

RISK ASSESSMENT

Devon
Wildlife Trust

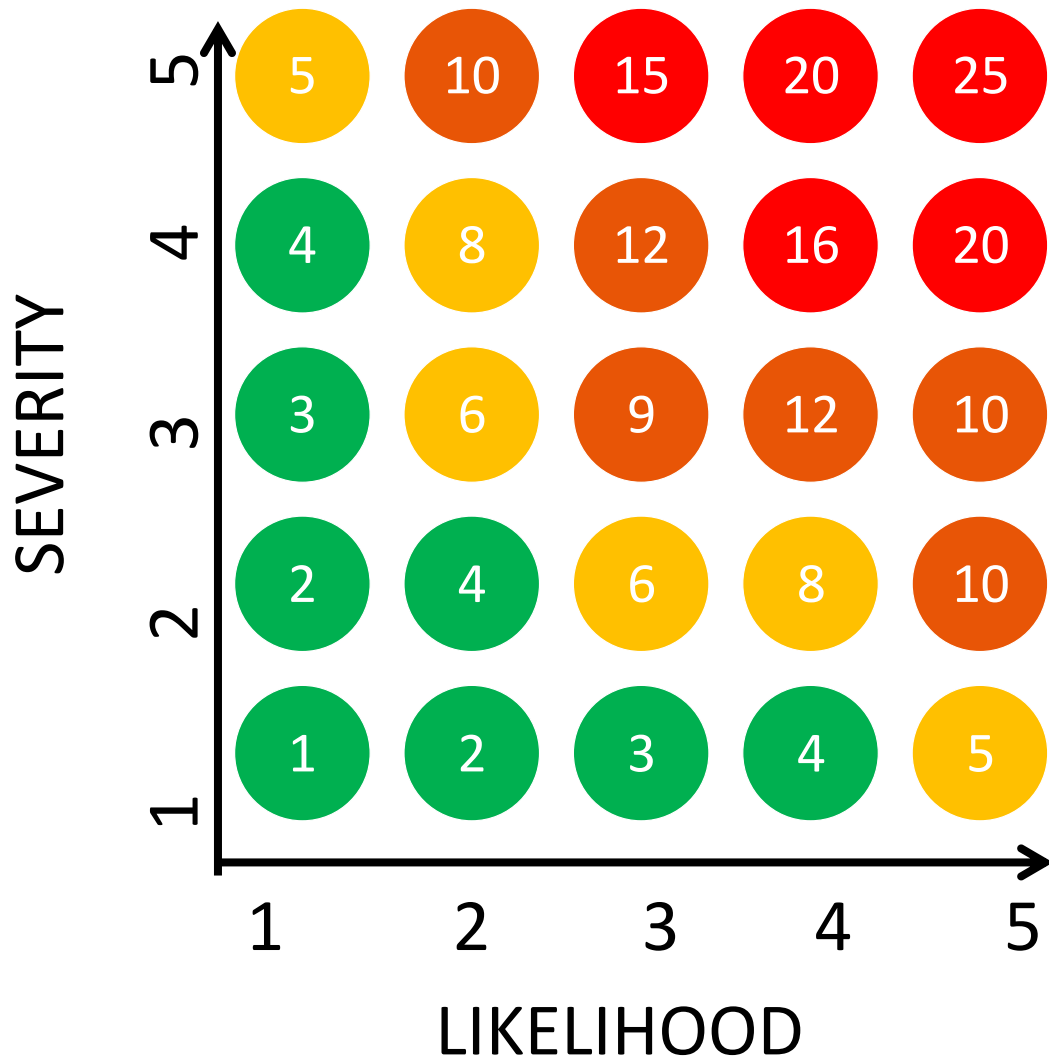


Activity	Lichen Monitoring– During Covid19		
Location	Various		
Intended Recipient	Rosie Cotgreave/Jess Smallcombe (DBRC)		
Risk Assessment Prepared by	Rosie Cotgreave/Jess Smallcombe (DBRC)		
Valid From	20.01.2021	Valid To	31.03.2021
		Date of Review	22.03.2021

Number of access points	
Description of how to find access points	Volunteers will choose their own locations to search. These will be across Devon. The volunteer must ensure they have checked the site location and know where they are going.
4x4 Access	
Nearest Hospital	Torbay Hospital (24 hour A&E): Lowes Bridge, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 7AA 01803 614567 Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital (24 hour A&E): Barrack Rd, Exeter, EX2 5DW. Tel: 01392 411611 North Devon District Hospital (24 hour A&E): Raleigh Park, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 4JB 01271 322577 Musgrove Park Hospital (24 hour A&E): Parkfield Drive, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 5DA 01823 333444

