Annex 4: Example Risk Assessments

# Example 1: Risk Assessment for Using Pesticides

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| **NNRs covered by this risk assessment:** | Fenn’s, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses NNR | | **Date completed:** | 26/03/2020 |
| **Assessment of (e.g. Activity, Equipment, Individual)** | Pesticide use | | **Review date (max 1 year):** | 26/03/2021 |
| **Training required?**  **Yes** | | | **Signed off by (SRM/ Line Manager):** |  |
| **Training course:** | | | **Mandatory/Optional** | **Applicable? ()** |
| PA 1 | | | Mandatory | **** |
| PA 6 | | | Mandatory | **** |
| PA 6AW – If by a water course | | | Mandatory | **** |
| PA 6MC/INJ (as necessary) | | | Mandatory | **** |
| PA2 - If using a mounted or trailed boom sprayer | | | Mandatory | **** |
| PA2F - If using a mounted weed wipe | | | Mandatory | **** |
| First aid at work | | | Mandatory | **** |
| **Notes (e.g. mandatory safety precautions)** | Site safety maps are kept in all NNR vehicles. This map together with site safety information is emailed to third parties as appropriate.  Vodafone signal on NE phones is generally good. Third parties to check phone signal whilst on site.  Vodafone signal on NE phones around the base is variable but often non-existent within the buildings. If necessary, there are 2 landlines available in the adjacent office. Third parties to check phone signal whilst at the base.  Emergency contacts card in all NNR Vehicles & NE first aid kits.  Follow NE lone working policy as appropriate.  Risk assessments are available for all related operations – refer to these as necessary.   * General safety – Personal * General safety – Site (Fenns, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses) * Reserve base – Works buildings * Reserve base – Yard and external areas   First aid kit in all NNR vehicles and base buildings & each member of staff has a personal NE Kit. Eyewash in all NNR First aid kits & NNR Vehicles.  ***Note: young persons, new & expectant mothers etc., a separate risk assessment should be recorded.*** | | | |
| **Minimum PPE/RPE requirements** | * Type 5 or 6 disposable coverall * CE marked nitrile gloves * Disposable examination nitrile gloves for underneath CE marked gloves (EN 374) * Steel toe-capped wellingtons (EN ISO 20345:20011) * CE marked face-shield * Safety glasses (BS EN166) * CE marked carbon-filter respirator system – if spraying for prolonged periods * Ear protection – when using Stihl SR450 Mistblower (output 109 dB) (BS EN352) | | | |
| **What are the hazards common to all?** | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What precautions are you already taking?** | **What additional local precautions are required?** | |
| Spillage/Leakage | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Illness, Irritation, Chemical Burns, Loss of Eye Sight | Conduct a site assessment before pesticide use.  All precautions must be taken to stop spray/runoff entering water courses.  All chemicals must be stored in an appropriate chemical safe in their correct containers with their product labels. They must be transported/stored on site in accordance with COSHH regulations in the mini-chem safes.  All staff/volunteers/contractors mixing chemicals must hold appropriate NPTC Certificates of Competence. Volunteers only to use pesticides under direct supervision of qualified personnel.  All tops to be replaced after mixing and undiluted chemicals stored in locked container.  Spray excess diluted pesticide on specified areas. | Ensure the Pesticide Folder is taken out to site. This contains the NNR safety map, emergency plan, emergency contact card, product labels, COSHH sheets, this risk assessment and a blank risk assessment sheet.  At the NNR Base there is spill absorbing materials. | |
| Ingesting, Skin in Direct Contact with harmful chemicals | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Illness, Irritation, Chemical Burns, Loss of Eye Sight | Appropriate protective clothing to be worn at all times, see PPE section above.  Regulations for mixing and disposal of chemicals and chemical containers must be observed.  Washing facilities must be available, both for personal use and for washing of equipment and clothing.  Food and drink must not be consumed until after ‘cleaning up’. Eyewash to be available on site.  To avoid contamination do not go into any vehicles with any pesticide equipment on.  Only spray in appropriate weather conditions, avoiding strong winds (to minimize drift)  Store chemicals in the NNR Base chemsafes and transport chemicals in mini-chemsafes. Spill kits should be available for mopping up spills at the NNR Base.  Specify an area for the cleaning of spraying equipment/PPE. | Read the COSHH sheet for the substance being used. Copies of the COSHH sheets are available in the Pesticide Folder and at the Manor House NNR Office.  If clothing becomes contaminated it must be removed immediately. An emergency shower is available at the Manor House NNR base. | |
| Vibration and Noise | Staff, Volunteers, and Contractors  White-Finger Syndrome, Loss of hearing | HAVS usage limits for Stihl SR450 Mistblower, must be complied with (max sole daily usage 4 hrs 12 mins) and the usage form completed daily.  Wear ear protection when using Stihl SR450 Mistblower (output 109 dB). |  | |
| Poked/ Direct contact with chemical on eye | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Damage to eye, loss of sight | Care must be taken when using paint brushes on bamboo canes to avoid poking people in the eye. Wear safety glasses to avoid splashes into eyes. |  | |
| Heavy lifting | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Back strain | Do not overfill mistblowers & knapsack sprayers –if possible fill them on back of the ATV to make lifting onto back easier.  Ensure safe lifting techniques are followed. Carry equipment by your side to avoid trips.  Refer to **Manual handling and lifting equipment RA.** |  | |
| Ingestion or Direct contact with chemical | Livestock  Illness/Irritation | Graziers must be informed if application is in fields containing stock. |  | |
| Ingestion or Direct contact with chemical | Members of the public  Illness/Irritation | If the area is used by the public, it must be well signed for at least 24 hours after spraying. Warning signs must be erected and visible on track-ways near spraying areas. |  | |

