

Cockermouth Angling Association – River Cocker risk assessment - July 2024

No	Risk	Assessment of risk (assumes no control measures in place)			Risk Control Measures	Assessment of residual risks (with control measures in place)		
		Impact	Likeli- hood	Risk rating		Impact	Likelihood	Risk rating
1	Cattle stampeding – risk higher when calves at foot or when bull is present	3	2	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware – if in doubt avoid risk • Walk fence perimeters avoiding walking through herds • Do not approach animals and avoid proximity to calves 	3	1	4
2	Drowning – the Cocker is a dangerous deep river with strong flows. River beds change during flood conditions and can shift considerably.	3	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware – do not take for granted that areas safe to wade in the past remain safe. • Wade within own capability • Use a wading staff in deep water and life jacket 	3	1	4
3	Slip hazards	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware that banks are slippery and by nature access to the waters edge can be difficult. Approach with care and within personal capability <p>Styles and bridges are put in place to support access but cannot be subject to constant monitoring. Use them with care and report any defects to Secretary via e mail: If anglers note any safety or issues relating to repairs please notify the secretary: via e mail: administration@cockermouthanglingassociation.co.uk</p>	2	1	3
4	Trip hazards from long grass, other vegetation and uneven banks. Particular hazard at night.	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglers to take care 	2	1	3

5	<p>Specific trip hazards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout system there is fencing wire on the ground often covered in vegetation. • Upstream of Lorton bridge - in water trip hazard – stakes (up to 12) in river bed where old river bank was retained – right bank ¼ mile up stream from Bridge House in close proximity to stand alone slate gate post. • Upstream of Lorton Bridge - Open holes in field culvert close to river bank 30 yards up from second 5 bar gate (including House back garden gate) • Beyond the feeder stream 2 fields up from Bridge House Lorton the area is extremely overgrown and largely inaccessible. Careful wading upstream with a staff offers better access. • Stivey Lonning to Simonscales (old Turkey Farm) – left bank – woodland overgrown. Access considered dangerous and fishing is discouraged. 	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglers to take care 	2	1	3
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6	Spinners – face / body injury	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware that spinners caught on trees or vegetation on the opposite bank and pulled bank under tension can cause serious injury. 	2	1	3
7	Injury to members of the public from back casts	3	2	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglers to exercise care in areas where members of the public may be present 	3	1	4
8	Weil's disease – Serious disease in human beings that requires hospital treatment	3	2	5	<p>Bacterial infection carried in the urine of rats which contaminates water and banks of lakes, rivers and ponds. Early symptoms are similar to flu and normally starts 3 to 19 days after exposure to contaminated water. Doctor should be consulted.</p> <p>Precautions to be observed are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover any cuts, sores or scratches with waterproof plasters or gloves • Disinfect any wounds that occur at the waterside • Wash hands or cover food with wrapper before you eat and do not put hands or equipment in your mouth after immersing in water • Do not touch dead animals especially rats and do not leave food or rubbish on the bank side 	2	1	3

Key to impact and likelihood: 3 = High 2 = Medium 1 = Low Completed by Mark Hastings CAA committee member and responsible for risk management

Date: 9th July 2024