



HAZARD IDENTIFICATION / RISK ASSESSMENT

WILDFOWLING CLUB: LEICESTERSHIRE WILDFOWLERS ASSOCIATION

WORK ACTIVITY: WILDFOWLING

ACTIVITY LOCATION: COASTAL MARSHES – ASKEW WASH – KIRBY LAKES

GROUP AIMED AT: ALL LWA CLUB MEMBERS

RESPONSIBILITY OF: THE CLUB CHAIRMAN & THE WILDFOWLING SECTION HEAD

<u>Hazard</u>	<u>Risk.</u>	Uncontrolled				Recommended Safety Measures for Club Members	Residual			
		Likelihood	Severity	Frequency	Risk Category		Likelihood	Severity	Frequency	Risk Category
Walking to and from shooting position i.e. crossing creeks, ditches, wading water, small gullies, soft mud & sand, climbing fences & crossing bridges.	Slip / Trip / Fall / Stuck in soft mud or sand resulting in possible broken bones, sprains or death by drowning.	2	3	5	M	<p>When walking across the marshes carry a walking/wading stick to assist in checking for unforeseen holes, gullies, deep water, soft mud etc. Travel on routes that you are familiar with or that you have checked in daylight and retrace your steps if ground becomes softer.</p> <p>Carry a knife to cut straps on waders or clothing if required and If in difficulties in soft mud / quicksand spread your weight by lying flat on your back and work your way back out of trouble, leave your waders in the mud if needed these can be replaced.</p> <p>Take care when negotiating barbed wire fences, crossing waterways by plank or bridges that do not have handrails.</p> <p>Carry a mobile phone in case of an emergency and use of a torch when walking in the dark</p>	2	3	5	M

Tide	Getting cut off leading to possible death by hypothermia or drowning.	2	4	5	M	<p>Having a good knowledge of the area and tidal movement. Use of tide table and understanding of the information it gives, checking weather forecasts prior to visits. Be aware of deterioration of weather conditions as this could affect tide predictions putting you at risk</p> <p>Do not try to retrieve shot birds if in doubt of putting your own safety or your dogs at risk</p> <p>Note that decoys can provide flotation if tied together or held together in a rucksack</p> <p>Always carry a mobile phone and let someone know where you have gone to and what time you are expected back in the case of an emergency the Coastguard can be contacted by Dialling 999</p>	2	4	5	M
Out on the marshes, inland washes, lakes & ponds in the dark	Disorientated / getting lost resulting in being cut off by the tide leading to possible drowning	2	4	5	M	Have a good knowledge of the area that you are shooting over, carry a compass, torch, whistle and mobile phone at all times. Refer to your tide table to ensure that you know correct time and height of tide and let someone know where you are going and at what time you are expected back.	2	4	5	M
	Slip / Trips / Falls into holes, creeks & water resulting in broken bones & possible death	2	4	5	M	Use of walking/wading stick to help check route for possible trip hazards or deep water.	2	4	5	M
Adverse Weather Conditions – Cold Fog – Snow – Gales Storms –	Disorientated / getting lost and being drowned by tide, Hypothermia resulting in possible death	2	4	5	M	<p>Having a good knowledge of the area and tidal movement. Use of tide table and understanding of the information it gives you, check weather forecasts prior to visits. It is advised that you carry a compass, torch, mobile phone, and whistle and always let someone know where you have gone and your expected time of return.</p> <p>Always wear appropriate clothing to ensure that you do not lose body warmth. Be aware of deterioration of weather conditions as this could affect tide predictions putting you at risk.</p>	2	4	5	M

Lightening	Falling into covered up holes, creeks & ditches resulting in broken bones & possible death.	2	4	5	M	Use of walking/wading stick to help check route for possible trip hazards or deep water.	2	4	5	M
	Metal gun barrels etc. being struck by lightning causing possible death.	1	4	5	M	If a lightning storm develops during your flight put gun back into slip to reduce chance of being struck.	1	4	5	M
Using a boat	Boat capsizing in rough tide leading to possible injuries or drowning.	2	4	5	M	When using a boat to get to the area that you intend to shoot in, always wear a life jacket.	2	4	5	M
	Boat sinking due to collision or being over loaded leading to possible injuries or drowning.	2	4	5	M	Knowledge of the area, tide movements and channels is essential to ensure utmost safety and always treat the water with respect. Be aware of other boat users and possible floating debris. Do not overload boat with excessive equipment	2	4	5	M
	Falling overboard into cold water possible hypothermia or drowning.	2	4	5	M	Carry a flask containing a hot drink as this could help against hypothermia in the case of an emergency. A mobile phone is essential as you may be in need of urgent assistance from the Coast Guard etc.	2	4	5	M
	Unsecured boat floated away by the incoming tide or drifting on lake leading to being cut off on the marsh or stranded on the lake	2	4	5	M	Do not moor the boat over deep holes or channels, ensure that when leaving the boat unattended it is secure and cannot float away leaving you stranded.	2	4	5	M
Handling and use of shot guns	Getting mud stuck in gun barrels resulting in possible accident to user when fired.	2	3	5	M	Always carry your gun in a case to and from the area that you are intending to shoot from to ensure that the gun barrels do not get mud or other obstructions lodged in them. Check your barrels from time to time during use to ensure that they are clear.	2	4	5	M
	Taking low shots causing injury /death to others shooting on the marsh / Kirby Lakes	4	4	5	H	Be aware of your surroundings, make your presence known to others, if necessary call out, listen for a reply or if uncertain investigate. Do not take for granted you are on your own, as low flying shots could result in accidentally shooting other people or dogs.	2	4	5	M

	Walking with a loaded gun and accidentally shooting others/self by slip/trip/fall Shot bird-hitting wildfowler causing injuries to self or others.	2	4	5	M	Always unload your gun before moving position as a slip, trip or fall could result in the gun being accidentally discharged resulting in injury or death to self or others.	2	4	5	M
	Mixing different calibre cartridges when using one calibre gun can result in injury/death	2	3	5	M	Do not carry different calibre cartridges when using one calibre gun, if a 12 bore cartridge is accidentally put into a 10 bore gun it will slid into the barrel. A 10-bore cartridge put into the gun on top would result in the gun blowing up when fired causing injury/death. If using two calibre guns ensure that the different cartridges are kept separate.	2	3	5	M
Dogs	Worrying of Live Stock Being bitten leading to infections, injuries or possible death.	4	4	3	M	Keep dogs under close control at all times and on a lead when necessary, do not let them chase or worry livestock when walking across fields to access woodland or to crops that are to be protected as stampeding animals could cause injury or even death.	1	1	3	L