# Risk Assessment - Buckeye Coupling and Uncoupling

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## Coupling and uncoupling buckeyes

| Type | Hazard<br>Cause | Persons<br>Affected | Control Measures | L S T<br>Overall | Additional Control Measures | L S T<br>Overall | Owner/Action |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Health and Safety | Personal injury when coupling/uncoupling. Crush, strain or burn | Volunteers & Staff | 1) CRITICAL - Engineering: Always carry out this activity on straight and not curved track if possible. - Effective<br>2) CRITICAL - Administrative: The GWSR Rule Book must be followed at all times - Effective<br>3) CRITICAL - Administrative: All staff involved must be trained, competent and certified. - Effective<br>4) CRITICAL - Administrative: Before starting the driver and shunter must come to a clear understanding of what is involved and what is to be carried out. - Effective<br>5) CRITICAL - Administrative: Be aware of own physical limitations and the weight of couplings. - Effective<br>6) CRITICAL - Administrative: Be aware of the presence of various pinch points. - Effective<br>7) CRITICAL - Administrative: Be aware of the possibility of hot steam pipes. - Effective<br>8) CRITICAL - Administrative: Be aware of other train movements in the area - Effective<br>9) CRITICAL - Administrative: The procedure for coupling and uncoupling as per the GWSR Rule Book must be followed at all times. - Effective<br>10) CRITICAL - Administrative: Pay particullar attention and be extra cautious during hours of darkness. - Effective<br>11) CRITICAL - Administrative: Ensure that no other staff than the driver and shunter are anywhere near the activity. - Effective<br>12) CRITICAL - Administrative: Adopt a good posture when lifting the couplings. - Effective<br>13) CRITICAL - PPE: Safety Footwear, gloves and hi-viz to be worn. - Effective | 2 x 5 = 10<br>Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical. | 1) PPE: Consider wearing a bump hat to avoid injury. - Effective | 2 x 5 = 10<br>Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical. | n/a |

**Score and Control Measure Notes.**
Risk is medium. Coupling is one of the most hazardous activities on the railway and must be treated with caution.
Risk remain medium.

## COSHH Assessments

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.
Ends