



## Epping Forest – Detailed risks (reported by exception)

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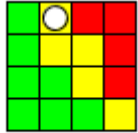
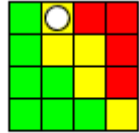

Rows are sorted by Risk Score

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
<p><b>ENV-NE-EF 017 Tree failure</b></p>	<p><b>Cause:</b> Large numbers of older, more vulnerable trees throughout Epping Forest which require regular inspection and works to prevent failure. A rise in tree disease combined with extreme weather conditions due to climate change exacerbate the risk. Staff shortages due to the Target Operating Model (TOM) process have resulted in insufficient staff resources to complete necessary works.</p> <p><b>Event:</b> More frequent tree failures. Greater risk during high winds, particularly when accompanied by heavy rainfall, and when trees are in leaf.</p> <p><b>Effect:</b> Public safety - people (serious injury/death) and property; loss of trees; loss of habitat; insurance claims; reputational damage.</p>		<p>32</p>	<p>This risk is actively managed with regular inspections of trees according to Forest-wide risks zones as well as the Severe Weather Protocol which is implemented in the event of large storms/high winds.</p> <p>As at 24 March 2023, the risk score was set to the maximum (likely/extreme) due to a single Poplar tree identified as dangerous in close proximity to the M25 and beneath high voltage power cables. Negotiations with traffic and power responsible organisations have produced a plan for felling of the tree by a third party in May 2023 which unfortunately had to be postponed. Following that action, the risk score will be reassessed and lowered if appropriate.</p>		<p>12</p>	<p>31-Mar-2024</p>	

## Appendix 1a

20-Apr-2023 Paul Thomson				<p>A hazardous tree survey was completed in 2022 but works arising, particularly at the amber zones, have not been completed due to recruitment restrictions and larger numbers of hazardous trees being identified. These works are unlikely to be completed this year. Red zones are being prioritised. The situation will be kept under review. We are supplementing our teams with the use of specialist contractors to help address deadlines until such time as we are able to recruit staff on a permanent basis.</p> <p><b>12 Jun 2023</b></p>				Reduce	Constant
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Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-EF 017a	Carry out tree safety survey and works.	A tree safety survey has been completed but staff shortages have meant that arboricultural works are significantly delayed, and many actions have slipped out of time - we now aim to complete them by the end of 2024. Contractors have been engaged to carry out a section of high priority roadside works and bids for further resource are likely to be lodged during 2023. Following a rise in Massaria and sooty bark disease infections, and severe storms, it is anticipated that new surveys will result in circa 800 new tasks to be completed, adding substantially to the backlog of works. We have been unable to employ more staff and have had to increase contractor works to reduce the backlog.	Paul Thomson	12-Jun-2023	31-Dec-2024
ENV-NE-EF 017b	Continue to enforce the Severe Weather Protocol as appropriate and keep it under regular review.	A Severe Weather Protocol is in place which details planning and response, in particular to high winds. We are unable to 'close' the Forest during such events but social media and staff broadcast messages to warn members of the public to avoid the Forest, and serious or large scale events are followed by a programme of walking trails and paths to find and action resulting dangers such as hanging tree limbs.	Paul Thomson	12-Jun-2023	31-Mar-2024

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ENV-NE-EF <b>009 Severe weather events</b>          19-Aug-2015 Paul Thomson	<p><b>Cause:</b> Severe gale and storm events; prolonged precipitation/increased precipitation events; restricted precipitation increasing fire severity.</p> <p><b>Event:</b> Severe weather events including periods of drought; flooding; gales; and increased fire severity.</p> <p><b>Effect:</b> Risk of injury or death to staff, visitors, contractors and/or volunteers; loss of habitat/public access and intensification of visitor pressure on other areas of Forest; damage/loss of rare/fragile habitats and species; incidents increase demand for staff resources to respond to maintain public and site safety; temporary site closures; increased costs for reactive management.</p>	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Incident management plan has been updated to incorporate wildfire planning and the JESIP protocols for joint action across authorities. The London Fire Brigade, Fire and Rescue Services have signed off wildfire plans both in London and Essex. There are site visits with Essex Fire and Rescue Service at the end of July / early August to confirm infrastructure is satisfactory. In London, two additional sites are having wildfire response plans prepared.</p> <p>Several large storms during 2022 led to the Severe Weather Protocol being implemented.</p> <p>The current risk score remains at Amber 8 (likely; serious) due to dry summers increasing the risk of wildfires and driving sooty bark disease of maples, bleeding canker of horse chestnuts, and Massaria disease of London Plane. We have implemented mitigating actions to maintain the risk at its current level but are unable to reduce it any further for the foreseeable future.</p> <p><b>12 Jun 2023</b></p>	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>Accept</p>	          Constant

## Appendix 1a

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ENV-NE-EF 009h	Reduce the impact of grass and heathland fires.	Nine site-specific wildfire response plans have been signed off by the respective Fire and Rescue Services. Site inspections by fire officers have been completed at the London sites. Further work is required with Essex Fire Brigade.	Paul Thomson	12-Jun-2023	01-Nov-2023
ENV-NE-EF 009i	Maintain fire access zones.	All fire access zones are cut twice per year. Drought limits grass growth but growth recommences quickly when wetter conditions develop.  Fire experience during Summer 2022 showed that these fire access zones have been an effective barrier.	Paul Thomson	12-Jun-2023	30-Sep-2023



