

Canoe trail generic risk assessment template

Risk Assessment - Lower Tay Canoe Trail

Date of assessment	Name of assessor	Checked by	Activity	Locations
			Canoeing/Kayaking	Rivers Tay and Earn Lower Tay Canoe Trail

Serial	Hazard	Who's at risk	Control measures	Risk	Additional measures	Residual Risk	Managed by
1	Drowning	Participants	Suitable PFD to be worn and fitted correctly at all time while on the water	Medium	Ensure river state is within the capabilities of the paddlers and everyone is confident in the water	Low	Group leader
2	Hypothermia	Participants and support crew	Suitable clothing for prevailing weather conditions	Low	Postpone activity if the weather is not suitable	Low	Everybody
3	Hyperthermia	Participants and support	Suitable clothing or the prevailing	Low	Ensure adequate supply and intake of	Low	Everybody

		crew	weather conditions day		fluids throughout the		
4	Waterborne diseases	Participants and support crew	Ensure open cuts are covered and suitable launch and recovery sites are used	Low	Shower after activity	Low	Everybody
5	Sunburn	Participants and support crew	Use effective sunblock	Low	Cover up with clothing	Low	Everybody
6	Slips trips and falls	Participants and support crew	Inspect launch and recovery sites before use	Medium	Use proper footwear and plan launch and recoveries	Low	Everybody
7	Lifting operations, back injuries	Participants and support crew	Ensure lifting boats on and off trailers is done by a suitable number of people. Carrying of boats to and from the water by a suitable number of people	Medium	Plan boat movements to the water	Low	Everybody
8	Capsize and entrapment	Participants	Ensure everyone is aware of capsize drills. Suitable rescue kit to be carried in every boat.	Medium	Particular care to be taken near overgrown banks and submerged logs	Low	Everybody
9	White water	Participants	Ensure everybody in the group is at an appropriate standard	Medium	Check participants experience level	Low	Group leader

			and able to deal with the small sections of white water				
10	Head injuries	Participants	Consider the use of helmets both on and off the water, especially when loading high trailers or roof bars	Low	Everyone to be aware of the possibility of	Low	Everybody
11	Foot injuries	Participants	Use appropriate footwear at all times	Medium	May be necessary to change footwear for launching and recovery operations	Low	Everybody
12	Commercial boat traffic	Participants	Check with Harbourmaster before planning a trip	Medium	Keep a good lookout at all times whilst on the water. Keep well clear of any commercial boats	low	Everybody
13	Tidal flow	Participants	Check high water and low water times before planning a trip. River should be avoided if the river is in spate or the flood prevention scheme barriers are operational	Medium	Check river state and amount of fresh water coming down the river	Low	Everybody
14	Inability to	Participants	Marine DSC VHF is	Medium	Other methods to	Low	Everybody

contact emergency services	the preferred method of contacting the coastguard (Aberdeen)	combat VHF black spots, mobile phone. Flares may also be considered.		
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Notes or record of dynamic risk assessment:

	1 st Review	2 nd Review	3 rd Review	4 th Review	5 th Review
Planned review date					
Reviewed by					
Review date					
Signed					