



Institute of Fisheries
Management

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HEALTH AND SAFETY FOR ANGLING CLUBS

HOW TO WORK SAFELY ON FISHERIES



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- We will be looking at the following areas
 - ❖ Before you get going - Planning
 - ❖ H&S law
 - ❖ Risk assessments
 - ❖ What to look for on site
 - ❖ PPE
 - ❖ And more.....



BEFORE KICK OFF

- **Before you start throwing mud around THINK**
- What do we want to achieve?
- Have we a plan of works (drawings etc)?
- How many volunteers do we have?
- How competent/fit/keen/sensible are they?
- Do they have any skills we can use?
- Do we have the right kit and materials for the job?
- Risk assessments done?
- How long have we got?
- Tea and biscuits (very important)
- **Who is in charge?**

How to Manage A Fishery

A simple guide to writing a Fishery Management Plan

Source: Marine Resources Assessment Group (MRAG), London

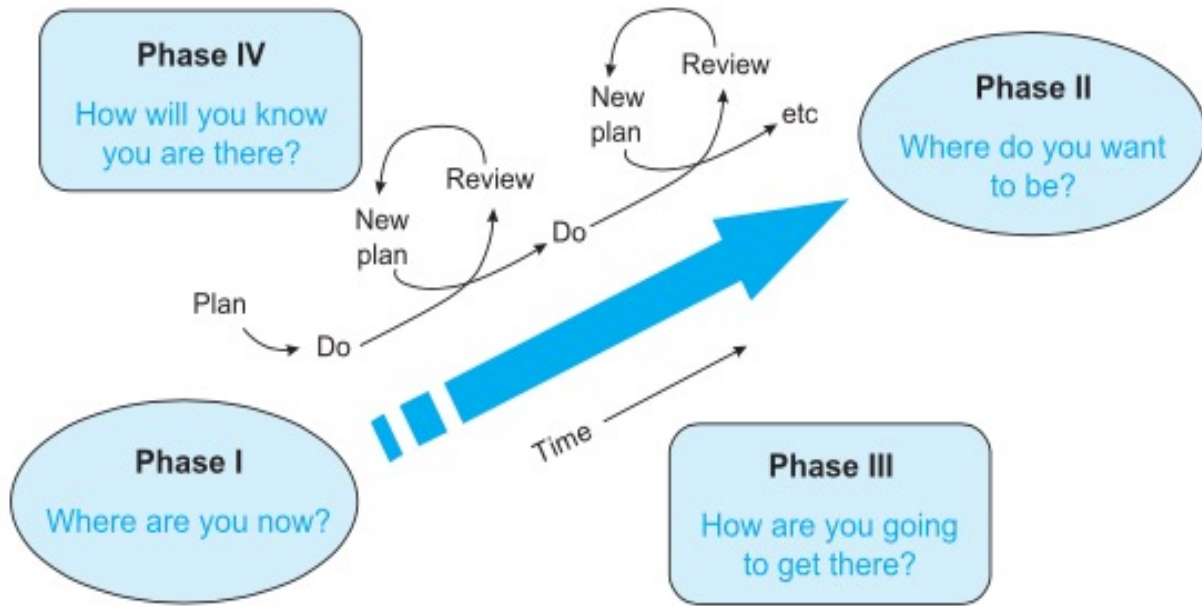


Figure 1. The four main phases in writing a fishery management plan.

HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION

- Key piece of legislation
 - **Health and Safety at Work Act 1974**
- Criminal law aimed at protecting employees and others who may be affected by work activities.
- Enforced mainly by HSE and local authorities.
- HSE and local authority health and safety officers have no power to investigate incidents or pursue enforcement action in relation to most purely voluntary activities



WHAT IS A VOLUNTEER?

- There is no legal definition of volunteering or a volunteer as such.
- The Home Office in their publication “Volunteering – a Code of Good Practice”, 2001 refer to it as:

“An activity that involves spending time, unpaid, doing something that aims to benefit the environment or someone (individuals or groups) other than, or in addition to, close relatives”, and as “undertaken freely and by choice without concern for financial gain”.