Grid Reference	Various
Nearest public phone	
Number of access points	

A Risk Assessment is not valid unless signed. This Risk Assessment must be signed by an authorised individual			
Number of access points		Number of access points	
Manager / Director	R.Cotgreave	Print Name	R.Cotgreave



KEY			
LIKELIHOOD		SEVERITY	
1	Extremely Unlikely	1	Very Minor Injury
2	Unlikely	2	First Aid Injury
3	Possible	3	Lost Time Injury
4	Likely	4	Hospital Treatment
5	Very Probable	5	Disabling Injury

LIKELIHOOD X SEVERITY = RISK RATING

MEANING OF RISK RATING	
RISK RATING	ACTIONS
4 OR BELOW	Acceptable.
5 - 8	Tolerable.
9 - 14	Tolerable. Additional controls must be introduced as soon as possible
15 and over	Unacceptable. Activity must not proceed and additional controls must be introduced to lower the risk to below 9

HAZARD	WHO MAY BE HARMED AND HOW?	WHAT ARE WE ALREADY DOING TO CONTROL RISK OR REDUCE IT TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL?	RESIDUAL RISK		
			L	S	R
<u>National lockdown restrictions</u>	<p>There is currently a national lockdown in England that all staff and volunteers need to adhere to.</p> <p>When this ends, the current Government guidance must be adhered to.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can find full details of the lockdown on the Government website here: National lockdown: Stay at Home - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Volunteering and exercise is permitted, but MUST be conducted within guidelines. Only conduct surveys on your own or with someone from your household or support bubble. Do not travel outside your area. 			
<u>Contracting Covid19 At risk Groups</u>	<p>Staff members and volunteers – those they may have contact with</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers who are following social distancing guidance, protecting older people and vulnerable adults. Staff and volunteers (or anyone in their household) who are self-isolating as a result of showing one of the symptoms of coronavirus AND are well enough to be working. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers that fall into these categories must stay at home 	5	5	25
<u>Contracting Covid19</u>	<p>Staff members and volunteers – people they may have contact with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure no contact is made with others Ensure a minimum of 2m distance if approached by other persons Employ strict hygiene practices Do not share equipment Log all sites visited and times 	2	5	10

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Contracting Covid19 Inability to maintain adequate distance	Staff members and volunteers who find themselves unable to maintain the mandatory 2m spacing from other people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff and volunteers are instructed to maintain a minimum distance of 2m from all people they encounter If a member of staff or volunteer finds themselves in a situation where a member of the public comes closer than is safe, the member of staff must insist the person moves to a safer distance. If the person does not comply, the member of staff must walk away immediately If the nature of the activity means that 2m cannot be maintained for any reason, it should be halted and redesigned in a manner that does allow it 	2	5	10
Contracting Covid19 Physical contact	Physical contact between people is a proven method of transmission. Members of staff and volunteers may be susceptible of contracting COVID-19 if physical contact occurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers are instructed not to shake hands or undertake any other physical contact on greeting or leaving another individual Maintaining a distance of 2m at all times will prevent the likelihood of this happening 	1	5	5
Contracting Covid19 Lack of handwashing facilities	Handwashing and good hygiene are the main method of combating the virus. Staff and volunteers who cannot uphold this may be at increased risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand washing facilities are not available in the public reserves. Staff and volunteers should be prepared with antibacterial handwash (alcohol based) Staff and volunteers should touch their face as little as possible If wearing gloves for lichen searching, staff and volunteers must remove gloves carefully at the end of work, ensuring they do not come into contact with the outer surface during removal 	2	5	10
Contracting Covid19 Communal equipment	Sharing tools, equipment or PPE would significantly increase the risk of contracting or spreading the virus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tools and equipment must not be shared. Ensure there are adequate numbers of equipment before setting out PPE must never be shared – this would be an extreme risk 	1	5	5
Contracting Covid19	Surfaces that may have been touched by other people may	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers are instructed to avoid touching gates, fences, styles etc wherever possible 	1	5	5

