

## TEAR-OUT 1.3 Sample Threat Checklist

Complete the checklist to identify potential threats that could affect people, collections, and the museum building.

<p><b>NATURAL HAZARDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Tsunami (coastal threat)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Hurricanes</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Electrical storms</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Flooding / ice jams</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Severe earthquakes</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Moderate earthquakes</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Landslides (located below a steep low slope?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Snow loads</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Forest / grass fires</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Heavy rainfall</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Avalanches</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Waterfront erosion</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> High water table</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Tornadoes</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>	<p><b>SECURITY BREACH / HUMAN ERROR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Terrorism</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Bomb threats (any history?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Target site</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Theft (any history?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Theft or destruction of electronic data</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Arson (any history?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Civil disorder / demonstration</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Collection is target of protest groups</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Digital security failure (e.g., hacking)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>	<p><b>COLLECTION SUSCEPTIBILITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Mould (any evidence of high humidity?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Glass transition (evidence of high temperature?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Migration failure (digital records)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Backup failure (digital records)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Vibration (from motors, traffic, blasting)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Loss of inventory records</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Collection abandonment</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Light damage (yellowing? fading?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Pests (any evidence of beetles, moths, silverfish, etc.?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Improper handling procedures</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Corrosion of ferrous items (high humidity)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Corrosion of non-ferrous materials (presence of pollutants)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Living collections</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>
<p><b>TECHNOLOGICAL HAZARDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Dam failure (or unexpected change of water levels)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Below flight path of airport</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Near or on military base</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline stations</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Sewers / storm sewers</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Ruptured gas lines / pipelines</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Near railway tracks</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Spills of hazardous materials</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Near dangerous industrial activities</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Nuclear power plant</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>	<p><b>STRUCTURAL / UTILITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Fire (any history of incidents?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Roof failure (last replaced?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Building or shelving collapse</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Electrical (last upgraded?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Water pipes (history of failure?)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Internal drains</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous activities (e.g., construction, renovations, open flames)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous materials on site (e.g., gas cylinders, chemical, biological)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Heating / cooling systems failure</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Power failure</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Fire detection and suppression systems not properly maintained</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>	<p><b>COLLECTIONS WITH INHERENT HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARDS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Natural history specimens treated with arsenic, mercury, DDT or stored in solutions such as formalin or 70% alcohol</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Mineralogical specimens with toxic components (e.g., mercury, arsenic)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Firearms and other military ordinance</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Radioactive materials (aircraft instruments from circa WW II), mineralogical specimens, ceramic glazes</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Medicines, medicine bundles, pharmaceuticals</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Poison-tipped darts</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Modern or kinetic sculptures (e.g., electrically wired)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Machinery with movable parts</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Nitrate film</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Living collections that pose a biting or poisoning risk</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Other</li></ul>

The Sample Threat Checklist has been adapted with permission from the version originally published in the first edition of *Help! A Survivor's Guide to Emergency Preparedness* as written and compiled by Harold Holland. See the original article for a thorough explanation of risk management, including assigning probability. Harold Holland, "1.3 Risk Management," in *HELP! A Survivor's Guide to Emergency Preparedness*, eds. Cynthia Ball and Audrey Yardley-Jones (Edmonton: Alberta Museums Association, 2001), 37.