reviewed by the Task Leader before every event in case there are any changes to the area.

HAZARDS	RISK LEVEL Hi/ Med/ Low	ACTION - RISK REDUCTION MEASURES	POST-ACTION RISK LEVEL
Trips/slips/falls due to trailing vegetation, steep slopes, ditches muddy and uneven ground, steps, bridges and other access structures	Med	-Suitable supportive footwear should be worn when accessing area. -Avoid working on slopes when possible. -Be aware of uneven ground.	Low
Risk of drowning in pools or feet sinking and getting stuck in boggy areas	Med	-Area should not be accessed during times of high water levels. -No lone working. -Ponds must not be entered. -Adults supervising children must be able to swim. -Near steep banks on rivers/pools use a banksman with 10m (min) safety rope to aid egress.	Low
Contraction of water-borne diseases, particularly from still water including E coli, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis C, Cryptosporidiosis & Botulism. Contraction of soil-borne diseases such as tetanus or other diseases associated with dog faeces etc. Contraction of insect born diseases including Lyme's.	Med	-Participants if they feel ill enough to warrant visiting doctor, should mention have had contact with dirty water/soil/dog faeces/wild animals/vegetation recently. -Volunteers to have adequate tetanus cover. -Appropriate gloves to be worn for tasks. -Hand washing facilities/anti-bacterial rub should be used before eating, smoking and when leaving area.	Low
Contraction or spread of CV19 infection. (This RA will be subject to change as government rules vary.)	Med	-Register attendance in advance with traffordwildlife@gmail.com with agreement to Risk Assessment, own and emergency mobile phone nos. -Not to come if exhibiting any CV19 type symptoms. -Not to come if someone if your household has CV19 symptoms. -Travel singly unless with members of same household or use a mask and open windows. -Bring own name marked tools and sanitiser. If other tools are used sanitise before and after use. -Ensure minimum 5m working clearance. -Ensure minimum 2m speaking clearance.	Low
Irritation from invasive and other species. Skin irritation or illness due to contact with poisonous or toxic vegetation: e.g. nettles, hogweed etc.	Med	-Suitable gloves to be worn at all times. -Arms & legs should be covered at all times. -Hand washing facilities/anti bacterial gel should be used before; eating, smoking and when leaving area.	Low
Injury from use of tools: saws,	Med	-Tools must be maintained in good condition and kept sharp.	Low

loppers, forks, slashers, spades, rakes, etc.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -When using saws to fell wood ensure all are clear of felling area. -When using slashers or other swinging tools ensure 5m minimum clearance from others, wear non slip rubber gloves or no gloves; i.e. no leather gloves. Watch out for inquisitive dogs. -Rakes (when not in use) to be left tine down horizontally on ground. -Loppers to be used only on branches up to thumb size. -First aid kit present at either work area or vehicle. -Work team leader to carry mobile phone. -No lone working 	
Injury from stump winching operations	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure winching uses 3 person team – winch operator, spotter observing target and cable to ensure others clear of winch cable, tail person to ensure cable slack remains straight and to warn others that may approach. -Ensure pulling is on level ground such that any failure will not result in a hazardous movement of the target or winch. If on sloping ground where a failure could result in a hazardous movement then see https://www.nptc.org.uk/assets/documents/3dc25b95268f47a69213b78106406a4f.pdf for need of 'thorough examination' under PUWER. 	Low
Insect ticks, bites and stings	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Volunteers advised to use insect repellent and to watch out for horse flies. - Any relevant insect nests or hives discovered to be left undisturbed, and the area vacated if necessary. -Suitable gloves to be worn at all times. -Arms & legs should be covered at all times. -More prevalent in summer. 	Low
Possible infection or anaphylactic shock due to insect ticks, bites and stings or contact with thorny plants (e.g. bramble, hawthorn, blackthorn)	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If anyone has been prescribed an Epi-pen due to prior reaction to stings, they should carry it when on the reserves and inform other group members about it. -Individuals to monitor scratches, lacerations, bites or stings closely and to go straight to hospital should symptoms worsen. No treatment can be given by First Aider. 	Low
Changeable and extreme weather conditions including sun, rain, wind, and low temperatures etc.	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Assessment of potential conditions should be made prior to working in area. -Appropriate clothing should be worn to protect from elements. -Do not operate in wooded locations if wind speed gust forecast >35mph. 	Low
Silly or nasty people. Minor or serious injuries or unpleasantness caused by conflict with people and those misusing the site.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If you suspect someone is misusing the site, assume that they pose a threat to you. -Do not approach them, phone the owner, or if appropriate, the police. 	Low
Threat from domesticated animals (e.g. horses, cattle), some may bite or kick.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If approached by domesticated animals retire with tools to a place of safety. 	Low
Injury from falling trees and branches	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Woodland tasks to be postponed/abandoned if wind speeds >35mph. -Maintain awareness of hung trees/branches and deadwood. Note: Tree safety checks usually only occur by the owner adjacent to publicly accessible paths - away from paths or on sites with no access no one will have looked for dangerous trees. -If timber is any significant height/containing dead wood wear safety helmets. -When dropping trees ensure x2 height away from nearest people and use a look out. 	Low
Injury to faces & body from protruding branches or scrub	Med	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Remove any protruding branches from work area wherever possible. -Work methodically into dense undergrowth. -Wear protective glasses if appropriate. -Ensure cut branches are not pruned to a point. -Avoid placing surrounding branches under tension while working. -When hedge laying wear thick gauntlets and goggles. -If hedge is difficult to access, tall or contains dead wood wear safety 	Low

		helmet.	
Handling of barbed & other wire	Med	- Wear eye protection - Use rigger gloves rather than non-slip rubber gloves.	Low