**Shropshire Ornithological Society 2005**

Risk Assessment

Site: Venus Pool Nature Reserve, Cound, Shropshire

NGR SJ547060

What3Words (double gates\*): dragging.encodes.waiters

Assessor: Graham Walker Tel: 07851 104660 Date: 26/3/23

Local A & E: Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Mytton Oak Rd, Shrewsbury SY3 8XQ

Activities: Use of Non-powered Hand Tools (Saws, Loppers, Secateurs, Spades etc) for undertaking routine management activities.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Hazard** | **Will Affect** | **Precautions/Controls required to remove hazard, reduce risk level** | **Risk (with controls)** | | | **Additional notes** |
| **L** | **S** | **R** |
| Terrain – slopes, obstacles, uneven ground. Slips, trips, falls. | All | Ensure care is taken on difficult terrain and when damp underfoot.  Wear suitable footwear and clothing. | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |
| Water – shallow to moderately deep water (up to 2m) and deep mud | All | Do not enter the main pool without further briefing and at least one other person present. | 1 | 3 | 3 | Ditches to the rear of the Memorial Hide, the ‘Norfolk Drain’, and the ditch in front of the Fen Hide are shallow with a safe bed and can be entered with caution. |
| Biological hazards, Weil’s disease (leptospirosis), tetanus | All | Wear gloves and use a hand sanitiser regularly and certainly before drinking or eating.  Clean and dress any wounds immediately. | 1 | 3 | 3 | Have first aid kit available. Volunteers and contractors may wish to seek medical advice regarding vaccination against tetanus. |
| Inclement weather | All | Dress appropriately and avoid open ground in the event of a thunderstorm | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |
| Sharp thorns and barbed wire causing scratches and minor puncture wounds | All | Wear suitable gloves and check working area for location of any barbed wire fencing | 2 | 1 | 2 | Have first aid kit available. |
| Accidental injury on unattended tool. | All | Store unattended tools safely at a suitable location at the work site | 2 | 1 | 2 | Have first aid kit available. |
| Incorrect use of tool | All | Know correct way to use the tool and ensure it is well-maintained.  Wear appropriate gloves (NB when using a bow saw, only wear a glove on the non-sawing hand). | 2 | 1 | 2 | If you are not aware how to correctly use a tool don’t use it!  Have first aid kit available. |
| Trip or fall with tool | All | Cover sharp tools when moving to and from the work site.  Do not leaving lying branches and other trip hazards at the work site. | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |
| Falling stems and branches when cutting | All | Ensure co-workers and other visitors are clear of the immediate working area. | 2 | 1 | 2 |  |
| Fires | All | Site fire at a suitable location away from the working area and where smoke will blow away from the working area. Keep fire to a manageable size and extinguish at the end of session | 1 | 3 | 3 | Fires to burn excess brash must only be started on agreed dates and locations. |

The three columns (L,S,R) are for assessing the level or degree of risk.

The first (L) is for an assessment of the likelihood of the hazard taking place, the second (S) for the severity of the hazard, both based on the following:

(L) LIKELIHOOD

1. Hazard exist very infrequently/ limited numbers exposed

2. Likely to occur; hazard exists intermittently or occurs occasionally

3. Likely to occur soon; permanent hazard or occurs daily/repeatedly; many may be exposed

(S) SEVERITY OF HAZARD

1. Could cause minor injury only

2. Could cause major injury/3+ day’s absence

3. Could cause fatality/severe injury

(R) RISK LEVEL is the product of LxS

Very high risk score 6 or 9 - **Very High Risks Need Immediate Action**

Moderate risk score 3 or 4

Low priority risk score 1 or 2

Notes

\*The area outside the double gates has been selected for the ‘What3Words’ location because an ambulance could park there off the road without needing to have the height limiter to the car park opened.