

RA037 — Adverse weather and seasonal site conditions

Naylor's Ark Soul Sanctuary · Risk assessment

Sanctuary CPH: 46/327/7111
Veterinary practice: 608 Equine & Farm Veterinary Surgeons · 01926 640 385
Partner / group: All site users

Assessment date: 2026-08-10
Review date: 2027-08-10
Assessor: Liberty Naylor (Sanctuary Manager)

Activity assessed

Managing sanctuary operations, visits and animal welfare during heat, cold, ice, wind, storms and flooding.

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Heat stress in people and animals	All site users, animals	Met Office forecast checked each morning. Visits shortened or rescheduled above 27 °C. Shade, water and rest breaks provided for people and animals. Handling and transport avoided in the heat of the day.	Medium
Cold, ice and snow	All site users	Yards and paths gritted before shifts. Non-essential visits cancelled in ice. Water supplies checked and thawed twice daily; extra bedding and forage provided.	Medium
High wind and storms	All site users, animals	Site closed to visitors at amber or red weather warnings. Loose items, gates and covers secured. No work near trees or on ladders in high wind. Field shelters and fencing inspected after every storm.	Medium
Flooding and waterlogged ground	Animals, volunteers	Low-lying paddocks vacated when standing water appears. Alternative grazing and hard standing identified. Electrical points isolated in flooded areas.	Medium
Power loss affecting water, lighting and medicine fridge	Animals	Torches and charged power banks kept in the yard office. Manual water supply route identified. Fridge temperature checked and medicines relocated to a cool box if power is lost for more than 4 hours.	Low
Animal-related injury (bite, kick, knock, trample)	Visitors, volunteers, staff	Only pre-selected, temperament-assessed animals used for contact. Supervised at all times, minimum 1 trained handler per 8 participants. No entry to enclosures without a handler. Animals unsuitable for contact segregated and signed.	Low
Zoonotic infection (E. coli O157, cryptosporidium, salmonella)	All participants, especially under-5s, pregnant and immunosuppressed people	Hand-wash stations with hot water, soap and paper towels at every animal area. Supervised hand washing after contact and before eating. No eating, drinking or hand-to-mouth in animal areas. Signage per PHE/HSE AIS23.	Low
Slips, trips and falls on uneven, wet or muddy ground	All participants	Route walked and checked before arrival. Sturdy footwear required. Wet or churned areas closed off. Spillages and hazards cleared before the group moves through.	Low
Vehicles and machinery on site	All participants	No tractor or machinery movement while groups are on site unless banksman-controlled. Pedestrian routes marked; parking segregated from animal areas.	Low
Fire or emergency evacuation	All participants	Fire evacuation procedure FEP-01 briefed on arrival. Assembly point identified. Head-count register kept by group leader. Emergency vet and 999 contact details displayed.	Low

Hazard	Who may be harmed	Control measures in place	Residual risk
Adverse weather (heat, cold, wind, storms)	All participants	Weather checked morning of visit. Shaded and sheltered areas available; drinking water provided. Visit postponed for high wind, storms or extreme heat.	Low

Additional arrangements

- Emergency arrangements: first aider on site during all visits; first aid kit at the yard office; nearest A&E University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire; site address and what3words displayed at the assembly point.
- Group leaders retain duty of care for their own members and must supply ratios, medical and consent information before the visit.
- All visitors complete the visitor waiver and assumption of risk before activities. Volunteers must have completed induction, the safety quiz and SSOW-01.
- This assessment is read alongside HSP-01 Health and Safety Policy, FEP-01 Fire Evacuation Procedure, RA015 General visit and feeding, and MAP-01 Site map.
- Review: annually, after any incident or near miss, or when the activity, animals, group or site changes.

Signed (assessor): _____

Date: _____

Group leader briefed (signature): _____