



## Site-Specific Risk Assessment Guidance

**A site-specific risk assessment is a working document that can be used by both professional and recreational deer stalkers. It is a legal requirement for anyone working professionally and shows a responsible approach for anyone deer stalking recreationally. As a deer stalker, you have a duty of care for the safety of yourself and others.**

A site-specific risk assessment is different to a generic risk assessment in that it is primarily concerned with the site at which the activity will be taking place. This type of risk assessment is designed to highlight the risks associated with a specific site and is not meant to be a repeat of a generic risk assessment.

A site-specific risk assessment is also an information point for all parties concerned with the activities undertaken on that site. It acts as a communication methodology for safety and by signing the declaration it highlights that all parties have shared information that is key to their safety and the safety of others.

Our ***Site-Specific Risk Assessment Template*** is simple and easy to follow. It is downloadable in both PDF and word document format. The documents can be completed digitally or by printing and completing in pen. We have supplied a word document as a dynamic form that can be tailored to suit your needs as a manager or risk.

**Information on the sections of our *Site-Specific Risk Assessment Template* can be found below.**

### **1. Deer stalking site information**

Prior to undertaking any activity, the deer stalker(s) should familiarise themselves with the site. Site information is of primary importance for the safety of all involved. It is a method of communicating an incident to the emergency services and can be vital in the management of a life-threatening situation.

### **2. Details of deer stalkers on site**

Deer stalkers information details provide a useful way of communicating between members of a stalking party. By reading this document each deer stalker can take the mobile contact details of the rest of the party providing they have consent from the individual. The details section also highlights the competence of others via disclosing certification information and acts as a register of names. The register of names should be checked against the signed declaration at the end of the document.

### **3. Emergency contingencies**

Highlighting hazards, and the potential risk of those hazards to causing injury, is the core of risk management. The emergency contingencies section highlights hazards and potential risks specific to that particular site and is usually not highlighted on a generic risk assessment. For example, a generic risk assessment may state firearms use as a hazard with the undertaking of firearms training as a control measure. It is obvious that a firearm will be used for deer stalking and therefore doesn't need to be entered on a site-specific risk assessment as it is covered in the generic risk assessment. However, the nature of a specific site may cause complications with firearms use. For example, the site may be very flat and have public roads on all sides prompting a risk from a shooting perspective. The control measure may be to restrict all shooting to high seats and should, therefore, be written into the risk contingencies.

The level of risk can be determined by using the Risk Level Scoreboard found on our Generic Risk Assessment Template on [www.highweald.org](http://www.highweald.org)

### **4. Signed declaration**

The signed declaration must be completed in person on site on that particular day. It is preferable that all parties are communicated to at one time as questions can be answered if there are any issues regarding the site, and any new information regarding risk is highlighted. The signed declaration shows that each member of the part has understood all sections.

For more information regarding the principles of risk assessment please visit the Health and Safety Executives website following this link <http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/controlling-risks.htm>