

### SDOS Birding Walks Risk Assessment Form:

**Assessor:** Tony Benton - supported by Bernie Forbes : Date of Assessment 21 August 2024

Location: Hayling Island

**Brief Description:** Meet at the small Beach Car Park at 10:00hrs. SU/197996029.

Take the A3023 off the A27 to Hayling Island over the bridge, ignore the first car park and after the Esso Garage look for the Brown Sign, turn right 50 m on to Beach car park. Birding the Oyster Beds and Langstone Harbour in the morning.

Then relocating to the eastern end of the island birding around Black Point. Parking in Seafarers Walk PO119TA near the entrance to the Public Footpath.

Lunch required and winter footwear. Distance 4 miles. Leader Bernie Forbes (07852 820886)

**Risk Assessment highlight ;** The turning into the beach car park entrance road can flood when wet, take care with hidden potholes. The walk involves walking on raised sea walls, care needed when wet, suitable clothing and winter walking boots required.

The second part of the walk we will be walking along the edge of tidal beaches, shingle and some sand. Broadly speaking a low risk walk but open and exposed to the elements.

**Suggested clothing:** Warm, waterproof clothing depending on weather conditions; strong footwear or wellington boots after rain.

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Evaluation of Risk	Risk mitigation measures	Comments
Bad weather	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Lightning storms	All participants	Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Snow and ice	All participants	Low / Medium	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Darkness, cloud, fog	All participants	Low	Cancel or curtail walk	Monitor weather forecast
Hot weather	All participants	Low/medium	As a winer walk this shouldn't be an issue.	Monitor weather forecast

Uneven walking surfaces	All participants	Low	Suitable walking shoes or boots are recommended	Participants to ensure that suitable footwear is available to them
Muddy conditions	All participants	Low	Walking boots or wellington boots	Monitor weather forecast. The walk involves walking on raised sea walls, care needed when wet, suitable clothing and winter walking boots required.
Standing water and flooding	All participants	Low	Adjust route	Monitor weather forecast
Slippery surfaces	All participants	Low	Adjust route	The walk involves walking on raised sea walls, care needed when wet, suitable clothing and winter walking boots required.
Steep slopes	All participants	Low	participants to judge their own capabilities	
Trip hazards	All participants	Low	participants to judge their own capabilities and take care	
Stiles and gates	N/a			
Barbed wire, electric fences	N/a			
Obstructive vegetation	N/a			
Stinging or thorny plants	N/a			
Falling trees or branches	N/a			

Biting insects	All participants	Low		Consult a GP if a tick bite is suspected
Snakes	N/a			
Cycles (and possibly horses being ridden)	All participants	Low	Cyclists often use footpaths and public spaces, so awareness is required.	