

Peninsula Outdoors Risk Management Plan Tree Climb

The list below incorporates some of the risks associated with tree climbing.

Please note: the list below is not all encompassing and some associated risks may not have been identified.

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Participants fall from height leading to injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-activity safety briefing on belay systems and cliff environment. • Direct supervision of students at all times by staff. • All participants must wear correctly fitted helmets and harnesses. • Participants will be briefed to remain at least two metres from the cliff edge. • Anyone who is operating within two metres of the cliff edge must be on belay or tethered to a secure anchor. • No persons will be present on top of the cliff face if they are not directly involved in abseiling. • The Abseil Instructor is responsible to ensure participants are aware of the dangers and School Representative will be responsible for ensuring participants remain in “safety zone” 	Satisfactory	Major	Rare
Participant misplaces footing causing the participant to slip or trip leading to injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct footwear is to be worn. • Participants are made aware of potential dangers • All participants will remain in the designated “safe zone” when not immediately involved in the abseil. • The designated “safe zone” chosen will be flat and large enough to accommodate the entire group comfortably. • It is the responsibility of the Abseil Instructor to ensure the group understands the “safe zone” and the responsibility of the supervising staff to ensure participants remain in the “safe zone” while not directly involved in the abseil. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Likely
Participant becomes entangled in descender caused by loose hair, clothing or jewellery leading to injury and panic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants to remove all jewellery prior to activity. • Participants to tie back long hair prior to abseiling. • Clothing to be tucked in • Ensure belay devices are free of potential entanglements prior to each abseil. • Participants made aware of the potential dangers. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Unlikely

Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Object (including rock) falls from cliff caused by loose rock or unsecure objects leading to injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review site for loosed rock prior to abseiling. Do not drag ropes or other equipment which may dislodge rocks. Teach calls to warn of rock fall and appropriate protective response. Helmets must be work at all times. Abseil Instructors will set up system before group arrives. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Unlikely
Excessive speed while descending causing rope burn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct and appropriate belay system will be used to ensure slow decent. • Briefing will thoroughly explain the descending system to ensure participants understand how to control speed on their descent. Back up belay system will be in place and operated by qualified staff. Leather gloves are offered to participants to avid rope burn. 	Satisfactory	Insignificant	Rare
Participant misbehaves causing potential danger to themselves and/or the entire group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are briefed and made aware of potential dangers within the rock environment. Behavioural expectations of participants are fully explained. Teachers/assisting leaders to assist as per camp supervision protocols. In the event of no support, or behaviour that endangers the group, cancellation of the activity In the case that behaviour creates a situation where anyone is put in a potentially dangerous situation, the activity will be cancelled. The Abseil Instructor will be responsible for deciding if circumstances are such that the activity cannot be conducted in a safe manner. If this decision is made the activity will be stopped immediately.. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
Damaged equipment causing failure of system or safety gear, leading to injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All ropes are checked by the Abseil Instructor immediately prior to the activity taking place All equipment is thoroughly checked weekly A log of use of equipment is maintained. 	Satisfactory	Major	Rare

Poorly fitting safety equipment leading to injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are briefed on how to correctly fit all safety equipment prior to abseiling. Each participants gear is individually checked before leaving to go to cliff site to ensure proper fit. A range of sizes are available and in good condition. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Rare
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Risk Description	Existing Controls	Rating		
		Effectiveness of existing controls	Risk Consequences	Risk Likelihood
Strong winds leading to discomfort and potential injury to participant's while abseiling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review weather condition prior to activity. Assess students' ability to cope with increasingly difficult conditions Cancel activity if appropriate. 	Satisfactory	Minor	Unlikely
Exposure to extreme weather conditions including wet, cold and windy or heat and sun causing discomfort and potentially leading to illness such as hyperthermia, extreme sun burn, heat exhaustion or heat stroke.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review weather conditions prior to activity Monitor temperature and shorten, relocate or adjust activity as required Ensure adequate fluid intake Ensure appropriate, adequate clothing and protection against elements is worn before and during activity Observe participant's condition during activity. Consideration of wind chill factor if wind is present Cancel activity if conditions are such that activity cannot be conducted safely and participation will place participants in extreme danger. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Likely

Participant or staff member is stung or bitten by ant, bee, spider etc, leading to swelling or anaphylactic reaction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure staff are aware of any allergies, specifically anaphylactic students. • Medications should be carried at all times in close proximity to participant. • Evacuation procedure should be well known by staff. • Communications will be carried and available at all times. • UCC Emergency Management Plan “Offsite Activity Critical Incident” procedure will be followed. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
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