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| **What are the hazards specific to your site/ staff/ equipment?** E.g. site features such as steep slopes, individual issues such as new starters, equipment features such as known complexities. | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What precautions are you already taking?** | **What additional local precautions are required?** |
| Deep Peat | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Vehicles sink into peat | Where practical, spray from the back of a tracked vehicle |  |
| Deep Ditches | Staff, Volunteers, Contractors  Drowning | Use a long lance when spraying close to deep ditches.  Refer to **Working in or near water RA.** |  |
| Turnover of trainees, volunteers, work placement students | New starters, staff, volunteers, contractors, visitors | Ensure new starters are briefed in safe working practices, provided with appropriate PPE and supervised as necessary by qualified personnel when working with pesticides. |  |

Please add more lines if required.

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| **General comments:** | A record must be kept of pesticide application in the NNR diary, which must be completed after each time of use, specifying weather conditions including temperature, wind direction and wind speed.  Complete the daily HAVS usage sheet if using the mistblower. |

# Example 2: Risk Assessment for Working on Peatlands

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| **NNRs covered by this risk assessment:** | Fenn’s, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses NNR | | | **Date completed:** | 30/03/2020 |
| **Assessment of (e.g. Activity, Equipment, Individual)** | Working on Peatlands | | | **Review date (max 1 year):** | 30/03/2021 |
| **Training required? Tick all that apply** | | | | **Signed off by (SRM/ Line Manager):** |  |
| **Training course:** | | | | **Mandatory/Optional** | **Applicable?** |
| First Aid at Work | | | | Mandatory |  |
| Other (Please specify): | | | |  |  |
| **Notes (e.g. mandatory safety precautions)** | Site safety maps are kept in all NNR vehicles. This map together with site safety information is emailed to third parties as appropriate.  Vodafone signal on NE Phones is generally good. Third parties to check phone signal whilst on site. Emergency contacts card in all NNR Vehicles & NE first aid kits.  Follow NE lone working policy as appropriate.  Risk assessments are available for all related operations – refer to these as necessary. In particular refer to:   * General safety - Personal * General safety - Site (Fenns, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses)   First aid kit in all NNR vehicles & each member of staff has a personal NE Kit. Eyewash in all NNR First aid kits & NNR Vehicles.  ***Note: young persons, new & expectant mothers etc., a separate risk assessment should be recorded.*** | | | | |
| **Minimum PPE/RPE requirements** | * Work Gloves * Rubber gloves and Nitrile Examination Gloves – when working with water * Steel toe capped high ankle boots/ wellingtons (EN ISO 20345:20011) | | | | |
| **What are the hazards common to all?** | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What precautions are you already taking?** | **What additional local precautions are required?** | | |
| Uneven, often soft terrain, particularly on rehabilitated cuttings. Old peat pits. | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Slips and Trips | Where possible avoid work in the wettest areas over the winter season.  Wear suitable footwear (waterproof if necessary) with a firm grip. | Pre-plan works using site maps to determine where heavily cut areas are in the work area.  Walk over site with caution in-case peat pits are over grown/covered by brash. | | |
| Danger of machinery bogging down and overturning. Uneven tracks. Vehicles tip sideways when one pair of wheels is kept on the firm track side and the other is in soft peat. | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Cuts, Bruises, Whip Lash, Concussion | Only trained drivers to drive machinery.  Fill track holes with peat/chip.  Protect personnel in vehicles and goods on trailers.  Tractor link-boxes must not be used for personnel carriage.  Cover blades of all sharp tools. All small or sharp-edged tools in trailers/tractor link boxes must should be carried in a tool box.  There are First Aid kits in every vehicle. | Pick routes to avoid known wet spots on tracks and peat cuttings. | | |
