



Risk Assessment for _____ – Date ____/____/____

Activity	Hazards	Severity	Probability	Risk	Action to reduce risk
Working outdoors	Danger of injury or of illness through contact with animals				- Identify potential hazards during preliminary walk - Talk to landowners about location of potentially hazardous animals - Avoid contact with animals and dung - If walking in close proximity to long grass/bracken - check exposed parts of body for ticks. If a tick is found and you contract flu like symptoms - inform your doctor that you may have been exposed to Lyme's disease.
	Inclement weather				- Be aware that hazards may increase with rain, strong wind, thunderstorms. - Avoid /terminate outdoor activity in poor weather.
Remote working	Physical attack				- Take fully charged mobile phone for use in emergency - Keep group together
	Children getting lost / frightened / distressed				- Pre-walk briefing to state: All children to be accompanied by parent/carer. Close supervision and control by parent /carer - Group to keep to paths.
	Getting lost				- Identify/locate nearest phone box during daytime - To headcount at regular intervals and carry torch + spare batteries. - Instruct group to stay together during the walk - Issue leaders with high vis jackets
	Slips, trips, falls e.g. climbing fences/ stiles/obstacles				- Identify potential hazards before walk – orientate route to avoid any hazards where possible and where not possible inform public of hazards during walk. - Leader to give H & S talk in pre-walk briefing H & S to include appropriate footwear, appropriate clothing - Leader to carry small First aid kit - Keep route of walk to the paths
Walking by river, stream or other water body	Risk of drowning				- Non-swimmers and young children should always be accompanied when walking by water - Leaders to warn group of water hazard – to keep a safe distance from edge. - Cancel or change route of walk if risk of flooding. Be aware of tides - Ensure ratio of public to staff is adhered to.
	Risk of waterborne diseases, especially Weil's disease				- Avoid contact with water especially if cut or grazed - If contact with water made - wash affected area. If you contract flu like symptoms, inform your doctor that you may have been exposed to Weil's disease.

**Risk Assessment for _____ – Date ____/____/____****How risk is evaluated**

The aim of this risk assessment is to help you improve your own personal safety while carrying out surveys of bats in the field.

In everyday life all activity involves hazards - but the activity may not be risky. Being hit by a car while crossing the road is a potentially severe hazard - but the probability of it occurring is low - hence the risk that you will be harmed in that way is also low. The table lists possible hazards associated with various activities and the risk that these hazards pose to you has been evaluated - where Risk = Hazard Severity x Probability of Occurrence (see codes below).

Risk

Risks are categorised as follows:

1-6 = Acceptable (Low) 8-10 = Broadly acceptable (Medium) 12 - 16 = Not acceptable (High).

We recommend that you do not carry out any activity in the 'not acceptable' category – e.g. walking along steep banks next to water.

Hazard severity codes

- 1 = No injury
- 2 = Minor injury (professional medical attention is not required)
- 3 = Major injury / permanent disability
- 4 = Fatality

Probability of occurrence codes

- 1 = Very improbable
- 2 = Remote
- 3 = Could possibly occur at some point in the medium to long term
- 4 = Probable. The chances are that someone will suffer injury in the short to medium term.
- 5 = Likely. It is predictable that someone will be injured.

Summary advice: Don't take any unnecessary risks and if in doubt don't do it.

Risk Assessment for _____ **– Date** __/__/__

Bat Conservation Trust



Signed: _____

Name of group / Position: _____