

LWA Fishing Section Risk Assessment

| Hazard | Who may be harmed and how. | Frequency | Steps Taken/ Advice Given | Do we need to do anything else |
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| Uneven Banks | All participants Risk of slips, trips and falls resulting in broken bones or immersion in cold water. | Frequent | Take care while walking around the lakes, particularly near the field centre. Only fish from designated swims. Be aware of ice or snow. In cold weather have a flask of hot drink with you. Always carry a charged mobile phone to summon assistance in case of emergency, ideally carried in a waterproof case or plastic bag. | Consider constructing purpose built platforms. Fence off areas of extreme danger, Trim and maintain swim areas as needed. Cut back brambles or trailing foliage that might cause a trip. |
| Deep Water | All participants Risk of drowning or hypothermia. | Very Frequent | Wear Suitable footwear. Take care when approaching the water. No wading or swimming. Life bouys are available at either end of the causaway | Signs to warn people of the dangers. Consider additional life bouys. |
| Pedestrians on the causeway | Risk of injury to people using the public footpath | Frequent | Be aware of your surroundings. Do not obstruct the footpath. Check before casting. Always give walkers the right of way. | Review as necessary. |
| Silt and Soft Mud | All participants Risk of drowning due to getting stuck or sinking into silt. | Frequent | No wading under any circumstances. Only fish from the bank. Have a landing net handle of suitable length. | Give adequate instructions in the fishermans rule and guidance notes each season. |

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| Blue/Green Algae | All participants Risk of illness following contact with poisonous algae. Risk of death to dogs following contact with alae. | Infrequent | Excercise good hygiene following contact with the water. Avoid eating or smoking without washing your hands. Do not drink the water under any circumstances. Fishing may be suspended under extreme circumstances. Keep your dog away from the water during outbreaks. | Ensure signs are put out during outbreaks to inform anyone of the risk. |
| Weils disease | All participants Risk of severe illness or even death following contamination | Frequent | Excercise good hygiene while fishing and following fishing session. Avidod discarding food or bait on the bank that may encourage rats. Wash your hands before eating, drinking or smoking. | Consider rodent control measures. Consider carrying hand sanitising liquid. |
| Unhooking fish and handling pike | All participants Risk of injury from hooks or bite injury from fish. | Infrequent | Take care when handling hooks. Use foreceps when necessary. Enlist the help of other anglers if you need to. | The use of barbless hooks is highly recommended |
| Lone occupation | Individual Members Risk of accidents or illness while fishing. | Frequent | Always tell someone when you intend to start and finish your session. Always carry a mobile phone with you. | |
| Entering and leaving the reserve | All participants Risk of collisions with traffic on this busy road. | Frequent | Be vigilant when entering and leaving the reserve gates as they have been the scene of accidents in the past. | Keep entrance and roadside hedges cut back to ensure good visability. Cut long grass on verges to ensure good visability. |
| Livestock | Risk of serious injury or death from cows with calves or bulls. | Infrequent | Be aware of the livestock around the reserve. Do not approach them, feed them or interfere with them in any way. | |

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| Insects | Risk of stings and bites leading to infections or serious reactions. | Seasonal | Wear suitable insect repellent. Watch out for wasp's nests in the banks- report if found. | |
| Fishing after dark | Risk of Falls and trips leading to serious injury or immersion in water. Potential risk of drowning. | Infrequent | Use a torch when needed. Be aware of your surroundings. Let someone know where you are. | Juniors should only fish after dark if accompanied by an adult. |
| Extremes of weather | All participants Risk of sunburn, heatstroke or dehydration. Risk of lightning strike leading to serious injury or death. Risk of hypothermia or frostbite in very cold conditions. Risk of slips or falls in icy conditions leading to serious injury or immersion in cold water with potential drowning. | Frequent | Be aware of the weather forecast for the day of your visit. In hot weather drink plenty of fluids, use sunscreen and suitable headwear to prevent sunburn. In very cold weather wear suitable clothing, have hot drinks and food available during long sessions on the bank. | Consider restricting activity during extremes of weather. |

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| Dogs | <p>All participants Risk of traffic accidents from uncontrolled dogs. Risk of attacks on members of the public or livestock due to uncontrolled dogs.</p> | Infrequent | <p>Although members may bring their dog fishing, they must be kept under strict control. Keep dogs away from the busy road. Do not allow dogs off the lead around livestock. Keep dogs on the lead on the causeway to avoid problems with members of the public.</p> | <p>Anyone found to have dogs out of control or causing problems will be asked to take their dog home and will not be permitted to bring dogs with them in future. Dogs must not be left in cars during hot weather. Always clean up after your dog and remove all waste from site.</p> |
| Alcohol and Drugs | <p>All participants Risk of slips, trips and falls due to effects of alcohol or drugs.</p> | Frequent | <p>The use of any non prescription drugs will not be tolerated on the reserve. We would not advise the drinking of alcoholic drinks whilst fishing and only moderate drinking will be tolerated. Take all litter home with you. Be aware of the limit for driving home after your session on the bank.</p> | <p>Anyone found to be drinking to excess may be banned from the reserve.</p> |