

# **Site Hazard Card**

## **Holt Hall Field Study Centre**

### **Aquatic Ecology**

#### **Location**

Holt Hall Lakes, River Glaven

#### **Risks**

The following risks are applicable to anyone taking part in this activity.

- Problems due to inadequate supervision.
- Lake and river risks including drowning, being swept downstream, sickness, weils disease and falling into hole in island.
- Hypothermia, heat stroke and sunburn.
- Injuries from slipping over.
- Injuries from improper use of equipment.
- Sheep worrying.
- Minibus Travel.

#### **Safety measures**

- Students supervised at an appropriate ratio (see Educational Visits and Journeys folder)
- All students must be informed how to carry out fieldwork safely.

#### **Drowning / swept downstream**

- Students must work from the jetty at Holt Hall Lake and should not wade into the water.
- Students may not work in the River Glaven if it is too deep or flowing too fast. The fieldwork site should be visited in advance by Centre staff following periods of heavy rainfall.
- At the Home Farm fieldwork site, students may only get into the water at the ford, and only after checking the depth and speed of the water. The water at the 'girder' bridge is too deep (1m) and the current and speed at the flume and flume-pool are too strong.

#### **Weil's Disease and other water-borne ailments**

- All students must wear wellies.
- All students must wear plastic gloves to avoid contact with lake water.
- Students must not be allowed to splash each other and must behave sensibly at all times.
- Students working in or near the lake or river should cover any open wounds with a waterproof plaster. If it is not possible to cover an open wound, the student must not be allowed to come into contact with water.
- Students with severe cases of eczema must not be allowed to come into contact with lake or river water.
- Students must take a shower if they fall into the lake or river.
- Students must not eat or drink at any time during this activity.
- All students must wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water at the

end of this activity.

- In the event of students developing flu-like symptoms after coming into contact with lake or river water parents/teachers should inform the appropriate authorities of the nature of the activities carried out.

### **Falling into hole in island at Holt Hall top lake**

- No students allowed on the island.

### **Hypothermia, heat stroke and sunburn**

- Students must be dressed suitably for the conditions and use sun block if appropriate. Hats may be advisable.
- In case of immersion, blankets must be kept in the minibus. If necessary students should be returned to Holt Hall, or an ambulance called depending on the severity of the incident.

### **Injuries from slipping over**

- No student may move quickly or without due care in the river.
- Letheringsett Ford concrete slip-way is often particularly slippery and students and visiting staff must be warned before they go near the river.
- The leader must carry a first aid kit which contains fresh water, cleansing wipes and plasters so that minor wounds can be dealt with without removing a student and a member of staff back to the minibus.

### **Injuries from improper use of equipment**

- Students must take care not to hit each other with the end of a net.
- Working areas must be spaced out to reduce the possibility of net injuries.
- Trays and other equipment may not be placed on the estate road at Holt Hall or the road at Letheringsett Ford. Be aware of occasional traffic.
- Ranging Poles must be carried vertically with the point downwards and young people should be told not to put weight on the ranging pole as it will bend or break.
- Do not run or jump when carrying a ranging pole.
- Do not use metal ranging poles in a thunderstorm.
- Water test tablets should not be eaten so students under 16 should be supervised.
- Indicator for measuring pH is poisonous, and flammable so students under 16 should be supervised. Students must wear safety glasses when using universal indicator solution (CLEAPSS Hazcard 032).
- Sodium Hydroxide (CLEAPSS Hazcard 091) and Sulphuric Acid (CLEAPSS Hazcard 098) are highly corrosive. These are not to be used by students under 16 years. Extreme care must be taken when using these chemicals. Safety **goggles** must be worn at all times. In the event of Sodium Hydroxide solution being splashed in eyes, the eye must be flooded with water until a first-aider arrives. The student must be sent to hospital and the eye continuously irrigated throughout the journey. In the event of Sulphuric Acid being splashed in eyes, the eye must be flooded for 10 minutes and medical attention sought.

### **Sheep Worrying**

- Care should be taken when there are sheep or cattle at Home Farm. Students must behave sensibly so as not to worry animals.
- Sheep or cattle wishing to cross the river should be allowed to do so.
- Ensure that animals are never trapped by students or equipment
- Extra care must be taken in the lambing season and when there are cows with calves.
- The gate at Home Farm must be locked when leaving this site.

### **Minibus travel**

- See general risk assessment

Reviewed by S Woodhouse

Date: 30.08.06

Reviewed by J Mumford-Smith

Date: 11.02.08

Reviewed by S Woodhouse

Date: 21.01.11