# Disclaimer: This risk assessment template is to be used as a guide only and the user should fully review the risk assessment prior to signing it off. The list of hazards and mitigations are examples only and should not be considered an exhaustive list. The user should consider each risk in relation to the policy of the organisation for which they are completing the risk assessment. Herefordshire Wildlife Trust accepts no responsibility for the use of this risk assessment or any actions that may be taken against the user where the risk assessment has been used.

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| ACTIVITY ASSESSED  **Orchard Management – pruning and planting** | | **ASSESSMENT DATE:** | **ASSESSED BY:** |
| WHO’S AT RISK  **Staff, Volunteers, Public** | | **NEXT ASSESSMENT REVIEW BEFORE:** | **APPROVED BY:** |
| HAZARD  (potential for harm) | MITIGATION  (to reduce the risk level) | | |
| Physical Hazards on site | 1. Check Site Risk Assessment (where appropriate) OR establish from owner whether there are any non-obvious lethal hazards present. Take appropriate action to avoid, consider physical/visual warnings. 2. Task Leader to be competent to, and to conduct on the spot site risk assessment with particular regard to power lines, animals and other lethal risks, and risks posed by uneven ground and branches. 3. Task Leader to be competent to, and to assess for common risk factors eg from plants, animals, fungi 4. Task Leader to be competent to, and to brief staff/volunteers on appropriate mitigation based on above factors – avoid non-obvious lethal hazards, use SWOW to mitigate other physical risks | | |
| Injury through tool use | 1. Only appropriately qualified people to use chainsaws or other powered tools, in line with XXX policy 2. 2 qualified first aiders must be present when using polesaws to cut large/high branches 3. Task Leader to be competent to use and competent to supervise safe use of polesaws and handtools | | |
| Weather Events/effects | 1. Task Leader to be competent to assess risk posed by severe weather conditions – call off activity if mitigation through PPE / clothing / other (eg suncream) is not adequate (eg deep snow, severe ice, extreme heat) 2. Task Leader to ensure participants are appropriately attired before starting 3. Spare water / suncream to be carried and offered | | |
| European Protected Species disturbance | 1. Task Leader to apply XXX policy appropriately | | |
| Fall from height | 1. Task Leader to be competent to determine whether or not climbing a tree is appropriate and the risk can be mitigated OR not to permit tree climbing 2. Only tripod ladders to be used in orchards 3. Ladders or tree climbing not to be used for pruning branches which may cause serious injury if they strike the climber 4. Task Leader to be competent to instruct in the safe use of tripod ladders 5. Equipment to be appropriately maintained and checked in line with XXX policy | | |
| Injury through moving/lifting | 1. Task Leader to be competent to supervise activities involving moving and lifting | | |
| Lone Working - injury | 1. Staff to be assessed as competent to work alone in line with XXX policy | | |