



Lochranza Field Centre Site Specific Risk Assessment: Gorge Walking

Date: 14th January 2020

Where Hazards have been identified as Generic to all activities the controls are specified within the Generic Instructing Standards

Where Hazards have been identified as generic to all Lochranza offsite activities the controls are specified within the Generic Lochranza Local Operating Area Risk Assessment

Where Hazards have been identified as Generic to all Watersports activities the controls are specified within the Generic Watersports Risk Assessment

Hazards (please specify)	Existing Control Measures (please specify if present)	Residual Risk Level (Insert values and multiple score : see key)		
		Low	Med	High
High River Level. Injury caused by submersion in water at high stage and/or high flow.	Prior to every Gorge walking session the river level is checked by a suitably qualified Instructor as specified in the MOS. If the water level in the main river channel is high the session is altered or tributary channels used depending on the size and ability of the participants.		4x2 = 8	
Drowning. Injury or illness caused by submersion or ingestion of river water.	Instructor to be vigilant at all times and positioned where they can observe the whole group. Guests are briefed not to drink water from the river. Instructors to use approved methods as per training to prevent participants being swept down river. Every instructor must carry a throw line and be trained in its use.	3x2 = 6		
Hypothermia, as a result of; extreme or low temperature, late arrival of transport, high wind or a rapid change of overall weather conditions.	Prior to every Gorge walking session, a suitably qualified Instructor checks that the water level and air temperature are within the limits specified in the MOS. Instructor to check weather forecast before departure. Clothing worn by all participants to be in accordance with the MOS. All instructors carry spare clothes, hot drinks and emergency bothy shelter as per MOS. A motor vehicle remains at North Sannox Bridge car park during all sessions for emergency evacuation. All participants bring a set of dry clothing which is available at North Sannox Bridge car park.	2x2 = 4		
Emergency access: Injury or illness worsened by delay in emergency services reaching the scene	Instructor to be trained as specified in the MOS. Instructors have 3 day First Aid at Work and are Mountain Leader (Summer) Award Trained. Instructors carry first aid kit, guest medication and emergency equipment as per MOS. Instructor to be aware of areas where mobile phone signal is not strong. A motor vehicle remains at North Sannox Bridge car park during all gorge walking sessions for emergency evacuation.	2x2 = 4		
Injury caused by inappropriate entry into shallow water.	All participants practice correct procedures in still water pond before they are allowed to enter moving water in the river channel. Instructor briefs group and models correct procedures at each obstacle as detailed in the MOS. No diving is permitted.	4x1 = 4		
Entrapment of hair, jewellery, glasses, etc.	Hair tied/tucked back. Jewellery and glasses removed or made safe where not possible to be removed or where participant does not have sufficient vision without glasses.	3x1 = 3		

SITE SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

Injury or illness to personnel on bank caused by trip, slips falls and submersion in river water.	Any participants who step out of the session to the bank (including teachers and other supervising adults) must wear a helmet and buoyancy aid as per MOS and be supervised by an instructor. Instructors to ensure all guests on bank stay on correct paths/safe areas. Guests are not to be left unsupervised on the main path.	3x2 = 6		
Wildlife and entanglement caused by Midgie Nets	Instructors to remind guests not to disturb wildlife. Participants may choose to provide their own protection against midges such as repellent. Instructor checks that no participants are wearing midge nets before entering the water and advises guests that midge nets must not be worn in the water.	3x2 = 6		

(Key: 1-7 = Low Risk; 8-15 = Medium Risk; 16-25 = High Risk)

Endorsed by:Chris Traill Director **Technical Advisor:** Mike Margeson MIC

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