WHAT IS A VOLUNTEER?

- The key aspects of a volunteer's role are:
 - Unpaid, and without expectation of payment.
 - Done with own free will and choice, with no coercion.
 - For the wider social, public, environmental benefit.
 - At the direction of and on behalf of the organisation.
 - Not legally binding.



CIVIL LAW AND THE DUTY OF CARE

- Under the common law, voluntary organisations and individual volunteers have a **duty of care** to each other and others who may be affected by their activities.
- Where something goes wrong, individuals may, in some cases, sue for damages using the civil law if they are injured as a result of another person's negligence.
- **Think about machinery on site and who is using it and where**

MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK REGULATIONS 1999

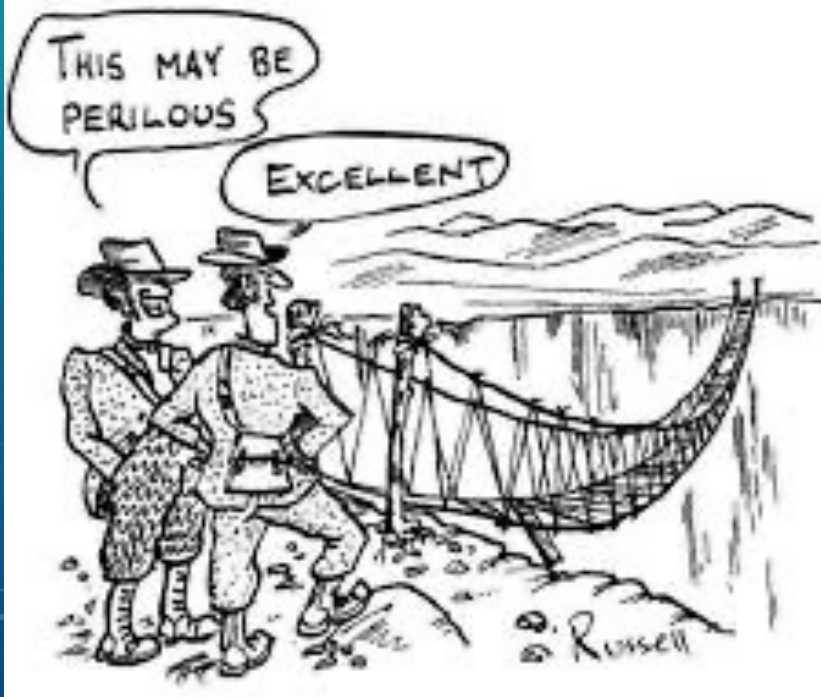
Background

- The original 1974 act sets out the general duties which employers have towards (1) employees; (2) members of the public, and (3) employees have to themselves and each other .
- The Act is based around the term ***“so far as is reasonably practicable”***
- In other words, an employer does not have to take measures to avoid or reduce the risk if:-
 - they are technically impossible.
 - the time, trouble or cost of the measures would be grossly disproportionate to the risk.
- The main requirement on employers is to carry out a ***risk assessment***⁹

RISK ASSESSMENT

Then

Victorian risk assessment



Now



RISK ASSESSMENTS (RA)

