



ACTIVITY ASSESSED		ASSESSMENT DATE	
FIRES ON SITE		AUGUST 2014	
page 1 of 2			
ACTIVITY LOCATION	ALL SITES	DATE FOR RE-ASSESSMENT	ASSESSED BY
persons at risk: all volunteers; especially young persons			
risk level: high			

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION	<p>Set up</p> <p>Burning embers and flying debris</p> <p>Contact with hand tools</p> <p>Ignition of flammable liquids</p> <p>Inhalation of smoke</p> <p>Smoke obscuring other hazards</p> <p>Spread of fire</p>
HAZARD OR HAZARDOUS EVENT	PRECAUTIONS
Set up	<p>Fires are normally on sites where the client/land owner is present to take overall responsibility; GR is responsible for the safety of volunteers</p> <p>GR will have at least one experienced volunteer in charge of the fire to light & manage it and direct volunteers</p> <p>The fire must be kept as small as possible to do the job</p> <p>If there is very strong/gusty wind fire must be postponed</p> <p>GR do not normally work with fires in areas where there may be public access</p> <p>GR normally work on sites where the client has authority to burn and will not normally need to inform Fire Brigade in advance</p> <p>Fires will not be lit near roads or occupied buildings</p>
Burning embers and flying debris	<p>Those working near fire must wear hats, or caps , and long sleeves and trousers when working near fire</p> <p>Long hair must be tied back and loose clothing tucked in</p> <p>All workers should work up-wind of the fire and be aware of changes in wind direction</p> <p>Add material to the existing fire in manageable amounts with no risk of sudden flaring</p> <p>Check material before adding it to fire to exclude dangerous items such as aerosols and treated wood</p> <p>If hot embers must be left the client is normally in control of the site and will take responsibility</p>
Contact with hand tools	<p>Hand tools used to prepare or tend the fire are the responsibility of those using them and must be carefully stored in a clear, obvious location when not in use</p>
Ignition of flammable liquids	<p>GR do not normally work where vehicles will be close to the fire/work area</p> <p>The land owner is responsible for their vehicles and any flammable liquid or gas; the task leader must be aware of that any container should be at least 30m from the fire</p> <p>Flammable liquids must not be used to light or increase a fire</p>
Inhalation of smoke	<p>Do not allow work in significant smoke</p> <p>Site the fire as far as is practical from where people are working and down wind from working party</p>
Smoke obscuring other hazards	<p>Use hazard signs to exclude people from obscured area</p>

This assessment is based on information from The Conservation Volunteers as amended for GrassRoots Conservation Group activities.

The information contained in this generic risk assessment is produced in good faith It does not render BTCV liable for its use, misuse and no responsibility for any occurrences arising out of its use will be accepted Insurance is essential for groups carrying out conservation activities. Grass Roots is a Registered Charity number NIC102932

© BTCV 1996-2008 Reg Charity in England 261009 and Scotland SC039302 Sedum House, Mallard Way, Doncaster DN4 808

ACTIVITY ASSESSED	ASSESSMENT DATE	
FIRES ON SITE page 2 of 2	AUGUST 2014	
HAZARD OR HAZARDOUS EVENT	PRECAUTIONS	
Spread of fire	<p>GR do not normally work with fires when very dry or drought conditions are likely</p> <p>Ensure one person is attending the fire at all times</p> <p>Do not attempt to fight a fire that has spread; evacuate the volunteers to a place of safety and contact the fire brigade</p> <p>Fires must not be lit directly under trees</p> <p>Do not light fires directly over peat soil</p> <p>Flammable objects must be removed from the area</p> <p>Fire must be turned in, covered with soil or doused with water where possible at end of day (see above)</p>	