



# Generic Risk Assessment

For further information on The Riverfly Partnership visit [www.riverflies.org](http://www.riverflies.org)

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROL MEASURES
<b>PERSON</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of individual capability</li> <li>• Poor fitness</li> <li>• Pre-existing injuries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High degree of personal responsibility</li> <li>• Pre-existing injuries can be exacerbated by the activity. Effects can be felt post activity. It is important to seek quick advice / treatment. Delay can significantly hinder recovery</li> </ul>
<b>MUSCULAR SKELETAL DISORDER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repetitive kick sampling</li> <li>• Manual handling / lifting</li> <li>• Posture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness of posture, correct lifting techniques and back care</li> </ul>
<b>BITES / STINGS / IRRITANTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bites / stings / irritants from nature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> </ul>
<b>SKIN IRRITATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spills of alcohol / ethanol in preserving specimens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear gloves at all times when handling these fluids</li> <li>• Adhere to COSHH regulations</li> <li>• Container for sharps</li> </ul>
<b>EXPOSURE TO DISEASE &amp; INFECTION</b>  Infection Leptospirosis (Weil's disease) Lyme disease Hepatitis A or B Needlestick injuries Blue – green algae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Via open wounds</li> <li>• Contact with water contaminated with urine from infected rats. Infection can enter the body through cuts and scratches or lining of the mouth, throat or via the eyes</li> <li>• Bite/s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear protective clothing and gloves / long armed gloves</li> <li>• Cover all cuts and broken skin with waterproof plasters</li> <li>• Wash hands before and after contact with water and prior to eating, drinking, smoking</li> <li>• Examine for bites and ticks</li> <li>• Carry associated cards and follow up any symptoms with a medical practitioner</li> </ul>
<b>SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General access and access and egress to and from watercourse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> </ul>

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROL MEASURES
<b>WEATHER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat, sun, wet, cold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> <li>• Correct clothing and spare set</li> <li>• Sun cream SPF 15+, drink (warm or cold)</li> <li>• Check weather forecast, remember some rivers can be flashy and rise very quickly</li> </ul>
<b>TRAFFIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicular movements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> </ul>
<b>AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance to livestock</li> <li>• Injury from livestock</li> <li>• Fencing e.g. electric, barbed wire</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness</li> <li>• Permission for access</li> <li>• Follow The Countryside Code</li> </ul>
<b>WATER SAFETY ISSUES</b>  Immersion / drowning Sudden immersion / shock Foot entrapment Hypothermia Cuts / puncture wounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Depth, flow, uneven river bed</li> <li>• Silt and mud / marshy ground; weed growth</li> <li>• Impact from floating debris</li> <li>• Unexpected sudden increases in flow – up stream rainfall or dam releases</li> <li>• Turbid water, unseen bed conditions, needle sticks / broken glass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness, lifejacket, clothing, boots with mid-sole protection</li> <li>• Check the water depth and bed stability with a staff or pole</li> <li>• Work with another person nearby</li> <li>• Beware of dynamic water depth and that water levels can rise quickly. Check forecast prior to field work</li> <li>• Never enter a river in spate</li> </ul>
<b>PUBLIC</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other activities</li> <li>• Threatening behaviours</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness and communication</li> <li>• Awareness; leave the site for personal safety</li> </ul>
<b>RISKS TO THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance of silt and mud (downstream pollution)</li> <li>• Spread of infection to / from other water courses</li> <li>• Spread of alien / invasive species to / from other sites</li> <li>• Distress to fish and other wildlife e.g. disturbance of fish spawning sites and nesting birds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness and knowledge</li> <li>• Disinfection</li> <li>• Follow Government guidelines</li> </ul>