

18.1 WHS Risk Assessment Form

	Activity or event being assessed:	Unit Camp		
	Assessed by:	Toby Stone	Date:	30/06/2025
	Consulted:		Leader in Charge or Manager's name:	Toby Stone
	Group, site or event name:	1 st /2 nd Merrylands Rover Unit	Leader in Charge or Manager's Signature:	TS

Identify the hazards →

Assess the risk →

Mitigate the risk →

Re-assess the risk

→ Assign responsibility

Task or activity being assessed – step by step	Hazards associated with each task or activity	Risk Level	What reasonable steps are suggested to reduce the risk further? Are any new hazards introduced?	Revised Risk Level	Person responsible
Drowning	Participants could fall into the swimming hole, become fatigued, or be unaware of dangerous currents, depth changes, or hidden obstacles.	Likely	Supervision, swim tests, buddy system, water safety training	Possible	TS
Hypothermia	Prolonged exposure to cold water, especially in spring-fed or mountain streams, can lead to hypothermia.	Possible	Swimwear, supervision, post-swim warmup	Unlikely	TS
Slips, Trips and Falls	Wet rocks, slippery banks, or uneven terrain around the swimming hole could lead to falls and injuries.	Likely	Clear walkways, footwear	Possible	TS
Allergic Reactions	There may be a risk of wildlife encounters, such as venomous snakes or larger animals (e.g., bears) near the camp or swimming area.	Possible	Location scouting, first aid kit, repellent	Unlikely	TS

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Task or activity being assessed – step by step	Hazards associated with each task or activity	Risk Level	What reasonable steps are suggested to reduce the risk further? Are any new hazards introduced?	Revised Risk Level	Person responsible
Wildlife Encounters	There may be a risk of wildlife encounters, such as venomous snakes near the camp or swimming area.	Rare	Suitable camp location, wildlife awareness, secure food	Unlikely	TS
Sunburn/Dehydration	Prolonged exposure to sun during outdoor activities, especially swimming, could lead to sunburn and dehydration.	Likely	Sun protection, hydration, shady areas, rest breaks	Possible	TS

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WHS Risk Assessment Criteria

Consequence Criteria		Likelihood		Consequence					
Rating	Descriptor	Rating	Descriptor	Likelihood	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Significant	Severe
Severe	If the risk event occurred, it would result in a death and/or permanent disability of personnel where Scouts Australia is found to be primarily responsible.	Almost Certain	The risk, has a very high probability of occurring, or, occurring every time. Risk mitigation measures will certainly be required if the expected consequence of the risk is Significant or Severe.	Almost Certain	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
Significant	If the risk event occurred, it would result in a permanent disability to personnel. Hospitalisation of multiple personnel where injuries will impact them for a significant period of time.	Likely	The risk, will probably occur. Without control improvement it is more likely than not that the risk will eventuate. Risk mitigation measures are likely to be required, especially for Significant and Severe risks.	Likely	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH	EXTREME
Moderate	If the risk event occurred, it would result in Injury or illness to personnel under the control of Scouts Australia requiring medical treatment for a period of time.	Possible	The risk may occur. There may be certain known or unknown circumstances that may cause the risk to eventuate. Again, risk mitigation will be required if the consequences of the risk are considered Significant or Severe.	Possible	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
Minor	A risk event that would result in minor injury or illness to personnel under the control of Scouts Australia requiring medical treatment.	Unlikely	The risk will occur infrequently if at all. This does not mean the risk can be ignored. Risk mitigation should still be considered in case the risk eventuates and if the consequences are considered Significant or Severe.	Unlikely	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH
Insignificant	A risk event that would result in very superficial injuries.	Rare	The risk will probably not occur. This does not mean the risk can be ignored. Risk mitigation should still be considered in especially if the consequence is considered Significant or Severe.	Rare	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM

WHS Risk Tolerability (NSW Branch Criteria)

Classification		WHS Risk Criteria
Extreme	Unacceptable	Scouts NSW will not accept continued operation with a risk of this ranking. Proposed changes or new activities that present a risk of this ranking will not be permitted.
High	Undesirable	Risks with this ranking can only be tolerated if it is not reasonably practicable to reduce the risk further. Risks ranked High are considered to be on the verge of being unacceptable and must be given immediate priority.
Medium	Tolerable	Risks with this ranking can be tolerated if it is not reasonably practicable to reduce the risk further.
Low	Broadly Acceptable	Risks with this ranking are considered to be tolerable in their current form. However, if there are options for further risk reduction and the cost is proportionate to the benefits to be gained, then implementation of these measures should be considered.