

Assessment of risk

Population Studies of Mobile Animal
Species: Shore Crabs,
Wells Quayside

Assessment undertaken (date) 22/6/05
 Signed C. Marshall
 Assessment Review 7/06

Hazard	Who might be harmed?	Existing controls	Further action necessary
Traffic - road crossing	All participants	Take safest route advise keeping vigilant	Vigilance
Slipping, tripping, falling into deep water, while sampling crabs.	All participants	Briefing in advance: a) sensible footwear b) appropriate ways of lowering centre of gravity when sampling to prevent overtopping i.e. lying down and not over reaching. c) beware of moving lines/capstans. d) Let crabs fall back into the water rather than 'going for broke' to catch them. e) point out any localised hazard on the day.	Constant vigilance and preliminary safety check for new potential hazards on each session. This may include: - boats coming in/out - loading/unloading - car parking - loose dogs
Windy weather exacerbating likelihood of falling into deep water or changing tidal conditions.	All participants	Be aware/check forecast and tide times. If any doubt about safety then cancel the session. Mark crabs away from edge of quay	Ongoing vigilance as wind often changes with high tide - the time when this activity usually takes place.
Drop into the harbour.	Any participant	Undertake this exercise as close as practicable to high tide : best for crabs and reducing drop from a height.	
Drowning	Any participant	Advise re. not falling in as above. Centre staff carries throwing line/ mobile phone to summon help. Centre staff aware of location of life rings. First Aider present.	

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Being knocked over into the harbour or generally by a vehicle on the quay.	Any participant	Staff wear fluorescent vests to be highly visible. Sampling locations away from cars selected.	Vigilance
Superglue fingers while attaching mark to crab.	Any participant	Superglue release agent carried and cotton wool	Vigilance
Nipped fingers - by crabs	Any participant	Teach best way to handle crabs and take first aid kit in case needed by First Aider.	
Biohazard potential from crabs, sea water and pollution.	Any participant	Cover open wounds - gloves if necessary. Hand wash afterwards.	