| Ditches, bog pools, fire pools, pits Fenn’s Main drain weir, wide U-pipes and other watercourses.  Minor ditches 0.5-1 m deep. Main drains >1 m deep. Overhanging and floating plants, sides unstable. Soft, ‘bottomless’ base to dammed cuttings | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors.  Drowning, Hypothermia | Maintain official crossing places and make personnel and others aware of their positions. | Otherwise cross established peat dams Ensure workers know the drain pattern in the work area.  No lone working on very soft saturated areas, by the main drain & Sect. 14 south and 11.1  Avoid the Fenn’s weir and ensure netting is maintained on large U-pipes.  Maintain safety fencing at the Fenn’s Old Works railway culvert, the Marl Allotment ditch and Bettisfield pond  Bring throw line when working close to main drains.  Leave the Moss at dusk unless on special monitoring tasks.  One side of fire pools is graded to permit escape. Keep spare set of clothing at NNR Base in case of falling in ditches. Emergency shower at NNR base.  Maintain deep drain, weir, crossing point and fire pool signs and posts. | | |
| Deep pools/ borrow pits by dams and bunds | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Drowning, Hypothermia |  | Warn users crossing dams or walking on bunds.  Test dams/bunds before crossing.  Don’t step off dams/bunds into water where you can’t see the ground beneath. | | |
| Slippery ditch crossings/ ragged mesh covering | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Slips, Trips, Cuts and Bruises | Replace rotten sleepers and maintain bridge marker posts and mesh on walkways.  Remove and replace any loose mesh.  Walk over crossings with caution. | Inspect for and clear of peat regularly. | | |
| Main Drain - polluted water and deep silt in base, half full downstream of wear so hard to climb out of. | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Weil’s disease, Sporotrichosis, Hypothermia and Drowning. | Wear rubber gloves with nitrile examination gloves underneath when working in ditches.  Wash hands before eating or drinking if they have been working in ditch.  Workers to be made aware of their flu like symptoms. | No lone working involving the Main Drain, without regular telephone contact with another worker.  Take throw-line if working by the Main Drain.  Be aware of shallower 100 yd interval side drains. | | |
| Unstable shallow-rooted trees prone to windblow. | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Crush injuries, Concussion, Cuts and Bruises. | Check the weather forecast prior to work near trees. | Keep out of unstable peat areas.  No lone working and wear waders in unstable carr area on 14.1 and 11.1 and along the Quob. Be aware that trees can flip if being winched.  Avoid trees on peat in high winds. If unavoidable wear a hard hat. | | |
| Adders | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Inflammation, Pain, Bruising, Nausea, Fast Heart Rate, Sweating, Breathing Difficulties, Confusion and Dizziness | Look before touching the ground/sitting down.  Wellingtons/high boots should be worn at all possible times.  Check for adders in areas where work is being carried out.  First aid procedure if bitten:  -Remain calm and keep the part of the body that been bitten as still as possible to prevent the spread of venom around the body.  -Remove jewellery/watches from around the bitten limb.  -Loosen clothing if possible.  -Keep the casualty still and calm.  -Seek immediate medical attention by dialling 999. | Signs on noticeboards explaining the first aid procedure.  Wear gauntlet gloves when lifting brash and rubbish. | | |
| Stings and Bites – Insects/Plants | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Irritation, Illness and Inflammation | Wear long sleeves/full length trousers.  Use Insect repellent.  Use anti-inflammatory on any effected areas.  Wear work gloves when working with stinging/ thorny plants. |  | | |
| Slippery irregular brash mats. Brash obscuring ditches. Roots can project from tracks. Projecting tree/bush stumps, obscured by vegetation. | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Slips and Trips | Warn public to keep off the brash tracks.  Trail routes are to be inspected regularly for projecting roots, overhanging trees etc.  Noting if tree work has previously taken place in that work area. |  | | |
| Projecting metal | Staff, Volunteers and Contractors  Cuts, Bruises, Slips and Trips | Inspect work areas.  Wear work gloves if moving metal.  Wear steel toe capped boots/wellingtons on site, especially if working near known metal.  Inform others wear metal has been found. Mark on annual audit. |  | | |

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| **What are the hazards specific to your site/ staff/ equipment?** E.g. site features such as steep slopes, individual issues such as new starters, equipment features such as known complexities. | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What precautions are you already taking?** | **What additional local precautions are required?** |
| Turnover of trainees, volunteers, work placement students | New starters | Ensure new starters to be briefed on safe practices whilst working on the peatland during their induction. New starters should be accompanied by staff during their first few weeks on the reserve. Staff to highlight hazards and safe working practices. |  |

Please add more lines if required.

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| **General comments:** |  |