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| **Important Note** |
| This document is a general risk assessment for fieldwork. This risk assessment is designed to act as an initial guide to those persons engaged in fieldwork. Fieldworkers should refer to the [*UCD Fieldwork Safety Guidelines*](https://intranet.ucd.ie/sirc/safetydocumentsandguides/fieldworksafety/index.html) for further safety information and complete the [*UCD Fieldwork Risk Assessment Template*](https://intranet.ucd.ie/sirc/riskassessmenttemplates/fieldworksafety/index.html) where it is deemed necessary.  |
| **Introduction** |
| For a number of academic disciplines fieldwork is an essential part of the core teaching, learning and research functions. The University requires that fieldwork is undertaken in a safe and responsible manner. Persons engaged in fieldwork should aim to undertake their fieldwork in a safe manner without endangering their own or their co-worker’s safety. Potential hazards in fieldwork operations are numerous and may stem from environment conditions, type of work undertaken, terrain, biological risks, etc. |
| **Persons at Risk** |
| All persons engaged in fieldwork are at risk.  |
| **Date of Assessment** | 30/03/24 | **Completed By** | UCD SIRC Office |
| **Risk Assessment** | **Probability Rating** | **Outcome Rating** | **Risk Rating** |
| Likely | Harmful | Moderate Risk |
| **Measures Required to Reduce Risk** |
| 1. All persons proposing to engage in fieldwork, of any sort, should consult the UCD Fieldwork Safety Guidelines [UCD Fieldwork Safety Guidelines](https://intranet.ucd.ie/sirc/safetydocumentsandguides/fieldworksafety/index.html), beforehand and must complete a [fieldwork risk assessment](https://intranet.ucd.ie/sirc/riskassessmenttemplates/fieldworksafety/index.html) in conjunction with their Supervisor/ Head of School /Head of Unit.
2. Solo fieldwork should be avoided wherever possible.
3. Group expeditions should have an appointed expedition leader who is responsible for fieldwork safety and for ensuring that all expedition participants receive a safety briefing before undertaking any tasks.
4. Where necessary, adequate insurance cover for fieldwork undertaken should be confirmed (insurance@ucd.ie).
5. Where necessary, permission should be obtained from landowners before working on private property.
6. Adequate provisions should be made for persons with disabilities and medical conditions.
7. Adequate first aid provisions should be made where necessary.
8. All necessary safety equipment as identified during risk assessment.
9. Emergency preplanning must be carried, as part of risk assessment, to identify procedures to be followed when an emergency occurs.
10. Details of fieldwork must be left with a responsible person who has instructions to contact the emergency services in the event that a fieldwork expedition does not return at an allotted time.
11. Fieldwork expeditions must be designed and carried out so as to minimise the risks from physical hazards; biological hazards; chemical hazards; man made hazards; and any other hazards identified.
12. The environmental impact of all fieldtrips should be minimised, in so far as is possible.
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| **esidual risk*****(when all control measures have been implemented)*** | **Probability Rating**  | **Outcome Rating**  | **Risk Rating** |
| Unlikely | Harmful | Acceptable Risk  |
| Residual risk acceptable | Yes |
| Revision History | Rev. 0 Issued 01/08/07Rev. 1 Issued 05/08/15- Additions of hyperlinks to UCD Fieldwork Safety Guidelines and UCD Fieldwork Risk Assessment templateRev. 2 Issued 30/04/19 - Reviewed and approvedRev. 3 Issued 19/08/20 – Workplace Covid 19 Risk section addedRev. 4 Issued 30/03/24 – Workplace Covid 19 section removed |
| Risk Rating Method | **Risk Rating = Likelihood of risk occurring x Severity of outcome**

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|  |  **Severity** |
| **Likelihood** |  | **Low** | **Medium** | **High** |
| **Low** | Trivial | Acceptable | Moderate |
| **Medium** | Acceptable | Moderate | Substantial |
| **High** | Moderate | Substantial | Intolerable |

**Assessment of Likelihood and Severity**

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|  | **Severity of Outcome** | **Likelihood of Exposure** |
| **Low** | Slightly Harmful | Unlikely |
| **Medium** | Harmful | Likely |
| **High** | Very Harmful | Very Likely |

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| **Risk Assessment Review and Update** *(completed by the local area reviewing this risk assessment)* |
| **Reviewed and approved by:****Position:** |  | **Date:** |  |