

Arthur's Pass Outdoor Education Centre Risk Analysis And Management System:

Activity: Bridal Veil and Bealey Valley Track:

Date: Updated April 2010 (from May 08, Dec 05, Jan 02 & Feb 99 updates of April 96 originals)

Key Risks:

Accident, injury or other form of loss:

- A. Fall causing injury
- B. Object falling onto group/ individual
- C. Loss of individual/ group
- D. Drowning
- E. Hypothermia
- F. Illness
- G. Traffic accident
- H. Psychological harm

Causal Factors and Risk Management:

People Hazards:

1. Falling/ slipping on /off of track (A)
2. Pushing or shoving causing fall (B)
3. Group splitting or individual leaving group (C)
4. Panic or not following instructions during Bealey river crossing (A, D, H)
5. Hypothermia after river crossing (E)
6. Group not taking responsibility for own safety (A, C, D, E, G, H)
7. Running/pushing etc on road/footpath (A, G)
8. Wanting to give up, unwillingness to undertake activity (C, H)
9. Stone throwing/kicking causing injury (B)
10. Fear of heights (H)
11. Dehydration/exhaustion (F, H)
12. Personal health/toilet issues (C, F, H)

People Management:

1. Identify key locations of risk i.e. traverse, lookout site, & steep steps. Warn group of all dangers. Spread parents though group (1 adult to 6 children). Try to remove hazard where possible i.e. remove snow from steps. If snow/ice/water on track is too hazardous do not go on. Supervise tricky sections while whole group passes.
2. Keep group single file and jump on silliness early. Advise parents to watch for dangerous behaviour and to act when necessary. Brief on danger of pushing and watch for dangerous behaviour. Maintain single group in single file with no passing.
3. If kids likely to wander appoint an adult to watch them. Check numbers regularly during activity. A tail end Charlie appointed and group notified. Always do number check after a stop. Explain toileting protocol.
4. River crossing in groups only using approved MSC methods. Manager always separate and down stream of crossing group. One group in creek at time with adults briefed to supervise groups on shore. Add an adult to each group if needed.
5. Keep group moving after river crossings and check before crossing the groups has

	<p>adequate dry warm clothing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Need to consider own and others safety explained in briefing. 7. All road crossings carefully supervised. Double file max on footpath. Jump on silliness. Front and back adults to wear reflective vests. 8. Arrange support and encouragement from peers/parent. If an attention seeking behaviour minimise “audience”. 9. Hazards of stone throwing and kicking explained in briefing. 10. Arrange support and encouragement. 11. Make sure group carries snack/lunch and water. Take regular rests and monitor group. 12. Toilet protocol explained at briefing. Manager carries toilet paper and spade. Sanitary items carried in FA kit. Be sensitive to privacy and needs of students. Teacher to notify manager of all serious health issues
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<p>Equipment Hazards:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clothing insufficient resulting in hypothermia (E) 2. Footwear inappropriate for activity. (A) 3. Wet frozen bridges or board walks (A) 4. Bridges/boardwalk/handrail collapsing (A, B, H) 5. Car loses control near group or driver does not see group (G) 	<p>Equipment Management:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standard rules apply for outdoor clothing. Raincoat and warm hat always compulsory. Jersey/Polar fleece and gloves in winter. In cold weather/snow check jersey, socks, shoes, coat, hat gloves. Ensure children wear gear when they need to. 2. Check footwear before activity and explain requirements at briefing 3. Kick excessive snow ice off bridge and encourage use of handrails. Use side of track or if this will create too much damage turn back. 4. Observe bridge-loading signs. 5. Keep group on extreme right/East side of road and have one adult walk 30m either direction of group to act as lookouts for road crossing – suggest front and back adults to wear reflective vests.
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Environment Hazards:

1. Rockfall at Bridal Veil creek/ upper Bealey and collapsing ice caves/avalanches (B).
2. Slippery/loose rocks in stream or on track resulting in fall (A, D).
3. Sudden weather change (E).
4. Sun burn (F).
5. Stream sweeping student away (A, D).
6. Snow/ice/mud on track (B).
7. Bealey valley shady and cold in winter (E)

Environment Management:

1. Do not approach glacier area during heavy rain or if rock fall active. Take small, managed groups onto ice at a time after checking for undermined areas. In severe winds or tree fall risk turn group back. Avoid walking under loose banks and do not stop on active scree/chutes. Manager to consult avalanche updates before trips in winter, do not go if the risk is moderate or higher.
2. Warn group of slippery rocks.
3. Check group adequately prepared for weather change. Always check weather forecast and weather warnings before activities.
4. Brief group on solar hazards.
5. Only cross streams if water and bed conditions safe.
6. Try to clear hazards off track where possible and turn back if too dangerous. Supervise group through tricky sections one person at a time if needed.
7. Keep group moving and make sure adequately dressed. Carry snacks.

Emergency Management:

- APOEC first aid kit carried at all times. Manager has up to date FA and CPR skills.
- For Bridal Veil Track: Van at lodge to shorten reaction/ evacuation time.
- For Bealey Valley Track: Van at Bealey Valley car park to shorten reaction/ evacuation time.
- Emergency response contacts for the area are in FA kits and lodge manual (in Kitchen).
- Telephones available for 111 calls.
- Manager to carry cell phone for emergencies.
- Group briefed on emergency procedures on arrival.
- The manager must always be able to split the group and still maintain adequate adult to child ratios.
- In emergency arrange for the return of the group to the lodge.

Relevant industry standards applicable:

- Manager has current First Aid/ CPR cert.
- Children must be supervised. Ratios are to be the lower of those accepted as the policy of the relevant school Board of Trustees or APOEC (1:6 for general activities, 1:5 for activities above 1300m ASL and 1:4 for water activities).
- Van has current passenger WOF.

Notes/ recommendations:

- Always use number checks.
- Min 4 adults on trip.
- Thorough safety briefing required when each group arrives.
- The teacher in charge is responsible for discipline of members of the group at all times.
- Adults spread evenly through group.
- Students with poor motor skills to have an adult buddy.
- Do not walk on icy roads and wait for grit or a thaw.
- Participation not compulsory.
- Activity not to be run in exceptionally frosty/ slippery conditions.
- Group must be adequately briefed on staying together and behaviour.
- Take care not to get into a position where you are alone with any of the children. Take an adult with you whenever sweeping.
- Manager must be certain of safety of glacier before taking groups onto ice.

Skills required by staff:

- First aid/CPR.
- Group facilitation.
- Group management and sound outdoor leadership.
- Risk identification and management skills.
- Thorough knowledge of track and its hazards.
- Experience and skills to lead a group above the bush-line.
- Ability to teach and enforce correct NZMSC river crossing guidelines

Note:

**The Bridal Veil Track can be run in the absence of the APOEC Manager/
Instructor.**

**The Bealey Valley Track cannot be run in the absence of the APOEC Manager/
Instructor.**