

# Bird Ringing Risk Assessment

Company name: **Wolverhampton Scouts trading as Patshull Activity Centre**

Assessment carried out by: **On behalf of Patshull Activity Centre by Belvide Ringers**

Date assessment was carried out: **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022**

## Introduction

Patshull Activity Centre works in partnership with Belvide Ringers so that we can provide access to trained ornithologists that deliver bird ringing at our centre.

Belvide Ringers are a group of ornithologists that carry out bird ringing across the Patshull Park estate in partnership with **West Midlands Bird Club** with permission of the landowner.

Belvide Ringers are based on the Belvide Nature Reserve in Brewood, South Staffordshire.

For more information about Belvide Ringers, please visit <http://belvideringers.blogspot.com/>



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HAZARD	RISK	RISK GROUP	CONTROL MEASURES (Describe the existing workplace precautions and risk control systems in place)	LIKELIHOOD *	SEVERITY *	RISK LEVEL *	Are Existing Controls Adequate ?	
							Yes	No
Lifting tools and equipment	Manual handling injuries	Ringers	Lift items correctly Avoid lifting or carrying excessive amounts	2	2	4	Y	
Uneven ground, fallen branches, etc	Slips trips and falls	Ringers Public	Work area to be surveyed in order to become familiar with ground conditions and to identify any issues Appropriate footwear to be worn	2	2	4	Y	
Nets, poles and guy cords	Trips and falls	Ringers	Ringers to be aware of locations of nets, poles, guy cords, etc Nets, poles, guy cords, etc to be position away from paths Place ringing notices so that others are aware of the activities being undertaken Members of the public excluded from ringing area	1	3	3	Y	
Open water	Drowning, hypothermia, Weil's disease	Ringers	Do not work alone by water Do not enter water Wear appropriate footwear to reduce risk of slipping Move carefully and steadily, always checking footing	1	3	3	Y	
Moving vehicles	Impact injuries	Ringers	Site induction Safe walking routes between ringing site(s) and ringing station	1	3	3	Y	
Coronavirus	Contracting or spreading Covid 19	Ringers Public	Participants to follow current Government, BTO and other pertinent guidance e.g. regarding hygiene, social distance and group size Anyone displaying symptoms not to participate in ringing session and to seek medical advice Participants to maintain appropriate social distance and/or wear face masks Participants to wash hands and/or disinfect hands with alcohol gel before, regularly during and after ringing session, and before handling food / drink Surfaces of ringing equipment, etc to be cleaned before, regularly during and after ringing session Ringers to use their own equipment e.g. bird bags, ringing pliers and wing rule Any shared equipment to be cleaned after each use Anyone displaying symptoms after session to seek medical advice and inform lead ringer, and other participants to seek medical advice	2	3	6	Y	



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							Yes	No
Injuries / allergies caused by plants	Cuts, allergic reaction, infection, puncture wounds	Ringers	Suitable clothing to be worn Gloves to be worn when handling vegetation	1	2	2	Y	
Bites, stings or allergies from insects, ticks, rats, bats, etc	Allergic reaction, Lyme Disease, Weil's disease, Rabies	Ringers	Suitable clothing to be worn Cover any cuts or abrasions with sterile dressing Insect repellent to be applied Hands to be washed before handling food / drink and after end of ringing session Check for and remove any ticks after end of ringing session Gloves to be worn if extracting any bats from nets; if bitten, seek medical advice If any flu-like symptoms develop, seek medical advice	2	2	4	Y	
Sunny / hot weather	Sun burn, heat stroke, dehydration	Ringers	Suitable clothing and hat to be worn Sunscreen to be applied Drink sufficient liquids	2	2	4	Y	
Wet weather	Slips trips and falls, hypothermia	Ringers	Waterproof clothing to be worn Ringing to be halted	1	2	2	Y	
General diseases / infections from birds	E.g. Salmonella, campylobacter, E. coli, botulism, psittacosis.	Ringers Public	Cover any cuts or abrasions with sterile dressing Wash hands before handling food / drink Do not put any objects (e.g. bird bags, guy cords, nets) in your mouth Have available cleaning materials, e.g. water and soap, anti-bacterial hand wash, for yourself and other members of the ringing team Shake out bird bags (with all people standing upwind) and wash them frequently	1	3	3	Y	
Sharp powerful beaks / talons	Cuts and scratches	Ringers Public	Ensure that all members of the ringing team understand how injuries are usually inflicted Ensure that the talons of all birds with sharp claws are held securely Always ensure that the beak of a bird is not held close to your face or the face of any other person Always keep members of the public at a safe distance from the birds	2	2	4	Y	



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							Yes	No
Members of the public handling birds	Cuts and scratches	Public Ringers	Members of the public excluded from ringing site(s) Members of the public to release placid species. If tits are to be released, a warning should be given that these species can nip Insist that members of the public wash their hands before handling food / drink	1	2	2	Y	

* Risk Matrix		Severity			
		1 Negligible	2 Marginal	3 Critical	4 Catastrophic
L i k e l i h o o d	5 Certain	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
	4 Likely	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
	3 Possible	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
	2 Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	Extreme
	1 Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	High

