

# BEACH CLEAN RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES



There are five SIMPLE steps to go through when you conduct a risk assessment:

## Step 1 – Identify the hazards

Are there any hazards that might harm the volunteers at any time during the beach clean. Things to think about might be access to the beach, the presence of mudflats, cliffs and slippery rocks, or unusual tides and currents. Don't forget things surrounding the beach as well, such as parking areas or other road traffic hazards and remember to consider sharp objects that might be found.

## Step 2 – Decide who might be at risk and how?

This is likely to be you and the volunteers. However, remember to make sure that others who are not part of the clean-up are not likely to be affected by things such as leaving rubbish sacks on footpaths

## Step 3 – Evaluate the risks and decide on the control measures

Having identified the hazards and who might be affected you then need to put in place measures to protect people from being harmed. You can do this by either removing the risk completely, or minimising it to ensure that any injury is unlikely. This could be something as simple as blocking off one area of muddy beach, or ensuring that everyone wears gloves.

## Step 4 – Record your findings

Write down your findings using the template provided. You can also use this to brief the volunteers on the day.

## Step 5 – Review your assessment and update as and when necessary

You should never forget that things can change so make sure that you review the risk assessment before every beach clean, especially if you go to a new location.

# BEACH CLEAN RISK ASSESSMENT FORM



## HAZARDS

For example: tides, currents, cliffs, traffic

## WHO MIGHT BE AT RISK?

For example: young people, members of the public, organisers

## EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES

What precautions are already in place? For example: gloves, litter pickers, full briefing on hazards

## ANY FURTHER ACTION NEEDED?

If risks are not controlled what more needs to be done? For example: Do you need to exclude certain locations, traffic control, change the site?