



Waterways Survey

FIELDWORK RISK ASSESSMENT

The purpose of this document is to identify the risks which relate to the planned survey, and to describe the control procedures which will be adopted. The document identifies hazards which may be relevant to waterway surveys. For each hazard category the risk is identified and appropriate control measure(s) described. Additional risks may be identified specific to the site. This assessment assumes the volunteer will be working as a member of a team of at least two persons so risks for lone working are not assessed.

Waterways Name:	
Team Leader:	
Brief description of the work:	All Ireland Daubenton's Bat Waterways Survey: walking transect of river/canal
Nearest Hospital:	Do you know the quickest route to this hospital? Y / N

Tick if this hazard applies	Hazard(s)	Risk(s)	Control Measure(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Rough ground Slippery rocks Tree stumps Fallen logs Loose gravel Other	Trips, stumbles, falls, slips	Wear stout footwear with good ankle support. Be observant while walking and use torchlight in hours of darkness. Avoid trip hazards. Take extra care after rain and at night when dew has settled. Take extra care on steep-sided or narrow paths or along river/pond banks.
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Eroded or unstable river/pond banks Muddy/silted areas Other	Falling into water or slipping/falling in mud	Avoid walking close to eroded river bank edges and avoid muddy/silted areas. Be aware of flooding instances in your site and avoid potentially affected areas
<input type="checkbox"/>	Working in hours of darkness	Increased likelihood of trips, falls, slips, stumbles Increased likelihood of becoming lost	Day visit to assess risks and ensure familiarity with site and route. Bring two torches and spare batteries. Bring a hard copy map. Warm clothing and stout footwear. Carry contact details of forest manager/wildlife ranger and emergency services. Carry fully charged mobile phone Leave notice with a family member of location and expected time of return.
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Backlash from vegetation Vegetation as a trip/stumble hazard	Injury to face Fall, stumble or trip	When walking together be aware of person behind and do not let vegetation spring back. Avoid paths or routes that are obstructed by vegetation such as brambles.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Using equipment e.g. Bat Detector	Trips, stumbles, falls, slips	Pay attention to where you are walking.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dealing with public	Aggressive or antisocial behaviour	Check with those familiar with area about known antisocial activities. Avoid confrontation. Carry identification. Call Gardaí. Never work alone.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disease or infection	Tick bites can transmit Lyme disease Scratches or cuts can become infected	For ticks follow HSE guidelines re: clothing, insect repellent, checking for ticks etc. Carry basic first aid kit, clean any cuts or abrasions with antiseptic wipe. Ensure Tetanus vaccinations up-to-date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)		