Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway Plc
Risk Assessment for Track Walking and Inspection - Permanent Way

Risk Assessment - Track Walking and Inspection

Reference No: PER-45951-97
Version No: 1
Assessment Approver: Paul Fuller

Track Inspection/Patrolling in order to check for defects on or about the line in order to keep it safe.

Department: Permanent Way
Date Of Assessment: 21 October 2025
Review Due Before: 21 October 2030
Lead Assessor: Paul Fuller
Team: Andy Stratford, Jim Graham, Kevin Jarvis

Health and Safety

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L S T Overall	Additional Control Measures	L S T Overall	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Injury or incapacitation whilst walking the track Trains running. Slips, trips and falls, or other illness leading to incapacitation.	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: On running days, obtain a Line Block from the relevant signalman when walking either through Greet Tunnel, or through platforms to ensure no trains pass. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Patrols are only to be carried out in daylight and with good visibility. If fog, heavy rain or snow falls, leave the track safely and advise the TMM. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Engineering: Physical work is limited to tightening loose bolts and replacing keys/clips. - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Administrative: Always carry a charged mobile phone for emergency communications. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Administrative: Use approved access gates to access and exit from the track. Ensure gates are locked behind you. - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Administrative: Be aware of other traffic on the highway. Park and walk accordingly. - Effective 7) CRITICAL - Administrative: Only walk on surfaces where good footing can be assured. Never walk on sleepers or on the rail, as per PTS training. - Effective 8) CRITICAL - Administrative: Ensure the patrol is showing on the electronic sign-on system before starting a patrol. If not, advise the Ops Manager (non-running days) or the DOO (running days). - Effective 9) CRITICAL - Administrative: A minimum of two people should conduct a patrol, one of whom should be a qualified patroller. No lone working (with the exception of the Track Maintenance Manager) is permitted. - Effective 10) CRITICAL - Administrative: A patroller with defective colour vision is permitted to patrol only with another qualifies patroller whose colour vision is good. - Effective 11) CRITICAL - PPE: Steel toe-capped boots and orange HV required as a minimum to be on railway property, as per PTS rules. - Effective	2 x 2 = 4 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	1) Administrative: Ensure that P-way management is aware that the patrol is taking place. - Effective 2) Administrative: When walking through or patrolling Greet Tunnel, ensure you have two working torches with you. - Effective 3) Administrative: Patrollers must not climb on any structure or equipment. - Effective 4) Administrative: Personal music equipment must never be used whilst carrying out track patrolling, or other p-way duties. - Effective 5) Administrative: If it is necessary to make or receive a phone call, ensure you are in a position of safety before doing so. - Effective 6) Administrative: Red flags to be carried. - Effective	2 x 2 = 4 Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.	n/a

COSHH Assessments

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.

Reference Documents

• Track Patrol Training and Reference Manual -

Ends