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Infected surfaces	harbour traces of the virus. Staff and volunteers coming into contact with these surfaces may be at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where this isn't possible then routine hand cleansing must be followed 			
Contracting Covid19 Litter	Discarded tissues and other materials may have been used to catch sneezes and coughs – highly likely to contain significant traces of the virus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers must not attempt litter picking without using litter pickers – assess the risk of the item before collection – high risk items should be left If a litter picker is not available then gloves may be a suitable alternative but may become contaminated during contact If litter is picked up safely, it must be disposed of immediately. If it is put in a bag, the bag must be immediately sealed and ensured its final disposal would not present a risk to others (ie if the bag was not properly sealed and the contents spilled out at a later date) 	1	5	5
Contracting Covid19 Suspected Exposure	If exposure to the virus is suspected, staff and volunteers may become carriers and spreaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a member of staff or volunteer suspects that they may have been exposed to the virus – especially if they were unable to avoid close contact with a carrier – they must stop work immediately, keep a minimum distance of 2m from all other people and contact their manager for further advice immediately Log all visit locations 	2	5	10
<u>Aggressive individuals</u>	Staff member or volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveying will take place on private (only with permission) and public land. Be aware of body language of approaching individuals Clearly explain reasons to keep safe 2m distance Diffuse situation – provide Director contact details Leave site / walk away 	1	5	5
<u>Uneven Ground</u> slips, trips, falls		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay within your own limits – don't do it if you feel uncomfortable Take care, slow down – allow enough time for activity Wear suitable footwear 	2	3	6
<u>Lichen searching</u>	Staff members or volunteers may get scratched or poked by twigs when searching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always stay within your own limits – don't do it if you feel uncomfortable Be aware of your surroundings Wear suitable clothing and footwear Don't climb to unsafe heights to reach lichen sites – instead use a stick to lower branches to your height where possible or move on. 			

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<u>Parking and walking on roads</u> Road traffic accident		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not use headphones while walking along roads Ensure you are in control of your actions while on a road (i.e. no alcohol, any bags are easy to carry, dogs under control) 	1	5	5
<u>Livestock</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will not be livestock on site during training, but if you return to look another time, please be aware the fields are sometimes grazed. Leave gates as you find them If approached by livestock remain calm and do not make sudden movements, avoid eye contact and move calmly away to nearest exit Dogs under strict control 	1	5	5
<u>Dogs</u> Bites, scratches		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dogs under strict control If approached by a strange dog - stay still – do not run away. Drop anything you are holding in case this is what has attracted the dog to you. Do not shout or wave your arms. Calmly and softly give a command such as ‘sit’ or ‘stay’, as many dogs respond to these Avoid eye contact – do not look the dog directly in the eye as this can be seen as a form of aggression. Ignore the dog if it jumps up – do not shout or push the dog down, as it may think it is a game. Stay still and do not respond and it may eventually get bored and walk away. If you are knocked to the ground, remain motionless in the foetal position and protect your face When you move, move slowly and stay facing the dog 	1	4	4
<u>Bites and stings</u> Anaphylactic shock, skin irritation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be aware of plants that might cause skin irritation (i.e. stinging nettles and hogweed) and biting/stinging animals and insects (i.e. adders, horseflies, bees, wasps, hornets) In particular, be aware of risks from blackthorn. Wear gloves where appropriate Always carry appropriate medication if you suffer from anaphylaxis 	1	5	5
<u>Ticks</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Try to avoid walking through dense bracken 	1	4	4

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Lyme Disease		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check for ticks thoroughly after walking through dense vegetation / bracken Remove ticks carefully if found and remain vigilant for symptoms (bull's eye). 			
<u>Avian Flu</u>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you see a dead wild bird, keep up wind of them and do not approach Do not accept any birds (dead or alive) from members of the public Phone the helpline 03459 33 55 77 to report any findings 	1	4	4
<u>Adverse weather conditions</u> sunburn/ sunstroke, exposure/ hypothermia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Dress appropriately for conditions (e.g. sun hats, warm / waterproof clothing) 2.Check the weather forecast in advance of your visit 3.If severe weather sets in – postpone or abandon 4. Be aware of river levels when close to water. 	2	4	8
<u>Electric fences</u> Electrocution		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There should not be any electric fences in public parks, but may occur on private land: Ask the landowner before surveying. Be vigilant whilst walking and keep an eye out for electric fences, including knee high fences Do not attempt to cross electric fences, find an alternative route Do not cross electric fences if you have a pacemaker 	1	4	4

Note that likelihood (L) should be based on likelihood of risk after control measures have been put in place. The end column (R) Residual Risk should be coloured to reflect the risk rating using the scoring matrix