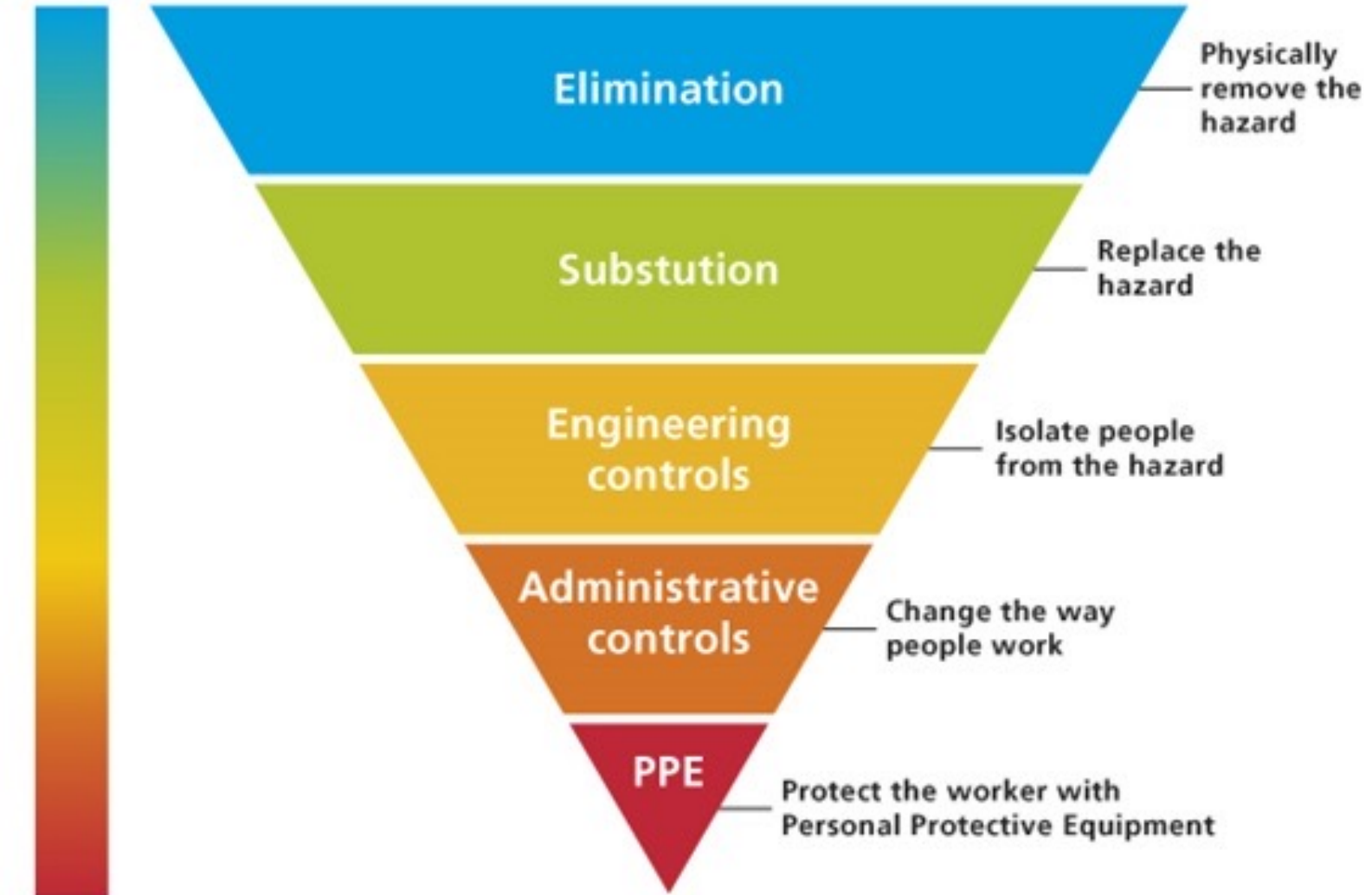
- ▶ A simple evaluation of things that may cause you or others harm
- ▶ Allows you to assess the risks and put precautions in place.
- ▶ There are 5 steps to completing a RA
 1. **Identify the hazards**
 2. **Decide who might be harmed and how**
 3. **Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions**
 4. **Record your findings and implement them**
 5. **Review your assessment and update if necessary**

RISK ASSESSMENTS

- ▶ There is no need to complete a general RA every time you go out.
- ▶ You should however have a site-specific RA for each work party
- ▶ Ensure you have one for each site and keep them safe. You can then update them if anything changes
- ▶ **REMEMBER**
- ▶ A **hazard** is anything that may cause harm, such as deep water, equipment, electric pylons, noxious plants etc;
- ▶ the **risk** is the chance, high or low, that somebody could be harmed by these and other hazards, together with an indication of how serious the harm could be

