



**WORKPLACE/TASK BASED RISK ASSESSMENT FOR USING TIRFOR (OR SIMILAR) WINCH**

**LOCATION: ANY CANAL/RIVERSIDE LOCATION**

**NOTES**

1. This Risk Assessment is specifically for the use of a Tirfor Winch on a KESCRG or WRG controlled site for the purposes of canal restoration.
2. This Risk Assessment should be included in the documentation taken to site and retained by the site leader.
3. There must be a review of this Risk Assessment following any site feedback or every 2 years, whichever comes first. Revision and date are shown in the header.
4. Tirfor winches are used for pulling tree roots out and other hauling, moving and lifting jobs where controlled tension is required. The Tirfor SWL should always be checked against the load to be moved, to avoid overloading the Tirfor.

**MANDATORY PPE**

1. Hard Hat, Safety Boots and fastened High Viz Jacket (as with any site work)
2. Gloves
3. Clothing to suit the task, i.e. to cover legs and arms.

**Risk Scoring Matrix**

<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Severity</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
<b>1</b>	Possible	<b>1</b>	Minor cut or bruise/injury
<b>2</b>	More than possible	<b>2</b>	Cut/Injury, needs First Aid
<b>3</b>	Fair chance	<b>3</b>	Injury needing First Aid
<b>4</b>	Likely	<b>4</b>	Broken Limb/ Serious injury
<b>5</b>	Certain	<b>5</b>	Severe injury/Death



**HAZARDS FROM TIRFOR WINCHS**

Ref no	HAZARD	LIK	SEV	RAT	EXISTING CONTROL MEASURES	ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURES REQUIRED	LIK	SEV	RAT
1.	Manual handling of winch and cables, potential muscular-skeletal strains	4	3	12	1. Cables are individually coiled on their own reel. 2. Trailer kit includes a wheelbarrow to transport Tirfor to worksite.	1. None 2. None	2	2	4
2.	Muscular-skeletal strains through operating the Tirfor handle.	5	3	15	1. Site leader to ensure the Tirfor team are tall enough and fit enough to operate the handle. 2. Site leader to ensure rest breaks are taken.	1. Site leader to select team before work starts. 2. Site leader to ensure breaks are taken, but it is the way we work! Note. Tirfor handle is long for leverage. Short persons will have difficulty.	2	2	4
3.	Catastrophic failure of winch, cable or webbing straps, leading to serious injury	3	4	12	1. Tirfor has shear pins to prevent overload. 2. All lifting equipment undergoes yearly statutory exam. 3. SWI includes a pre-use check of all the equipment.	1. None 2. None 3. None	1	4	4
4.	Serious cuts and bruises from using mattock/pick around tree stump. Accidental contact with Tirfor rope/chains	3	3	9	1. SWI covers standing in a safe position when using mattock/pick. 2. PPE to reduce risk of injury.	1. None 2. None	1	2	2
5	Cuts and trapped digits in	3	2	6	1. PPE includes gloves.	1. None	1	2	2



	the Tirfor winch mechanism.				2. Tirfor team is at least 2 people, one to hold, one to operate the gear selector.	2. None			
6.	Muscular-skeletal injury from manhandling tree stumps.	3	4	12	1. Help always available, no lone working on site. 2. Usual practice is to build bonfires near/at the Tirfor location.	1. None 2. None	1	4	4
7	Muscular-skeletal injury and blisters from using pick, mattock, spade	3	3	9	1. PPE includes gloves to avoid blisters and reduce impact on arms/wrists. 2. We stop when we are tired!	1. None 2. None	1	3	3
8.	Slips, trips and falls on/around canal bed.	3	3	9	1. PPE includes safety boots. 2. Walking route to work site is usually available.	1. None 2. None	1	3	3



**CONTROL MEASURES. HAZARDS FROM TIRFOR WINCHS**

<b>Ref no</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL CONTROL MEASURE REQUIRED</b>	<b>BY WHOM</b>	<b>BY WHEN</b>	<b>STATUS (COMPLETED YES/NO)</b>
1.	1 & 2 None			
2	1 & 2 Site leader selects Tirfor team and ensures breaks are taken.	Site Leader	Pre-start and during work	
3	1, 2 & 3 None			
4	1 & 2 None.			
5	1 & 2 None			
6	1 & 2 None			
7	1 & 2 None			
8	1 & 2 None.			