**Risk Assessment Template (H&S) NNRs**

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| **NNRs covered by this risk assessment:** | List NNRs: Humberhead Peatlands NNR | **Date completed:** | 12/5/22 |
| **Assessment of (e.g. Activity, Equipment, Individual)** | General Site Risk Assessment | **Review date (max 1 year):** | 11/5/23 |
| **Training required? Tick all that apply** | | **Signed off by (SRM/ Line Manager):** | Julian Small |
| **Training course:** | | **Mandatory/Optional** | **Applicable? ()** |
| Other (Please specify): | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
| **Notes (e.g. mandatory safety precautions)** | * Mobile phone reception generally fair for the NNR – poor on road section through Will Pitts Wood on Thorne and within buildings * Site hazard map available in the office and on Sharepoint * Check expected weather conditions before going out on site * Read the **Tick RA** * **Lone working** : Buddy system must be used for any lone working. Outside of office hours, the PeopleSafe system must be used by staff and volunteers * **See also CoronaVirus RA** | | |
| **Minimum PPE/RPE (respiratory) requirements** | Tick proof clothing is recommended if working off paths other than in winter  Stout footwear should be worn, and waterproof clothing carried  Biting flies can be very severe in the summer, insect repellent and midge hoods may be appropriate | | |

| **What are the hazards?** | **Who might be harmed and how?** | **What precautions are you already taking?** | **What additional local precautions are required?** |
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| Open Water, (ditches, lakes, ponds and scrapes) | Staff, volunteers and visitors - drowning, emersion leading to hypothermia and water-borne diseases, Leptospirosis etc | 1. Warning - site literature warns of water hazards  2. Accessible life buoys provided close to the lakes on Hatfield Moor  3. Barriers of scrub or fencing maintained where people have swum in the past, to make access to water difficult  4. Barriers between access routes and open water provided at key points. specifically on access infra-structure e.g. dipping platforms, by ditches where they may not be visible from route, e.g. on a bend  5. Awareness of water-borne diseases raised during specific activities  6. Maintain deep water warning signs on all appropriate structures, and where there are particular hazards along managed routes  7. Cross drains at crossing points, do not attempt to jump drains.  8. Gauge boards installed at key survey vantages. | 1. continued monitoring of equipment and infrastructure to ensure that it is in good condition  2. review any any incidents where visitors have accessed open water  3. ensure that the risk of water-borne diseases is assessed as part of any activity where contact may be made with open water on site  4. There are numerous drains on site, and crossing points are often not obvious. Check location of crossing points when planning routes.  5. Effective use of Seasonal Warden and staff and NNR volunteers for wardening.  6. Consider relevant Water Safety training courses to higjhlight risk when standing on drain edges and use of lifejackets if a risk of falling in.  7. PPE for person in ditch in case of clearing out around pump for eg – tie into that specific RA |
| Soft Peat/Mud | Staff, volunteers and visitors - partial emersion leading to hypothermia or physical injury, and water-borne diseases, Leptospirosis etc, vehicles getting stuck | 1. Site literature warns of the hazards associated with soft boggy areas  2. bog holes on the most heavily used tracks are addressed by either the provision of a stretch of boardwalk, or by filling the hole with brash and woodchips  3. use the most appropriate form of transport for the ground conditions | 1. continued assessment of the tracks and repair of bog holes as necessary. Mark off with warning tape any dangerous bog holes mark off, sign to request visitors go around and make that possible with a cut out to side |
| Uneven ground, built infrastructure on tracks, e.g. boardwalks, former railway infra-structure | Staff, volunteers and visitors - trips and falls, leading to physical injury and risk of cuts and infection, e.g. tetanus | 1. Site literature warns of the hazards associated with uneven ground  2. Built access infra-structure is regularly inspected and maintained  3. Access to tetanus boosters for those regularly undertaking high-risk activities, subject to medical advice from individuals’ doctors.  4. access to first aid for those undertaking planned activities | Some areas off the paths are very uneven due to old peat workings or more recent scrub clearance. Check around any working areas for trip hazards prior to commencing task.  Avoid walking off tracks and paths if possible. |
