



**Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway Plc**  
**Risk Assessment for Loading and use of dogfish ballast wagons - Permanent Way**

**Risk Assessment - Loading and use of dogfish ballast wagons**

Reference No: PER-44352-11

Version No: 4

Assessment Approver: Paul Fuller

Department: Permanent Way

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Team: Jim Graham, Stephen Clark, Andy Sworn

**Loading ballast into hoppers**

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Additional Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Injuries resulting from plant collision with live railway traffic Un sighted rail vehicle movement	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Suitable possession in place if working within five metres of the running lines. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Designated controller/banksman working with the plant and help sight rail vehicle movements. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Elimination: Activity is planned and reported in daily brief to operating teams. - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Elimination: Rail vehicles approaching the lineside activity sound warning horn/whistle and require acknowledgement by lineside team. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Administrative: The GWSR Rule Book is to be followed at all times. - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Administrative: All staff involved must be in possession of a valid PTS qualification. - Effective	2 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	5 = 10	None	2 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	5 = 10	n/a
Finance	Capital loss from plant collision with live rail vehicle Un sighted rail vehicle movement	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Suitable possession must be in place if working within five metres of the running lines. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Designated controller/banksman working with the plant and help sight rail vehicle movements. - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Elimination: Activity is planned and reported in daily brief to operating teams. - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Elimination: Rail vehicles approaching the lineside activity sound warning horn/whistle and require acknowledgement by lineside team. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Administrative: The GWR Rule Book must be followed at all times - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Administrative: All staff involved must be in possession of a valid PTS qualification. - Effective	2 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	4 = 8	None	2 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	4 = 8	n/a
Health and Safety	Inhalation of ballast dust When ballast is disrupted	Everyone	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Ballast to be sprayed with water where practicable - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: All staff within 100m to be issued with and wear FFP3 masks - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Elimination: Care should be taken when taking food breaks an removing or cleaning clothing after work is finished. Clothes should be washed separately after work. - Effective	3 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	3 = 9	None	3 x Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	3 = 9	n/a

**Dropping ballast from hoppers**



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Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L Overall	S	T	Additional Control Measures	L Overall	S	T	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Falling from vehicle Losing footing / weather conditions	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Access steps and railings on the wagon to assist with step up and hold on - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Inspection of railings and steps to ensure they are safe to use before accessing - Effective 3) Elimination: When travelling on the vehicle always have both hands either on the control wheels or handrail - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Elimination: Never attempt to get on or off when the vehicle is moving - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Elimination: Don't wear clothing which is baggy or likely to catch on the vehicle - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Elimination: If guard rails / chains are not installed on the sides of the operating platform, at least two operatives must be present when operating the hoppers. - Effective 7) CRITICAL - Elimination: If a door becomes difficult to control - stiff - a bar can be used to assist in turning the wheel. This should be done by standing at the centre of the vehicle and not towards the outsides. Any defects should be reported to C&W. - Effective	3 x	3 =	9	None	2 x	5 =	10	n/a
				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.			
Health and Safety	Personnel exposure to silica dust Dropping ballast onto track	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: All staff within 100m to be issued with and wear FFP3 masks  - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Care should be taken when taking food breaks and removing or cleaning clothing after work is finished. Clothes should be washed separately after work. - Effective	3 x	3 =	9	None	1 x	5 =	5	n/a
				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.				Low - Risk to be monitored to ensure it remains adequately controlled to an acceptable level.			
Health and Safety	Physical muscular damage from operating hoppers Strain caused by over exertion when moving wheel	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Hopper to be regularly serviced and maintained by C&W to ensure mechanical operation is as free-moving as possible. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Care to be taken in following instructions on where / when to drop and understand the limits of the machine: It's very hard to close the doors once opened! - Effective	3 x	3 =	9	None	3 x	3 =	9	n/a
				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.			
Health and Safety	Over-turning hoppers or derailment Over-dropping material on the track / train not in motion when dropping	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: Ensure clear operation with PIC at all times and follow instructions on delivery and when to open doors. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Elimination: Those without experience of operation should be shadowed by those who have operated - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Administrative: Only those persons trained and competent should perform the activity. - Effective	2 x	4 =	8	None	2 x	4 =	8	n/a
				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.				Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.			

### **COSHH Assessments**

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.

Ends