Hierarchy of controls

Most effective



Least effective

EXAMPLE RA FOR PRACTICAL WORK



**Institute of Fisheries
Management**

Electric Fishing Operations

Risk Assessment Form 18th – 20th May 2023

Hazard	Risk	Current Control	More Detail (if needed)
Travel to site	Accidents in vehicles	All trainees to travel to sight in their own vehicles or car share	Off road car parking is provided to minimise risk of RTA.
Uneven ground, wet banks, branches and large rocks/boulders	Slips, trips and falls	Trainees to be made aware of uneven ground and fallen branches on site.	Tutors have visited the site before the practical to assess the suitability.
Falling branches	Injury from being hit	High winds and inclement weather will lead to the cancellation of the practical	
Carrying electro fishing kit to bankside.	Muscle sprains and strains	Manual handling techniques to be used. Heavy items to be shared between 2 people.	Distance to bankside to be minimise by parking off the road. Trainees have been informed of risk during training.
Working in the water.	Risk of drowning and cold water immersion leading to hyperthermia	The trainees have been given extensive training on the safe use and set up of the kit. One tutor will be on hand to ensure that the kit is appropriately set up. No kit to be energised until the tutor is happy and the anode is in the water.	Ingress and egress points have been established to minimise any risks. Life jackets to be worn where appropriate
Water – Abnormal river conditions	Enhanced risk of drowning	River not to be entered if the bed is not visible. Rivers in spate and steep/unstable banks to be avoided.	Appropriate PPE to be worn
Use of electro fishing kit. Generator set up	Electrocution risk	The trainees have been given extensive training on the safe use and set up of the kit. One tutor will be on hand to ensure that the kit is appropriately set up. No kit to be energised until the tutor is happy and the anode is in the water.	A bank man will be with the generator at all times and will be able to de-power the kit if necessary. Hand signals to be agreed if unable to hear each other. Any trainees with respiratory or heart problems will not be allowed in the water at any time.


ELEMENTS TO ADD TO RA'S

- ▶ Access. (NGR, What3Words)
- ▶ Parking and security
- ▶ Potential for slips, trips and falls
- ▶ State of any bankside trees (falling branches)
- ▶ State of the banks incl steepness
- ▶ Cattle if present
- ▶ Overhead cables
- ▶ Jobs to be done
- ▶ Waste, urban in particular
- ▶ Immersion (hypothermia 26x quicker in water)
- ▶ Vegetation/noxious plants
- ▶ Depth of water
- ▶ Mobile reception
- ▶ Access for emergency vehicles

