



Boardwalk Purpose

Reducing Visitor Pressure on Sensitive Habitats	Providing Visitor Access across Water & Wetlands	Suitability for Use by Able-Bodied People	Suitability for Use by People with Mobility Difficulties	Suitability for Wheelchair Users
✓	✓	☺	☺	☺



• Notes

A design of boardwalk suitable for wetlands, marshes and other situations where the decking needs to be raised well above the ground level. Handrails should be fitted to one side or both sides of the boardwalk, as and where necessary, to provide assistance to users or to improve safety.

This design is based on Information Sheet 6.2 but with the addition of handrails fixed to extended stringer support posts. It provides a clear width of 1200 which is adequate in most situations and is accessible to wheelchair users. If a wider boardwalk is required, it will be necessary to use a different and more substantial design; this design should not be modified or adapted to increase the specified decking width beyond 1600.

The use of timber impregnated with wood preservatives should be avoided on wetland sites of conservation importance due to the leaching of copper, arsenic or other harmful chemicals.

• Construction and Installation Details

Decking Boards : 1600 x 150 x 50 with a 12 gap between boards (approx 12 no. boards per 2000 run of boardwalk).

Stringers : 2 no. 2200 x 100 x 100 per 2000 run of boardwalk (this allows for a 200 overlap at each join).

Stringer Support Posts : 100 x 100 x required length, at 2000 centres (max.), sunk to a minimum depth of 750. Posts to be cut through decking boards and extending 1000 above decking.

Stringers to be fixed (at overlapping joint) to posts with 225 x M14 coach bolts.

Decking boards should be fixed to stringers with 100mm sherardised annular ring shank flat headed nails (4 no. per board).

Rails : 100 x 50. 4 no. rows of rails. Bottom rail 75 max. above decking. Top rail to have rounded top to provide suitable handhold; lower rails to be smooth with corners rounded.

If the boardwalk is raised more than 600 above ground level, 88 x 38 cross braces should be fitted between the stringer supports.

• Design Source and Contacts for Further Information

Design Sources : 'Countryside Commission for Scotland : Battleby Display Centre - Equipment and Materials for Countryside Recreation Sites' (1989) : Information Sheet 6.9.

National Rivers Authority Recreation Facility Design Manual : Information Sheet 1.6.1.

BT Countryside for All Good Practice Guide : Information Sheet 2.3.

• User Notes : Design Modifications and Reference Information

