SARG Surveyors' Generic Risk Assessment



Page 1 of 3

	Hazard	Risk	Control measures	Risk Level
1	Assault	Physical injury or sexual assault	Try to defuse any potentially confrontational situations. If possible walk away. Contact police if unsure or feel threatened. Apply Lone Working Procedures.	Low
2	Stings and bites	Diseases, allergic reaction	If known allergy to stings take appropriate medication on site. If feeling unwell after a site visit seek medical attention.	Moderate
3	Ticks	Transmission of Lyme disease	Be aware of ticks (e.g. BADA-UK www.bada-uk.org) and take precautions in the field. Wear long trousers and long sleeves, use insect repellent, avoid brushing through tall vegetation, check clothing for ticks, and consult a doctor in the event of tick bite.	Low to high depending on whether ticks present locally.
4	Ponds or deep water	Pond water may contain bacteria that may cause disease (e.g. <i>Leptospirosis</i> /Weil's disease).	Treat all pond (etc.) water as potentially pathogenic. Do not ingest, do not expose cuts on skin to pond water. Wear gloves to protect against scratches when working near water. Wash hands after immersion in pond water and especially prior to eating. If feeling unwell after accidental ingestion of pond water or contact with open wound; seek medical attention.	High
		Drowning	Take care when near water bodies. Do not lone work near water bodies. Take throw- rope when working near water.	Moderate
5	Cold	Hypothermia	Wear appropriate clothing. Inform group leader if feeling cold.	Low/Moderate in winter
6	Concealed holes/ ditches	Physical injury, ankle injuries	Take care when walking through areas of deep habitat or areas where there is poor footing visibility. Avoid areas of poor footing visibility is possible.	High
7	Dogs	Bites, lacerations, disease	Be wary of dogs off leads. Disinfect any bites and seek medical attention.	Moderate
8	Adders	Envenomation. allergic reaction, paralysis	Never attempt to pick up adders unless trained and equipped to do so. Take care to look at ground when kneeling or placing hands on ground. Wear stout boots. Take extra care when lifting refugia or debris.	Moderate, Low in winter

SARG -

SARG Surveyors' Generic Risk Assessment

Page 2 of 3

9	Exposure to sun	Sun burn	Where appropriate use sunscreen. Avoid midday sun if possible.	High
10	Hazardous waste/fly tipping	Cuts, lacerations, chemical burns, infection	Wear gloves when handling waste. If unsure of contents of containers or if known to be hazardous contact emergency services.	Moderate
11	Heat and difficult terrain	Exhaustion, dehydration	Walking difficult terrain will cause extra fatigue in hot weather. Do not rush and drink plenty of water.	Low
12	Old and partially buried structures.	Tripping, ankle injuries	Take care when footing is not clearly visible. Look for signs nearby of structures e.g, partially collapsed fence.	Moderate
13	Sharp grasses and thorny bushes	Eye injuries, cuts, lacerations, infection	Do not bend down or kneel in areas of Sharp sea grass or other sharp plants. Disinfect any lacerations or punctures	Moderate
14	Sharp objects (eg tins)	Cuts, lacerations, infection	Take care when picking up any potentially sharp objects. Wear gloves if appropriate or desired.	High
15	Recreational shooting	Physical injury	Do not approach any person suspected of carrying a weapon. If there is shooting allowed on site establish where and when shooting will take place and avoid. In cases of unauthorised shooting contact the police.	Low
16	Steep slopes/ unstable ground	Physical injury, trips, ankle injuries	Try to avoid climbing steep slopes. Take care with footing.	Moderate
17	Stock	Physical injury, trampling	Be aware of stock behaviour, if in doubt leave site. Do not take dogs on site.	Moderate
18	Tree felling	Injury from felled timber	In forestry plantations look out for indications of felling in progress (posted notices, sounds of felling activity). Avoid areas where/when felling is in progress.	Low
19	Military Ranges	Physical injury due to shooting.	Ensure access is permitted for live-firing ranges. Watch for red flags denoting range activity.	Moderate
		Physical injury due to unexploded ordnance.	Do not touch suspicious objects that you may come across on any active or historic military range.	Low
20	Trip hazards	Vegetation, fences in disrepair etc.	Be aware of your footfall, look before you step.	Moderate



SARG Surveyors' Generic Risk Assessment

Page 3 of 3

21	Working with children	Harm to children or allegation of improper behaviour made against adult	Ensure that any children attending an activity do so under the responsibility of a guardian.	Low
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