# 18.1 WHS Standard Risk Assessment Bushwalking



Activity or event	Bushwalking		
being assessed:			
Assessed by:	Amanda Buggy	Date:	16-7-2023
Consulted:		Leader in Charge or Manager's name:	Paul Beitelis
Group, site or event name:	Bundeena Jibbon Loop Track, Royal National Park	Leader in Charge or Manager's Signature:	

L = Likelihood	C = Consequence	Risk Level					
Almost Certain (A): Expected to occur during the activity  Likely (B): Will probably occur during the activity	Insignificant (1): No injuries Minor (2): First aid treatment only Moderate (3): Medical treatment only	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{\textit{Consequence}} \rightarrow \\ \textbf{\textit{Likelihood}} \downarrow \end{array}$	Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Significant (4)	Severe (5)
Possible(C): Might occur during the activity	Significant (4): Long term illness or serious injury	Almost Certain (A)	Low	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
Unlikely (D): Not likely to occur during the activity	Severe (5): Death or permanent disability	Likely (B)	Low	Medium	High	High	Extreme
Rare (E): Exceptional circumstances.	Hint: Select the most "realistic" consequence.	Possible(C)	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
( )	rather than the "worst possible" consequence.	Unlikely (D)	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Rare (E)	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium

Identify the hazards →

Assess the risk →

Mitigate the risk →

Re-assess the risk

→ Assign responsibility

Task or activity being assessed	Hazards associated with each task or activity	What is the risk level - Low, Moderate, Significant or High	What reasonable steps are suggested to reduce the risk further? Are any new hazards introduced?	Revised Risk Level (only proceed if risk level is acceptable)	Person responsible
Site Assessment, Planning and Participant Briefing	Personal Injury	Medium	On arrival at activity site identify activity site and assess onsite conditions. Ensure an activity location specific assessment is undertaken to identify and additional risks to those identified in the risk assessment and the control measure for those unanticipated hazards. Ensure a site specific induction for activity leaders and staff is undertaken. Assess communication reception and requirements	Low	Activity Leader to Check activity site and conduct a location specific assessment where necessary Ensure induction is carried out.
Working Outdoors / Pre Preparation / Participate in Bushwalk	Adverse / Extreme Weather Cuts, Bites, Stings Slips, Trips, Falls Hypothermia Remote medical assistance Party lost / Participant lost Bush fire	High	<ul> <li>Use experienced personnel and leaders,</li> <li>Continuously monitor participants and self,</li> <li>Carry first Aid kit, PLB and phone,</li> <li>Plan access and egress routes.</li> <li>Carry maps &amp;compass.</li> <li>Notify relevant authorities/ people of intended route and times and party details.</li> <li>Wear appropriate attire for the activity,</li> <li>Carry PPE for weather changes i.e. rain jacket, light source and heat source, hats suitable layers of clothing.</li> <li>Check participants medicines/ allergy requirements,</li> <li>Monitor the weather leading up to the trip and check forecast prior to leaving.</li> <li>Change activity and/or location if weather conditions are not suitable or a trigger is reached.</li> </ul>	Low	Assess site     conditions on arrival     maintain awareness     of weather condition,     plan access and     egress routes,     monitor participants,     remind participants of     appropriate cautions     and preventative     actions,     notify relevant     persons,     ensure equipment is     available.  Participants to  follow controls.

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	Sunburn Hyperthermia Dehydration	Medium	<ul> <li>Use sunblock,</li> <li>Ensure participants take drinking water.</li> <li>Look for shade areas</li> <li>Carry first Aid kit, PLB and phone,</li> <li>Continuously monitor participants and self,</li> </ul>	Low	Activity Leader to     maintain awareness of weather condition,     monitor participants, remind participants of appropriate cautions and preventative actions,      Participants to follow controls.
	Visibility / Nightfall	Low	<ul> <li>Plan activity timing</li> <li>Monitor activity duration</li> <li>Take torches and/or provide other lighting</li> </ul>	Low	Activity Leader and Staff to  • Ensure participants are briefed prior to activity • Equipment required is brought
Assessment of Participants	Fitness Exhaustion / Fatigue Ability (or lack of) Shock / Nervousness / Anxiety / Panic Mental Stability All abilities participants Horseplay (pushing, tripping etc) Personal injuries (see section below	Medium	<ul> <li>Continuously monitor participants during activity, provide encouragement and support.</li> <li>Ensure necessary support is available for participants as required.</li> <li>Adjust activity and/or activity duration</li> <li>Provide instruction and assistance</li> <li>Rotate team member duties throughout the activity to minimize risk of fatigue &amp; complacency</li> </ul>	Low	Activity Leader to ensure control measures are followed and to plan for additional assistance if required.
	Medications - Failure to bring or take Allergies Medical conditions eg/ Epilepsy, asthma, diabetes, heart conditions	High	<ul> <li>Review medication information obtained from activity notification forms</li> <li>Onsite discussions and briefings</li> <li>Check participants medicines/ allergies</li> <li>Remind participants to take any necessary medications.</li> </ul>	Medium	Activity Leader to ensure control measures are followed and to plan for additional assistance if required.

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Manual Tasks	Musculoskeletal injuries	Medium	<ul> <li>Avoid lifting loads more than 1/4 of your body weight</li> <li>Do not use extreme force to move items.</li> <li>Lifted items held close to the body whenever possible</li> <li>Keeping knees bent and back straight and lift, unload keeping knees bent</li> <li>Use team lifts for heavy items</li> <li>Avoid overreaching, long periods of repetitive movements, awkward and sustained positions, twisting and sidebending</li> </ul>	Low	Activity Leader and Staff to ensure control measures are followed
Emergency Situation / Response	Injury Fatality Shock Panic Chaos Remote areas – no food/water/warmth Delayed medical assistance Bushfire / Flooding Anaphylaxis Diabetic Incident Asthma attack	High	<ul> <li>For police, fire or ambulance call '000.'</li> <li>Apply DRSABCD process.</li> <li>A communication system is available, e.g. a mobile phone, radio or PLB</li> <li>Check for dangers to self before helping others</li> <li>Maintain control of the area and stabilise the situation</li> <li>Apply first aid to the injured person</li> <li>Complete an incident report</li> <li>Trained first aid providers on site</li> <li>A reliable means to contact emergency services is available.</li> <li>Use an escape route if needed</li> <li>In pre-activity briefing include general procedures and processes in the event of an emergency.</li> <li>Ensure staff know what their role is and what tasks they need to carry out.</li> <li>Monitor incident scene and use all available means to assist casualty</li> <li>Ensure medical condition of participants is known prior to activity commencement.</li> <li>Ensure participants bring required medications and use at correct times.</li> </ul>	Moderate	Activity Leader and Staff to ensure control measures are followed

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Participate in Bushwalk	Drop off close to track	High	Carry rope to provide safety line if required Carry rope to perform assisted retrieval if required	Low	Activity Leader and staff Participants to follow directions
Swimming	Drowning	High	Active supervision when anyone is in the water	Medium	All Adults to provide active supervision as required

# **Risk Assessment Staff Acknowledgement**

To be signed by – All persons OAS Stage 5 and above with an active role in the activity, other adult leaders and adult helpers.

I have read the risk assessment (including any amendments) and understand the hazards, risks, controls and safety rules that apply to this activity.

I have been provided with a site-specific induction prior to beginning this activity and understand what is expected of me.

Name	Formation	Activity Role	Signature

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