

Assessment of risk

FRESHWATER STUDIES : RIVER WENSUM
AT FAKENHAM ALDISS CAR PARK SITE

Assessment undertaken (date) _____
Signed _____
Assessment Review _____

Hazard	Who might be harmed?	Existing controls	Further action necessary
<p>Unsuitable river conditions e.g. fast flow - turbidity highwater levels</p>	<p>Students</p>	<p>River depth/conditions/access checked prior to working on site by staff. If in doubt use River Stiffkey after checks there.</p>	
<p>Unclear access points/overgrown vegetation in Summer/grazing animals.</p>		<p>Site checked/vegetation cleared access points determined, by Centre staff in advance and checked on day.</p>	
<p>Depth of pools/position of them. Depth and position of sediments especially finer ones.</p>	<p>Students: ignoring instructions advice and straying into areas staff have deemed unsuitable for work.</p>	<p>Checked in pre-visit inspection. These areas avoided. Hand line always carried but work above knee not permitted (depth of water). Staff supervision at all times.</p>	
<p>Bacterial content of water: Weil's disease, sewage/rainwater run off bacteria.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Insist cuts are covered, gloves are worn, hands are washed with soap and water on site if a broken skin incident occurs and on return to base. Notice ref. Weil's disease verbally given.</p>	
<p>Carrying and handling of nets and other equipment.</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Teach vertical carrying of pond nets.</p>	

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Swans occasionally on river, capable of being dangerous in Spring especially.	All	If swans present give verbal warning about their dangers.	
Nettles, mosquitoes and biting flies.	All	Advise not to wear shorts/short sleeved shirts but to cover up arms/legs or use insect repellent.	
Sunburn: reflection off water on hot days.	All	As above: use sunblock.	
Slipping in water	All	Wherever possible encourage students to wear the Centre's toe protected, studded waders for work in the river. Only those sampling allowed in river - no horseplay in water.	
Livestock, dogs, cars can be a problem on this site.	All	Give warnings	
Students projects		Constant staff supervision	