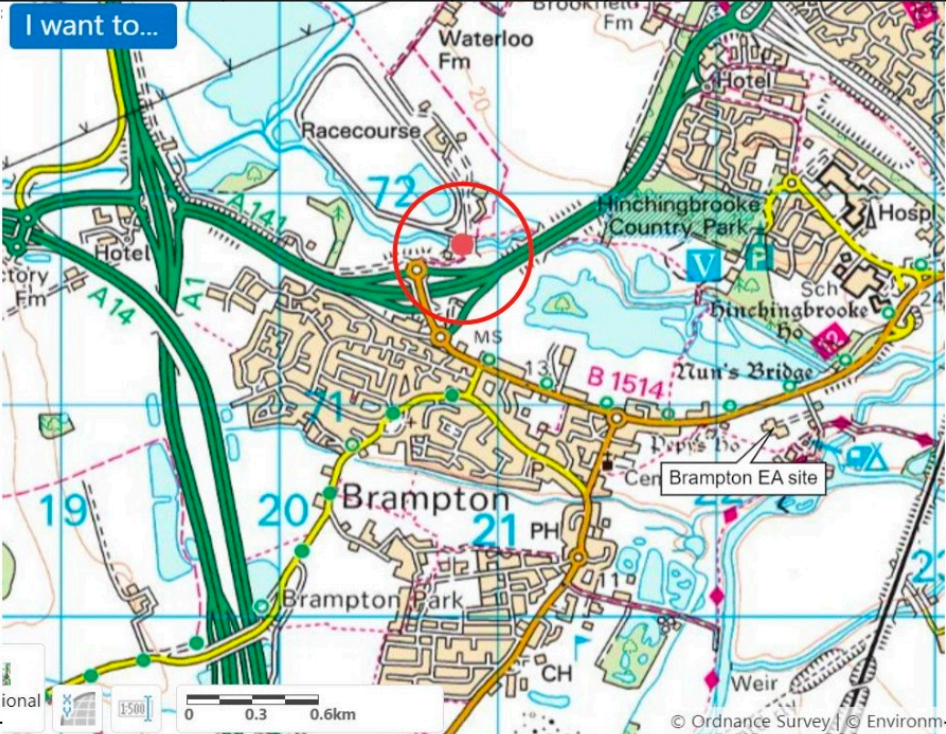


Waterbody Alconbury Brook	Site Name Brampton Racecourse E/F wade demo	Grid Reference TL2089871743	Site Reference N/A
Class N/A	Method E/F: Bic boat wading	Width 10m	Length 60m
		Area 600m²	

Health & Safety Actions
WEAR APPROPRIATE FOOTWEAR/CLOTHING
APPLY EA HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES
LONE WORK WITH DUE CAUTION



ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



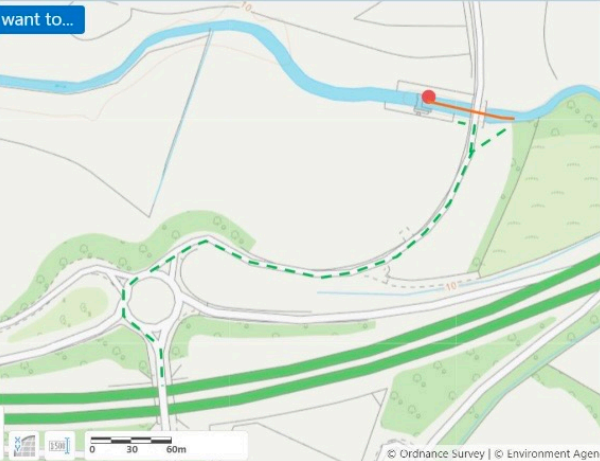
I want to...

Risk Description	Comments	Risk Level
Driving to site	Normal roads, grass meadow adjacent to watercourse	Low
Parking at site	On grass meadow adjacent to watercourse - do not access if waterlogged	Low
Traffic hazard / other risks	Occasional traffic to/from racecourse & hotel (significantly more on race days so avoid working on these days)	Low
Bank gradient	45° in places	Medium
Bank stability	Stable	Low
Site access	Good, put gear in d/s bridge by field boundary, get gear out through locked EA compound gate just d/s weir	Low
Distance walked to site	60m length of site	Low
Other dry risks (Hostile sites / Harmful plants / Livestock)	Minor brambles at d/s end of site may need trimming back before entering w/c. Possible dogs being walked off lead.	Low
Depth of waterbody	2-3ft	Low
Water flow	Moderate/slow	Low
Substrate / Underground Services	Gravel, silt, no underground services detected on linesearch	Low
Footing & visibility	Good on gravel, silt in margins may be deeper	Medium
Waterborne hazard	Gauging weir at u/s end of site with submerged sill, weils disease	Medium
Isolation	<200m from hotel	Low
Phone reception	Good	Low
Rough area	Safe area, possible interest from passing members of public - use E/F warning signs & bank marshals.	Low
GENERAL PERCEIVED RISK	Low	Low
LONE WORKER RISK	Low if not entering water	Low



Notes / Site Description
Access via paved road to Jockey Club Huntingdon Racecourse, before reaching bridge over watercourse & before grassed slope too acute drive off road right onto grass meadow to drop gear off & load into channel at d/s end of site where meadow ends in bushes. Fish u/s up to gauging weir & get gear out through locked metal gate in weir compound.

