

Peninsula Outdoors Risk Management Plan Bush Walking & Camp Out

The list below incorporates some of the risks associated with bushwalking & camp out.

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
Individuals have poor fitness, wander off track, go to the toilet at night, or become fatigued leading to becoming separated from the group and/or lost or injured.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will ensure group remains together by setting a leader at the front and a leader at the back. The two leaders must maintain a contactable distance and no group member is to be ahead of or behind the two leaders respectively. Staff will ensure an appropriate pace is set for all group members, rest stops are regular and head counts are conducted. • Ensure “re-group” after difficult terrain, poor visibility or where the route is uncertain. • Activity briefing will include appropriate strategies for staff and participants should they become lost or separated from the group including night procedures for toilet visits. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Likely
Staff or participant falls on steep or rocky terrain, causing soft tissue or skeletal injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant skills and experience will be considered to ensure the route chosen is suitable for the group. • Suitable footwear will be explained prior to activity. (detailed equipment/clothing list will be supplied.) • If steep and/or rocky terrain is expected, staff must prepare students for this type of environment. • In this terrain, staff should position themselves to reduce participant exposure to risk. • Staff will ensure students travel at a pace suitable for all group members. Throughout the activity, staff will monitor students and consider changing the route or walking style if required. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Unlikely

<p>Exposure to extreme weather conditions (including wet, cold and windy or heat and sun) causing discomfort and potentially leading to illness such as hypothermia, hyperthermia, extreme sun burn, heat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review weather conditions prior to activity • Monitor temperature and shorten, relocate or adjust activity as required • Participants will be expected to carry a minimum of 1 litre of water during the activity. • Ensure sufficient water is provided for the activity and participants are briefed on general strategies to stay hydrated. • Ensure appropriate, adequate clothing and protection against elements is worn before and during activity • Seek sheltered areas for rest stops. • 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
<p>exhaustion or heat stroke.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire danger rating system will be monitored and actioned as per the UCC response protocols. • If participant clothing is inadequate for conditions, then they may not be able to participate in the activity. In this event arrangements will made after discussion with the groups coordinator. 			
<p>A tree branch or tree falls on a participant or staff member due to high winds or stormy conditions, either on a bush walk or overnight campout.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there is strong wind during a walk, staff will consider altering the route or cancelling the walk to avoid the danger of falling timber. • During breaks, care will be taken to examine the surrounding trees and consider the appropriateness of selected rest spot. • On overnight campouts, sites will be assessed for potential dangers and tent site selection will be discussed with participants to ensure appropriate site selection is made. • On days of high winds or storms, camps sites will be carefully considered for dangers. The activity may be relocated, altered or cancelled. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely

<p>A group is caught in a bushfire and faces the danger of equipment damage and/or personal injury or death.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity planning will include consideration of the possible fire risk and potential to allow for last-minute change in the event of severe fire danger. • Fires and open fire places will be used in accordance with the requirements of the fire and/or land management authorities. • Participants will be briefed on the safe positioning and use of fuel stoves and alerted to the risks associated with open flames in a bush setting. • The communication with site staff will ensure that the group is alerted of a potential Total Fire Ban or other relevant information. • In addition, staff will consider prevailing local conditions and adjust the activity accordingly. <p>Altering the route, evacuation, changing location or cancellation of the activity. • UCC staff will advise of appropriate action for activity (relocate, alter or cancel).</p>	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Rare</p>
<p>A student or staff sustains a burn from incorrect or unsafe use of a fuel, camping stove (e.g., 'Trangia' or other fuel stove) or camp fire.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants will be briefed on the correct and safe use of cooking stove. • Whilst cooking safe management practices will be put into place. • Students must be monitored by a staff member to ensure that safe practices are being followed. • There will be access to water during cooking • At least one staff member will have relevant first aid materials at hand and experience to deal with potential burn. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>
<p>A student or staff member experiences an illness or allergic reaction during the activity due to unsafe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will be aware that illness may affect energy levels and the activity will include options to allow for illness. • Staff will be aware of group member food allergies and carry current, confidential medical details for each student and any medications will be accessible. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Major</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

<p>food or drink or poor hygiene.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will be aware of food safety including safe food storage practices, as per our policies and procedures. • Staff will ensure safe water sources are available for the group. Students will be advised not to share water bottles, cutlery and cups to reduce the risk of cross infection. • Appropriate hand washing systems will be made available and staff will ensure participants are aware of good hygiene practices, including hand washing before touching food and after toileting 			
<p>A pre-existing medical condition eg. Asthma, results in injury or illness during activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will collect and review current confidential medical information for all students and staff. • Medical information will be reviewed to ensure that no illness will affect any participant's safety or impact on the ability of the affected student. • At least one staff member will have a minimum of a level 2 first aid qualification and carry a first aid kit appropriate to the activity and the environments to be encountered. • Medical information and medications will be carried by staff attending the activity. • Communications will be accessible at all times. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Rare</p>
<p>Clothing or equipment is inappropriate or damaged and causes the potential for injury or exposure to the elements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participant and group equipment will be checked prior to activity commencing to ensure appropriate and of high standard. • Participants or groups who do not bring recommended personal clothing and equipment may have the program altered or cancelled. • On days of extreme weather conditions staff may choose to carry extra clothing or sun protection for participant use in case • An equipment and clothing list should be distributed and explained to all participants prior to attending camp. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Minor</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>
<p>An unexpected change in weather causes a group to be caught in severe weather or a thunderstorm.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chosen venue, activity and season will be appropriate to the group. • Staff will monitor weather conditions and if necessary adjust the activity accordingly. • If severe weather is experienced before or during the activity and threatens the safety of participants, the activity will be modified, relocated or cancelled. • Staff will consider exposure to tree and lightning hazards. 	<p>Satisfactory</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

Participant or staff member is stung or bitten by ant, bee, spider etc, and 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. 	Satisfactory	Major	Unlikely
Participant or staff member is bitten by a snake leading to personal illness, injury or death.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are briefed on how to reduce the likelihood of exposure to snakes during site brief at the beginning of camp • Participants are reminded of what to do in the event of a snake sighting immediately prior to the start of the activity. • Long pants or gaiters may be requested to be worn during warmer months or if the risk is considered to be high. • Staff member will carry a snake bite kit and have the relevant knowledge and training in what to do in the event of a snake bite. • The staff member acting as the leader at the front of the group will be vigilant and actively be on the lookout for snakes. The staff member will take necessary actions to ensure the groups safety if a snake is believed to be in the vicinity. 	Satisfactory	Major	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 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 UCC staff member will be responsible for deciding if circumstances are such that the activity cannot be conducted in a safe manner. 	Satisfactory	Moderate	Unlikely