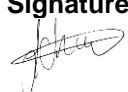


Title: Shooting for Vertebrate & Bird Control  
 Doc No: GRA037  
 Revision No: 07  
 Issue Date: March 2011  
 Revision Date: January 2023

**RISK ASSESSMENT**

<b>Description of process:</b>	Use of firearms for Vertebrate & Bird Control (also please refer to Outline GRA001 & Outline MS1)								
<b>Task on which assessment is made:</b>	Shooting of a firearm for Vertebrate & Bird Control								
<b>Location:</b>	As required								
<b>Hazard(s) identified:</b>	Ricochet, impact, noise, public opinion (violence, verbal abuse)								
<b>Person(s) considered at risk:</b>	CSS PEST Services staff, customer's staff, general public								
<b>Risk rating before:</b>	Likelihood	4	x	Severity	5	=	Risk:	20	
<b>Control Measures/Safe Work Instructions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All CSS PEST services staff who use air rifles, shotguns or firearms will be trained and certified and have a licence to carry out this work activity</li> <li>All firearms are stored securely when not in use. Ammunition is stored separately from the firearm in accordance with company policy.</li> <li>Care will be taken to ensure that the risks from ricochets and projectiles passing through materials is minimised by selecting the correct weapon, carrying out work at the most appropriate time and only taking a safe shot with a suitable backstop.</li> <li>Always discharge the firearm in a safe direction.</li> <li>Misfire drills must be followed</li> <li>Load firearm in close proximity to the intended target.</li> <li>Where required wear hearing and eye protection when using a firearm.</li> <li>Firearms should not be used in or near explosive or flammable areas</li> <li>Where the shoot is to take place ensure it is clear of all personnel that are not trained and part of the work activity</li> <li>Signs and barriers will be placed where and when necessary to restrict third party access to treatment area</li> <li>Shooting must only be carried out in an area where permission has been granted.</li> <li>Police and relevant authorities must be informed prior to this work activity</li> </ul>								
<b>Typical injury:</b>	Severe injury								
<b>Risk rating after:</b>	Likelihood	2	x	Severity	5	=	Risk:	10	
<b>Further control action requirement:</b>	Site Specific Risk Assessment to be carried out before work activity begins								
<b>Person making assessment / carrying out review:</b>	<b>Name:</b> Jason Cholerton				<b>Signature:</b>				
	<b>Position:</b> Technical Director								

**Risk Ratings:**

**Likelihood**

- 1.Improbable
- 2.Low
- 3.Medium
- 4.High
- 5.Near Certainty

**Severity**

- 1.Minor Injury
- 2.Moderate Injury
- 3.Serious
- 4.Very Serious
- 5.Fatality

**Likelihood x Severity = Risk**



## CALCULATING THE RISK RATING

Is to be read in conjunction with the General Risk Assessment (GRA)

		Severity				
		Minor injury	Moderate injury	Serious	Very serious	Fatality
Likelihood	Improbable	1	2	3	4	5
	Low	2	4	6	8	10
	Medium	3	6	9	12	15
	High	4	8	12	16	20
	Near Certainty	5	10	15	20	25

### Risk Rating Bands:

RATING BANDS (a x b)		
LOW RISK (1-6)	MEDIUM RISK (7-14)	HIGH RISK (15-25)
Continue but review periodically to ensure controls remain effective.	Continue, but implement additional reasonably practicable controls where possible and monitor regularly.	<b>-STOP THE ACTIVITY-</b> Identify new controls. Activity must not proceed until risks are reduced to a low or medium level.

### Definition of risk:

A risk is the likelihood of the harm occurring and the severity of the harm if it does. Thus, in terms of "likelihood" there may be a hazard associated with water and drowning, but the risk can only be evaluated when the proximity of people to the water, the weather conditions, the equipment used, the people's proficiency and many other factors are taken into account.

As for severity, a hazard associated with falling can be evaluated also in terms of the distance and therefore the degree of harm which could occur – tripping and falling on the same level rarely causes serious injury (although this is not impossible) whereas falling down a flight of stairs is quite likely to result in broken bones or worse.

Finally, the risk factor should also consider the numbers of people potentially affected. A risk faced by many people every day should be treated as a higher priority than the same degree of risk faced by one person very occasionally. A key element of the risk assessment process is the measurement of the degree of risk present – improbable, low, medium, high or near certainty – in order to decide on these priorities and accord appropriate weight to preventative measures.