



**Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway Plc**  
**Risk Assessment for Dealing with line-side fires during a gala with dry conditions - Steam Loco**

**Risk Assessment - Dealing with line-side fires during a gala with dry conditions**

Reference No: STE-45793-23  
 Version No: 1  
 Assessment Approver: Neil Carr

Additional precautions to be put in place to handle fire risk from loco sparks and falling hot embers when weather conditions are especially dry due to a lack of rain.

Department: Steam Loco  
 Date Of Assessment: 16 May 2025  
 Review Due Before: 22 May 2028  
 Lead Assessor: Tom Willson  
 Team: Neil Carr & Kevin Jarvis

**Dealing with fires at dry weather steam galas**

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Additional Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Owner/Action	
Operations	Fire Hot embers or exhaust sparks emitted from the loco	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Engineering: All locos to have water available to fight fires from slacker pipes, buckets or injector overflow as fitted. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Engineering: Fire Teams to carry appropriate equipment. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Engineering: Loco ash pan sprinklers to be fitted where practicable and to be in good working order. - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Engineering: Loco spark arresters to be fitted where practicable and to be in good working order. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Engineering: Loco ash pans and hoppers to be emptied regularly where practicable. - Effective 6) Engineering: Locos to carry as much water as practicable and refill as and when convenient. - Effective 7) CRITICAL - Administrative: DOO to be informed immediately if the fire cannot be quickly extinguished. - Effective 8) CRITICAL - Administrative: DOO to coordinate the movements of the mobile fire fighting teams. - Effective 9) CRITICAL - Administrative: DOO to inform Signalmen of any fires in their area that require them to take action or to communicate with footplate crews. - Effective 10) CRITICAL - Administrative: No vehicles allowed line-side until authorised by the DOO. - Effective 11) CRITICAL - Administrative: The GWSR Rule Book is to be obeyed at all times. - Effective 12) CRITICAL - Administrative: Fire Teams to regularly inform the DOO of progress on any fire being tackled. - Effective 13) CRITICAL - Administrative: If the fire is too big to tackle, starts to spread or the Fire team are not confident to tackle it then the Fire Brigade should be called immediately on 999. - Effective 14) CRITICAL - Administrative: DOO to keep signallers (and others as required) informed of the current situation. - Effective 15) CRITICAL - Administrative: All members of the Fire Team must have a current PTS. - Effective 16) CRITICAL - Administrative: Drivers to be instructed to drive in a fashion that minimises the risk of causing a fire. - Effective	4 x 2 = 8 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	8	None	4 x 2 = 8 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	n/a		
Health and Safety	Injury from Fire Lineside Fire	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: If the fire is getting beyond the control of the people on site then stand clear and phone the emergency services. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Administrative: Stout boots and thick cotton or fire retardant clothing to be worn. No flammable leggings or jackets. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Administrative: Safety briefing to be held before tackling any fire, agree who does what and where. - Effective	3 x 1 = 3 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	3	None	n	n	n	n/a

**COSHH Assessments**



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