

Risk assessment Gorge walking 20/10/14 11/7/15

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Severity	Control Measure	Likelihood	Risk Factor	Further action
Extremes of cold	All participants	M	Group should wear appropriate clothing - in all but the hottest weather this is a wet suit. Group to be observed throughout the session. Stop session if group are complaining of cold. Instructor must be first aid qualified to include dealing with hypothermia. Spare warm clothing and drink to be available.	3	M3	
Slipping on rocks	All participants	L	Suggest remaining in river where the rocks are less slippery. Instructor to lead suitable route. Suitable footwear should be worn i.e. trainers or boots, not plastic sandals or wet suit boots . Spare trainers are available at the park or Venture centre if persons do not bring their own. Water Sport Helmets to be worn throughout this activity kayak style with protection over ears – NOT climbing helmets.	2	L2	
Flash Flooding	All participants	H	Weather forecast should be obtained before activity - oncoming heavy rain may result in a rapid increase in water level. Advice should be sought from Simon or Michael Read before continuing with the activity.	3	M3	Mark on rock as guide – check with MR or SR for location. Use ledge by waterfall as guide for this
Weils Disease	All participants	H	If persons have open wounds cover the wounds up or advise them not to participate in the activity. Avoid drinking the water. Avoid areas of stagnant water. Shower after this activity.	4	H4	
Falling branches	Any body		In extreme wind conditions this should be considered and where necessary the activity abandoned	2	H2	
Drowning	All participants	H	Appropriate buoyancy aids to be worn at all times during this activity normally this is 50N specification	4	H4	
Entrapment from rock falls, changed obstacles in river bed, slipping, snagging on sunken items e.g. steel girders, tree trunks etc.	All participants	H	Instructor to carry out a <u>dynamic risk assessment</u> on obstacles and to check for changes in river bed prior to demonstrating any specific manoeuvre. Any obstacle that cannot be rendered safe should be avoided either by moving round or by retreat. The instructor should where necessary stay between the obstacle and group members.	2	H2	
Loose rock holds	All participants	M	Instructor to point out and test holds where these are necessary for any specific manoeuvre	2	M2	

Level of severity with current control measures: H = High severity Risk of death , M = Medium severity Risk of major injury (e.g. reportable under RIDDOR)

L = Low severity Risk of minor injury (e.g. not reportable under RIDDOR)

Likelihood with current control measures: 1 = Extremely likely; 2 = Likely; 3 = Unlikely; 4 = Remote possibility

Gorge operating procedures were updated by Pete Stacey, MIA Technical Adviser to the Venture Centre 17/04/2010.updated 9/3/12 PST.

e.g. Risk factor H1 = extremely high risk of death, Risk factor L4 = remote possibility of minor injury.