



Black Country Geological Society

Risk Assessment for Maintenance and Geoconservation

Risk Assessment completed by: Andrew Harrison / Alan Preece

Date: 3rd March 2022

Any additional and site-specific risks should be added at the end of the form

Event Location:	Saltwells National Nature Reserve	
Event Activity:	Geoconservation Day	
Date and Time:	Sunday 6 th March 2022, 10:00 to 14:30	
Event Leader:	Alan Preece (Senior Nature Reserve Warden)	
Event Organiser:	Andrew Harrison, Black Country Geological Society Field Secretary	Contact Mobile: 07973 330 706.
Event specific clothing / equipment required:	Stoud boots, outdoor clothes, gloves. Hard hat if you have one.	
First Aiders (if available) Name / Contact Numbers:	Alan Preece, (T): 01384 812795.	
Nearest Accident and Emergency Department:	Russell Hall, Pensnett Road, Dudley DY1 2HQ, (T): 01384 456111.	

Hazard (potential for harm)	Associated Risk(s)	Risk level (after precautionary measures) Low / Medium / High	Precautionary measures (to reduce the risk level)
Slips, trips & falls	Broken bones, sprains, bruising, bleeding, concussion	Low	Participants should wear suitable footwear and clothing for terrain conditions, i.e. stout boots, and should take care to watch their footing over rough ground.
Rough terrain, slopes, cliffs and rock scarps	Falling from height, major injury / death. Steep ground, unstable surfaces, uneven surfaces and slippery rock - risk of rock falls, slips, ankle injuries, sprains, broken bones, cuts and bruises	Low	Slopes and rock faces should be inspected for stability prior to any work commencing beneath them. Look for signs of recent rock falls and any signs that may indicate movement in the face. Hard hats should be worn when at or near rock faces. Stout footwear needed. No working under unstable slopes / rock faces will be permitted. Hard hats to be provided by the park wardens where required.



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Hazard (potential for harm)	Associated Risk(s)	Risk level (after precautionary measures) Low / Medium / High)	Precautionary measures (to reduce the risk level)
Sharp items (needles, broken glass, rocks).	Cuts, scratches, scrapes and punctures / viral and bacterial infections and diseases	Low	Safety talk. All sharps should be left and the event leader to be informed. Removal of sharps only to be undertaken by a suitably trained person, ie the event leader. Participants should wear suitable protective equipment, i.e. gloves, whilst working.
Weather conditions (sun exposure, heat, rain, snow, ice, wind).	Sunburn, heat exhaustion / heat stroke, hypothermia, slippery surfaces, poor visibility	Low	Participants to wear suitable clothing, i.e. waterproofs to protect against rain and wind, sun hats and sunscreen to protect against the sun, and warm clothing to protect against the cold. Eating high energy food will help to protect against the cold and carrying plenty to drink will help to prevent dehydration. Events will be cancelled during severe weather conditions.
Biological hazards (animal faeces, aggressive animals, insect bites or stings, poisonous and/or sharp vegetation)	Cuts, scratches and scrapes, allergies, infectious diseases (e.g. Lyme disease)	Low	Participants to wear suitable clothing (long sleeves and trousers) and gloves to reduce contact with biological hazards. Practise good hygiene, such as hand washing after fieldwork and before eating. Participants should check for ticks and bites after fieldwork and seek medical advice if they experience anything out of the ordinary. Avoid close contact with animals.
Using hand tools / hammers (if allowed on-site).	Injuries such as cuts, blisters, abrasions, impacts from tool or flying debris	Low	Safety talk to be given on the correct way to use, carry and store tools. Correct methods should be demonstrated by a competent member of staff, and appropriate PPE to be worn/used. All tools should be in good working order.
Open water / flooded areas	Risk of falling in, drowning, hypothermia, disease.	Low	Indicate the hazard when on site. Keep well away from flooded areas and never allow swimming in disused quarries.
Traffic & moving vehicles	Injury from collisions or being run-over.	Low	On roads with poor visibility and/or no pavement walk in single file and wear hi-vis jackets at front and rear of group. Avoid crossing as a single large group, especially if it will result in congestion on the far side. Do not follow others across the road without checking for traffic yourself. Walk on right of minor roads facing oncoming traffic.
Working in areas with poor mobile reception.	Delayed casualty evacuation	Low	Familiarise yourself with the use of the 112 emergency number, and pre-register your phone for sending texts to it. Consider carrying a pair of two-way radios to relay messages from the casualty site to a point where mobile signals can be received.



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