



Risk Register - Bushwalking

| Risk Title and Description | Risk Causes and Consequences | Existing Controls | Current Risk Assessment - with existing controls | | | | Treatment | Target Risk Assessment -after treatments | | |
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| | | | Effectiveness of existing controls | Current Risk Consequence | Current Risk Likelihood | Current Risk Rating | | Consequence | Likelihood | Risk Level |
| Falling Object Description There is a risk of injury to a participant due to a falling object | Causes: Tree Fall Branch Fall Rock Fall Consequences Injury, Fatality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure tents and campsite are set up clear of potential tree falls – as appropriate Assess route plans for potential hazards and modify if appropriate Staff to regularly update/review quality of walks DO NOT enter any mine shafts or mines Stay on the designated tracks where appropriate Use only Parks Vic checked campsites. Monitor weather and warnings prior to and during activity particularly in forested areas. Staff to undertake regular checks of dangerous trees or limbs, report to the relevant person for action (Onsite Only). Inform staff on the quality & openness of bushwalking tracks | Effective | Severe | Rare | Medium | | | | |

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| <p>Manual Handling</p> <p>Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to moving and lifting equipment</p> | <p>Causes: Lifting backpacks & gear Loading and unloading equipment</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensure proper adjustment of backpacks. ➤ Teach an appropriate method to put on and take off backpack ➤ Ensure backpack weight is appropriate to participants ability to carry back pack ➤ Ensure backpack is correctly packed ● Ensure camping & supporting program gear are lifted and moved appropriately – consider 2 person lifting practices ● Inform student & staff of appropriate equipment required for the bushwalk | Effective | Moderate | Unlikely | Medium | | | | |
| <p>Slips and Trips</p> <p>Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to slips and trips</p> | <p>Causes: Fatigue Terrain Poor Visibility River Crossing</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monitor participant welfare and modify or cease activity accordingly ➤ Staff to brief students about walking in steep slippery or rough terrain ➤ Ensure students have suitable footwear ➤ Pack correctly packed and fitted ➤ Terrain suitable to the experience of participants ● Develop alternative routes, escape routes and shelter location ● Staff to ensure participants are adequate hydrated and carry water ● Route is well known to the bushwalk leader ● Environmental conditions are considered prior to and during the walk ● During the activity instruction it is clearly explained to participants that under no circumstances are they to run throughout the bushwalk ● Teacher in charge to assess river crossing safety taking into account current, depth, | Effective | Moderate | Possible | Medium | | | | |

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| | | <p>entry, exit points, up and down stream hazards and the experience of the students. Swift water crossing techniques to be used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● River crossings to be undertaken as per internal school protocol (To developed by end of term 3) | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Environment</p> <p>Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to the environment</p> | <p>Causes: Incorrect navigation</p> <p>Skill level of participant</p> <p>Poisonous bite</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff to be familiar with the areas in which bushwalk is undertaken ➤ Staff to carry effective communication equipment ➤ Ensure participants have a thorough understanding on group management and lost procedure ➤ Ensure effective communication between staff members at the front and back of the group ➤ Ensure staff monitor numbers and assist participants at all times ➤ Participants briefed to be aware of snakes and spiders, especially in summer ➤ Participants issued with whistles and instructed on appropriate use ➤ Regular breaks to ensure participants hydrate & eat ● Participants briefed to be aware of snakes and spiders, especially in summer. | Effective | Major | Unlikely | Medium | | | | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate first aid kit to be carried at all times | | | | | | | | |
| Environment Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to the catering environment | Causes: Poor personal hygiene Food not cooked correctly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Students briefed on camping hygiene procedures ➤ Instruction of safe toilet practice and collection of drinking water ➤ Students to wash hands with sanitiser before meals and after the toilet • Hot water wash is used for dishes. • Hot soapy water available after hike. • If unsure of water quality – boil for 3 minutes, treat with tablets. • Visiting Staff are advised on what food will be required for the bushwalk • If cooking food during a bushwalk appropriate equipment is used and correct cooking techniques are used • Drinking & cooking water provided and stored in appropriate containers • Visiting Staff are to provide all catering needs for a bushwalk | Effective | Major | unlikely | Medium | • | | | |
| Environment Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to weather event/conditions | Causes: Exposure to cold and wet conditions Exposure to hot and windy conditions Hit by lightning Bushfire | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monitor weather and warnings prior to and during activity ➤ Develop alternative route, escape routes and shelter location ➤ Staff trained and aware of Emergency Response Plan in the event of a bushfire and/or severe weather event ➤ Staff to ensure participants are dressed appropriately for hot/cold weather conditions ➤ Staff will encourage students to wear sunscreen and hat during high UV periods | Effective | Severe | Rare | Medium | • | | | |

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| | <p>Flooding/rising water</p> <p>Poor visibility</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Weather protocols are followed Apply 30/30/30 Rule 30°C+ Temperature 30km/hr+ Wind A fire within 30km ➤ Experience, age & physical ability of students considered for the bushwalk undertaken ➤ Experience of Visiting Staff considered for the bushwalk undertaken ➤ Staff to follow internal FDI and wind protocols ➤ Staff to ensure participants are adequate hydrated and carry water ➤ Staff to assess depth, speed, downstream and upstream hazards prior to river crossing ● Participants are checked for suitable clothing ● Staff to follow the bushfire/grass fire protocols in the EMP. | | | | | | | |
| <p>Environment</p> <p>Description: There is a risk of injury to a participant due to bites and stings</p> | <p>Causes: Animals and insects</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monitor campsites for particular animals ● Carry appropriate first aid ● Do not enter heavily grassed environments during seasonal times ● Do not throw objects at wildlife ● Report wildlife sightings to Blackwood Staff ● If warnings exist, observe Parks Victoria and/or DEWLP wildlife warnings ● Remove group from an area heavily populated by insects ● Appropriate communication devices carried and used as per protocols ● Observe wildlife from a distance | Effective | Severe | Rare | Medium | ● | | |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Blackwood staff to carry at least 2 epipens. ● All staff to carry roller bandages. ● If a snake inhabits areas close to buildings a snake removalist should be contacted. | | | | | | | | |
| Environment Description: There is a risk of injury due to fires and cooking equipment. | Causes: Incorrect use of cooking equipment Inappropriate behaviour whilst using cooking equipment Lack of skill and knowledge when lighting fires Fuel spills | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All fuel bottles and cleaning products to be clearly labelled ● Staff to give clear instructions on how to light a fire or cooking stove and use of that item ● Staff to outline appropriate behaviour when around various cooking equipment and fires ● Staff to monitor participant behaviour and use of cooking equipment ● Participants supervised at all times ● Out of date equipment removed from operation ● Cooking equipment checked by staff prior to use ● Connection of fuel and/or refuelling of cooking devices to be supervised at all times ● Collection of firewood to be supervised ● Storage of firewood to be located away from the fire ● Set up, lighting & implementation of the campfire to be actively monitored at all times | Effective | Severe | Rare | Medium | ● | | | |