RISK ASSESSMENT

CITIZEN SCIENCE INLAND BACTERIAL SAMPLING

Date:
Location:

The method for determining risk, whilst numerical, is dependent upon the event leader undertaking the assessment.

Values of LESS THAN 20 = **LOW RISK**

Values of 21 – 37 = **MEDIUM RISK** The hazard should be monitored and the event reviewed and revised on the day where necessary.

Values of 38 – 100 = **HIGH RISK** The EVENT SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD until the risk has been fully remediated.

Values OVER 42 = The event must be subject to a full review and EVENT SHOULD NOT GO AHEAD until the risk has been fully remediated.

In all instances of the hazards below you should conduct a dynamic risk assessment. Dynamic risk involves the risk associated with real-time work that are ever changing in the environment and linked to other determining factors. Unlike static risks, dynamic risks are mostly unpredictable, unforeseeable and evolving in nature. On each occasion you take a sample of water you should assess the environment and waterway for dynamic risks relating to the below hazards. You should assess these risks and record your findings.

Hazard	Likelihood (0 – 10)	Severity (0 – 10)	Overall risk (Low, Med, High)	Who could be harmed?	Remedial action required	Is risk adequately controlled?	Review and revision
Manual handling - Risk of injury whilst undertaking the manual handing of tall, awkward & unwieldy loads.	3	5	15 = **Low**	All involved	Eliminate the need for manual handling. Mechanise the task where ever possible. Appropriate manual handling techniques to be employed. Use appropriate PPE e.g. gloves. Best practice methods of taking water samples demonstrated via sampling guidance document and video tutorial.	Yes	Review techniques for collecting samples to ensure the minimum required volume is collected. Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Working with natural waters - Contact with Faecal based bacteria	3	7	21 = **Med**	All involved	Good personal hygiene practices. Provision of specific PPE - Gloves. Avoid contact with mouth and eyes when taking a sample. All open wounds/cuts to be covered with a waterproof plaster/dressing or wear gloves. Sanitise and wash hands after contact with water.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:

Adverse weather - lightning strikes, high winds, heavy rain, snow and ice.	5	4	20 = **Low**	All involved	Weather conditions are considered, planned for and checked, before and during the outing. Suitable clothing and equipment is worn (including sun protection). Dynamic risk assessment used to maintain safe working if situation changes.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Accident or Sudden Illness.	4	5	20 = **Low**	All involved	Take a buddy when taking water samples. Inform a friend or family member where and when you are taking samples.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Drowning - sample location poses risk of drowning.	1	10	10 = **Low**	All involved	Take sample at accessible location at bathing site location. Only choose sampling locations which is accessed by an established footpath. Take samples from a bridge if possible.	Yes	If the fixed sample location is not accessible due to increased water flow or tide height choose another day to return and collect a sample or assess if there is an alternative safe location if these occasions arise. Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Flooding - Risk of drowning due to flooding or recent	3	7	21 = **Med**	All involved	Do not takes samples when river is in flood.	Yes	In the event of extreme rainfall sampling at rivers should be re-assessed if flow is too strong.

destabilisation of river banks.					Ensure that sampling location has not been undermined by recent flooding. Take samples from a bridge if possible.		Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Lone working (applies to all hazards).	3	5	15 = **Low**	All involved	Avoid lone working wherever possible. Where this is not possible: Carry a mobile phone with sufficient charge. Inform a buddy of your plans, sampling location(s) and estimated time of return. Ensure they are responsible for contacting you if you do not return on time. Ensure they escalate if they do not get confirmation of your return.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
People Movement (Risk of Slips, Trips and Falls) - Risk of injury due to a variety of access/egress hazards that can cause slips.	3	5	15 = **Low**	All involved	Selecting the correct shoes with a suitable sole is important in preventing slips, trips and falls. Only collect samples in day light. Ensure cables and flexes are managed properly. All spillages to be cleaned up in a reasonable timescale. Ensure steps and stairs are free from obstruction. Do not climb or walk across surfaces that could be slippery,	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:

Leptospirosis (Weils disease) - Exposure to urine of infected rodents	3	5	15 = **Low**	All involved	When working in or close to water courses appropriate PPE e.g. suitable gloves and footwear. Any flu like symptoms within 48-72hrs prior to the work a doctor is to be consulted. Sanitise and wash hands after contact with water.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Injury from movement of boats and other watercraft	1	4	4 = **Low**	All involved	Choose sample location away from watercraft.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Wildlife	1	4	4 = **Low**	All involved	Sample location chosen so not to disturb or interact with wildlife.	Yes	Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Excessively low (<5oC) or high(>30oC) temperature	3	6	18 = **Low**	All involved	Appropriate clothing to be worn during periods of high temperatures. Wear sun cream and stay hydrated during periods of high temperatures. Wear appropriate clothing jackets, hats, gloves during periods of excessively cold temperatures.	Yes	In the event of extreme heat take water sample at a cooler time of the day. Conduct dynamic risk assessment:
Chemical Exposure - Risks to health due to exposure to hazardous substances – Virkon Tablets.	1	5	5 = **Low**	All involved	COSHH assessment.		Conduct dynamic risk assessment:

Any additional hazards specific to your waterway							
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