Land Owner details Name: Jockey Club Telephone: 01480 453861 Address: huntingdonenquiries@thejockeyclub.co.uk	Angling Club details Name: Brampton AC Contact: Mr. K. Medlock Address: 1 Stuanich Hill Road, Sawtry, Cambs. PE17 5XG
Key required: Y (Abloy) Mobile: -	Telephone: 01487 830984 Mobile: 07710 386783
Completed by RSM	Date 10/02/23

I want to...



Completed by
RSM

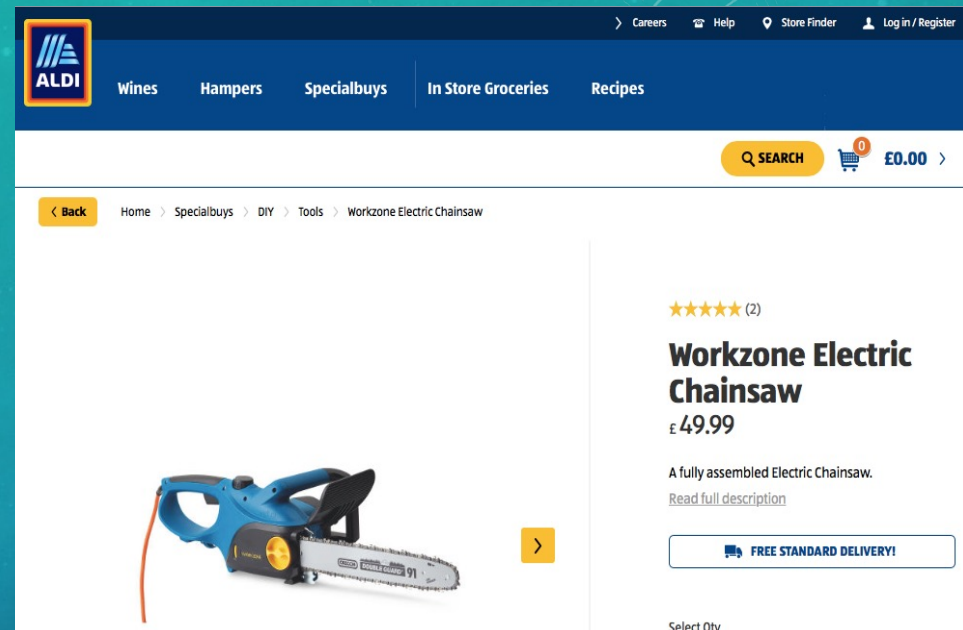



Date
10/02/23



MANAGING SAFETY

- Just because someone bought a chainsaw from Aldi doesn't make them a lumberjack
- If anyone turns up with specialist kit make sure they are trained to use it.
- What PPE have they got?
- Can you set up suitable exclusion zones?
- Operators using chainsaws for any task in agriculture, or any other industry, must be competent under PUWER 98



This is Bill Lindloff of Pro-Cuts

Smart guy!