| Biting insects - midges, mosquitos, horse-flies and ticks | Staff, volunteers and visitors - insect-borne diseases , but also the nuisance of insects will exacurbate other site risks | 1. Site literature warns of the hazards associated with biting insects  2. Provision of insects repellent or protective clothing (long sleeves, trousers, and midge hoods) for planned activities during the summer  3. Raise awareness of ticks, the importance of checking for them and the risks of Lyme's Disease. | Ticks are common on site. Check for ticks after visiting and remove using a tick removal tool. See Tick RA  Tick proof clothing is recommended to be worn if working off paths other than in winter |
| Remote and exposed nature of the site | Staff, volunteers and visitors - risk of getting lost, exposure, sun-stroke/dehydration, these exacurbating other hazards | 1. Site literature warns of the nature of the site  2. Provision of interpretation, waymarks and leaflets to help visitors orientate themselves  3. Use of welfare facilities for planned activities  4. Liaison with emergency services to help a quick reponse to an emergency  5. Implement a strict lone working policy, for staff, volunteers and contractors  6. Check weather prior to going out on site and wear appropriate clothing to the conditions. Avoid prolonged expose to poor conditions |  |
| Size of the site | Staff, volunteers and visitors - risk of getting lost, exposure, sun-stroke/dehydration, these exacurbating other hazards | Check site maps prior to going out on site, and plan routes acording to ability and time available. Use mapping applications on Smart Phones  Check locations of ditch crossing points if not using main paths/tracks. |  |
| Other people, and their dogs/vehicles/horses – quads and other illegal access | Staff, volunteers and visitors - agressive interactions or collisions, including with animals | 1. awareness raised amongst staff and volunteers - implementation of policy regarding anti-social/illegal activity  2. horse permit system, a condition of which is definition of available routes and speed  3. Signage asking dog owners to keep dogs on leads  4. Signage asking cyclists to use site as OA Higher Rights allows. | Essentially, the risks on the NNR are no higher than public sites elsewhere, but staff and volunteers must continue to exercise extreme caution when tackling anti-social behaviour, including out-of-control dogs.  There must be no approach to people suspected of undertaking poaching or carrying firearms - this is a police issue only |
| Adders | staff. volunteers, visitors - venomous bite | 1. Site literature warns of the hazard  2. Appropriate footwear and legwear to be worn during planned activities |  |
| Fire/Smoke | Staff/volunteers and visitors - smoke inhalation/burns | 1. policy of closing any parts of site affected by smoke or fire  2. agreed fire plan with fire services to ensure a quick and effective response to incidents |  |
| Dangerous Trees | Staff/volunteers/visitors - collision from falling tree/branches | 1. implement the NE tree safety policy  2. make safe hazardous trees in priority zones  3. Avoid working amonst trees in high winds |  |
| Site Management Works | staff/volunteers/visitors - various hazards dependnant on the activity being carried out | Various hazards, risks assessed in detail under that activity, but where there are significant hazards the affected part of the site will either be closed or signed for awareness |  |
| Built-structures | staff/volunteers/visitors - fall from height, trip, fall of structure onto person, cuts and scrapes | Structures are regularly inspected for safety, the frequency commensurate with the ease of access and degree of risk.  Where structures can be accessed, but it is not intended for the public to do so, risks are controlled through signage or barriers |  |
| Livestock/deer | staff/volunteers/visitors - injury from aggressive animals, hygiene | Warning signs at public entrances to regularly grazed areas  No grazing from individual livestock with a history of aggression  risk assessment of activities involving livestock handling and deer management | Areas currently grazed must be appropriately signed regardless of access. |
| Bracken/poisenous plants and fungi | staff/volunteers/visitors - ingestion of poison, brarcken spores are carcinogenic | Awareness raised during planned activities  Avoid working amongst sporing bracken in late Aug and Sept |  |
| Litter/fly-tipping/dead animals – Avian flu, foot and mouth outbreaks | staff/volunteers/visitors - needles, sharp objects, hygiene | timely disposal of waste as necessary, following the correct regulatory procedures | Ad-hoc outbreaks such as Avian flu guidance |