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| **Risk Assessment** | | | | |
| **Risk Assessment for the activity of** | Reptile Handling at the Reptile Academy-New Forest |  | **Date** | **08/03/24** |
| **Unit/Faculty/Directorate** | **Wildlife Society** | **Assessor** | **Michael Moore-Saxton** | |
| **Line Manager/Supervisor** | ***Harry Russell (President)*** | **Signed off** | ***Harry Russell*** | |

| ***PART A*** | | | | | | | | | | |
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| **(1) Risk identification** | | | **(2) Risk assessment** | | | | **(3) Risk management** | | | |
| **Hazard** | **Potential Consequences** | **Who might be harmed**  **(user; those nearby; those in the vicinity; members of the public)** | **Inherent** | | |  | **Residual** | | | **Further controls (use the risk hierarchy)** |
| **Likelihood** | **Impact** | **Score** | **Control measures (use the risk hierarchy)** | **Likelihood** | **Impact** | **Score** |
| Bites | Minor Pain  Possible Bleeding  Open wound  Bacterial infection | Handlers  Members | **4** | **3** | **12** | Health and safety briefing and correct snake handling instructions given to participants prior to handling, such as avoid grabbing, touching/poking face and tail areas which are sensitive.  Animals never left unattended with the public.  Animals are non-venomous.  Animals are well fed appropriately before the event.  Wash hands in alcohol based hand sanitiser before handling to remove scent of food/other animals.  Behaviour/stress of animals closely monitored and animals removed from handling | **1** | **2** | **2** | Protective gloves worn when near iguanas specifically |
| Constriction | Asphyxiation  Bruising | Handlers and members | **4** | **4** | **16** | Handlers always monitoring snake behaviour for signs of stress.  Number of people that handle at once is limited to small groups  Appropriate health & safety handling talk and/or signage to not touch face/tail areas  Handlers always present to uncoil snake. Snake constriction is not very powerful, unlikely to overcome a grown adult human unless unconscious and alone.  Members asked how they are feeling when handling snakes and if the grip is too tight. Grip for snake to hold on is not constriction.  Snakes not allowed to move across necks when handling | **1** | **2** | **2** |  |
| Bacterial infection | From bite, touching skin, urine. Commonly associated bacteria include *E.coli* and *Salmonella* | Handlers and members | **3** | **4** | **12** | Wash hands before and after any handling using reptile safe hand sanitizer.  Handlers supervised to ensure snakes are not put in a position where they feel forced to bite and snake body language watched at all times  Proper safety briefing from staff to ensure correct technique used when handling reptiles | **1** | **3** | **3** |  |
| Reptiles catching an infection or getting injury, stress | Common infections include RIs (respiratory infections)  Snake may be dropped/grabbed | Lizards and Snakes | **5** | **4** | **20** | Proper safety briefing from staff to ensure correct technique used when handling reptiles along with any reptiles being given adequate rest time if showing any signs of stress.  Wash hands before any handling using reptile safe hand sanitizer. To prevent introduction of external infection | **2** | **1** | **2** |  |
| Overcrowding | People may be knocked into/tripped over.  Snakes may be stressed | Members and reptiles | **5** | **3** | **15** | Making use of outdoor areas with larger reptile eg tortoises and boas  Limiting numbers in smaller rooms and ensuring rotation using groups | **2** | **1** | **2** |  |
| Driving to event | Motion sickness  Car accidents  Getting stranded | Society members, public | **3** | **5** | **15** | Safety information of all drivers checked before the trip and licence information checked.  Vehicles fuelled before the trip to ensure a round trip can be made. | **2** | **4** | **8** |  |

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| ***PART B – Action Plan*** | | | | | | | |
| **Risk Assessment Action Plan** | | | | | | | |
| **Part no.** | **Action to be taken, incl. Cost** | **By whom** | **Target date** | | **Review date** | **Outcome at review date** | |
| 1-4 | First aid kit to hand along with presence of emergency first aid trained handler. | Handler is trained first aider | 23/03 | |  |  | |
| 1-4 | Participants emergency contact details gathered by organisers and stored in accordance with GDPR guidelines | Organiser of event | 23/03 | |  |  | |
| 6 | Student drivers and minibus drivers’ safety assessment carried out and licence up to date | Organiser of event | 23/03 | |  |  | |
| 1-4 | Health and safety briefing before trip and by handlers at the centre | Organizer of event and reptile academy staff | 23/03 | |  |  | |
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| Responsible manager’s signature: Carlotta Neal | | | | | Responsible manager’s signature: Harry Russell | | |
| Print name: Carlotta Neal | | | | Date:  8/03/2024 | Print name: Harry Russell | | Date: 8/03/2024 |

**Assessment Guidance**

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| 1. Eliminate | Remove the hazard wherever possible which negates the need for further controls | If this is not possible then explain why | 1  2  3  4  5 |
| 1. Substitute | Replace the hazard with one less hazardous | If not possible then explain why |
| 1. Physical controls | Examples: enclosure, fume cupboard, glove box | Likely to still require admin controls as well |
| 1. Admin controls | Examples: training, supervision, signage |  |
| 1. Personal protection | Examples: respirators, safety specs, gloves | Last resort as it only protects the individual |

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| **LIKELIHOOD** | 5 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|  | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| **IMPACT** | | | | |

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| Impact | | Health & Safety |
| 1 | Trivial - insignificant | Very minor injuries e.g. slight bruising |
| 2 | Minor | Injuries or illness e.g. small cut or abrasion which require basic first aid treatment even in self-administered. |
| 3 | Moderate | Injuries or illness e.g. strain or sprain requiring first aid or medical support. |
| 4 | Major | Injuries or illness e.g. broken bone requiring medical support >24 hours and time off work >4 weeks. |
| 5 | Severe – extremely significant | Fatality or multiple serious injuries or illness requiring hospital admission or significant time off work. |

Risk process

Identify the impact and likelihood using the tables above.

Identify the risk rating by multiplying the Impact by the likelihood using the coloured matrix.

If the risk is amber or red – identify control measures to reduce the risk to as low as is reasonably practicable.

If the residual risk is green, additional controls are not necessary.

If the residual risk is amber the activity can continue but you must identify and implement further controls to reduce the risk to as low as reasonably practicable.

If the residual risk is red do not continue with the activity until additional controls have been implemented and the risk is reduced.

Control measures should follow the risk hierarchy, where appropriate as per the pyramid above.

The cost of implementing control measures can be taken into account but should be proportional to the risk i.e. a control to reduce low risk may not need to be carried out if the cost is high but a control to manage high risk means that even at high cost the control would be necessary.

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| Likelihood | |
| 1 | Rare e.g. 1 in 100,000 chance or higher |
| 2 | Unlikely e.g. 1 in 10,000 chance or higher |
| 3 | Possible e.g. 1 in 1,000 chance or higher |
| 4 | Likely e.g. 1 in 100 chance or higher |
| 5 | Very Likely e.g. 1 in 10 chance or higher |