Head protection

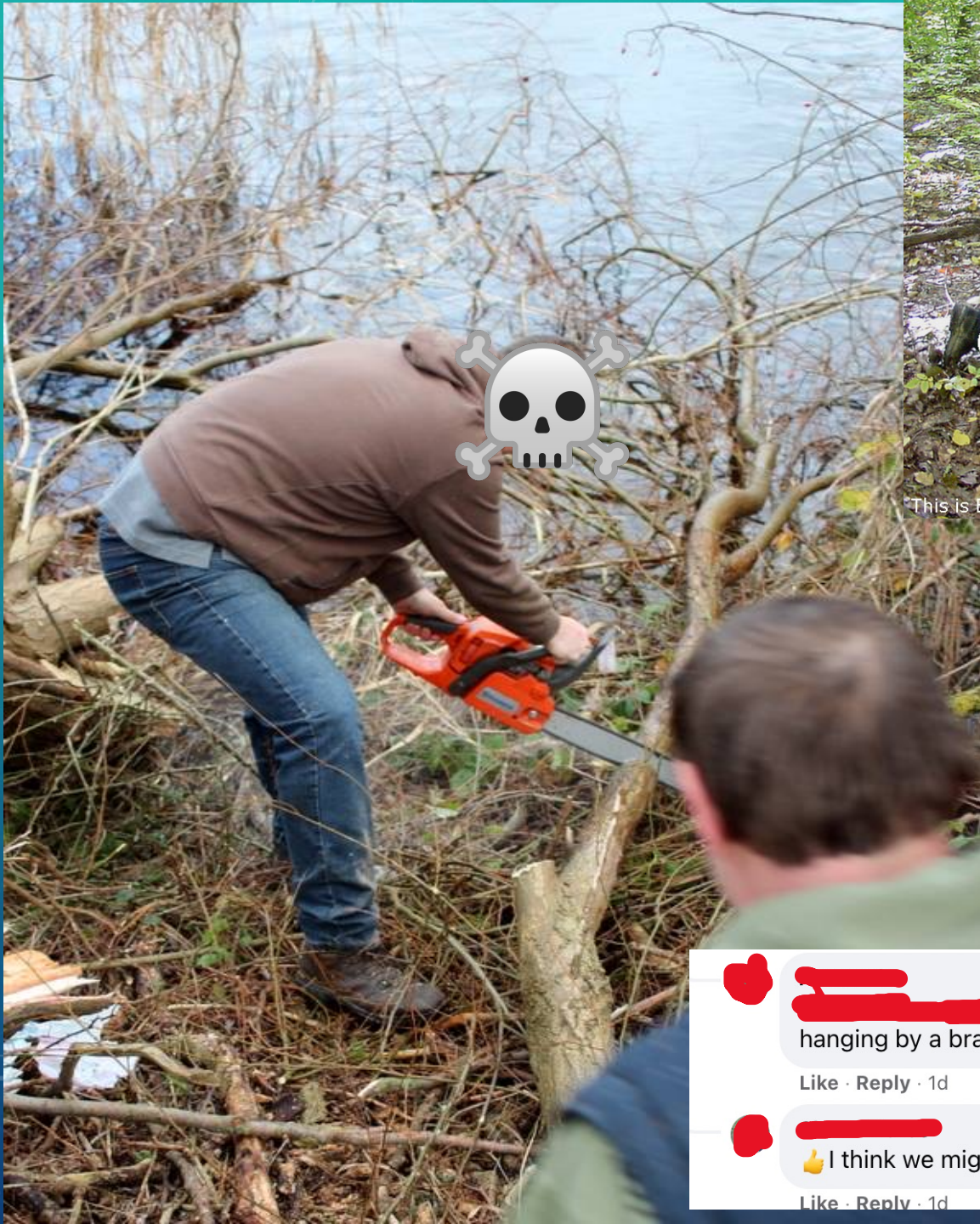
Gloves




Chaps


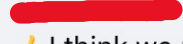

Boots

This is Bill Lindloff of Pro-Cuts





  dont think hanging by a branch with a chainsaw will be on the agenda 😊
Like · Reply · 1d  1

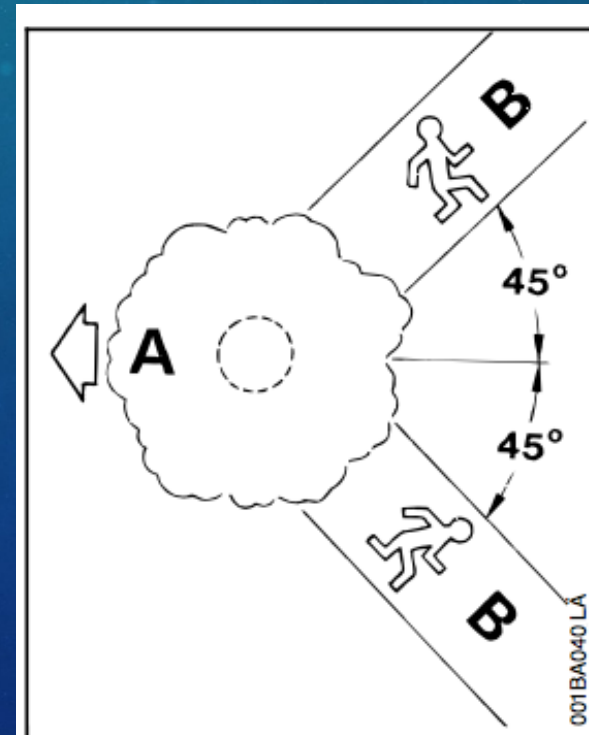
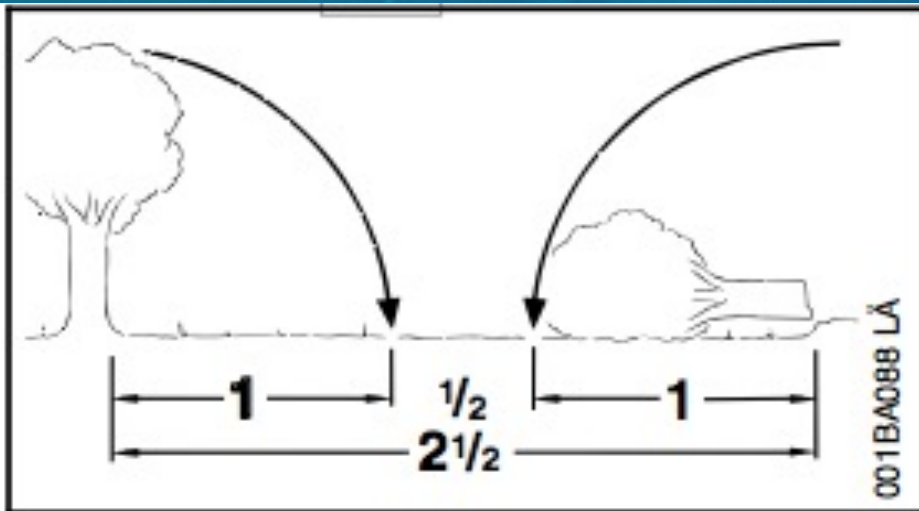
  I think we might get a few tips 🙌👍👎
Like · Reply · 1d  1

CHAINSAWS

- ▶ When felling, maintain a distance of at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ tree lengths from the nearest person.
- ▶ Beware of conditions that may alter the fall of the tree e.g wind, sloping ground etc
- ▶ As a minimum if someone turns up on a work party with a chainsaw, and you plan on felling large trees they should have

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Chainsaw Maintenance and Cross Cutting

City & Guilds NPTC Level 2 Award in Felling and Processing Trees up to 380mm



CHAINSAW GUIDANCE FOR CLUBS

Most club members will be classes as “Hobbyist” chainsaw users.

They should demonstrate their competency to the club committee and have the requisite PPE before been allowed to work on site

A safe working zone must be set up and the public and other club members must not be permitted to enter the safe working zone. An additional steward may be needed to manage the zone

For felling trees above 8” in diameter and working above ground height a qualified tree surgeon should be used. These operatives (Contractors) should be certified to a relevant LANTRA (or similar) training organisation.

The Landowner must be consulted before any trees are felled and some trees may be the subject of a preservation order (TPO)

HOW TO DRESS



LONE WORKING

- Working alone is potentially dangerous, particularly around water
- Is this something you can manage?
- Limit tasks that could be risky
- Implement a buddy system
- Adequate PPE
- Line of sight to the activity
- Bespoke lone working RA
- Just don't allow it!

Team work



PPE AND SAFETY KIT



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER



Where is the plan for the day?

Ensure you have clearly explained what you will be doing to the volunteers

Talk through the RA and highlight any risks

Check all equipment and PPE

Who is using what, when and where?

Is the site secure? – risk to the public etc.



Thanks for
listening



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