

**UPPER PLENTY CONFERENCE CENTRE
BUSH WALK – Risk Management Plan**

School:	Year Level:
Supervising teachers / staff:	Dates:
Program / Excursion:	Location:

The **Bush Walk** Risk Management Plan contains the specific risks, control measures and grading's for this activity, as well as the grading's of all general risks relevant for all UPCC activities. Please refer to the **General Activity Hazards – Risk Management Plan** for a list of general risks and control measures relevant for all UPCC activities.

Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Control Effectiveness
Slip-Trip-Fall 1. Caused by; inappropriate footwear, wet conditions etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate foot wear must be worn at all times Footwear must be supportive and fitted correctly (no gumboots, ugg boots etc.) Care should be taken when grass, other ground surfaces and equipment is wet and slippery 	Likely	Minor	Satisfactory
2. Participant slipping/falling when on bushwalk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bush walk is not recommended during wet and rainy conditions Hazardous and steep areas of the bushwalk are highlighted before departure It is not recommended that groups run whilst on the bushwalk No climbing the sides or jumping off the swing bridge Participants must stay on the designated walkways 	Likely	Minor	Satisfactory
Cutting/Scratching From trees, equipment, ground, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are to take care when passing tree branches, sticks and other natural environments that may cause scratching or cutting Participants are encouraged to wear long pants to avoid scratches and cuts to the legs 	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
Environmental Exposure 1. Adverse weather (heat) causing; Heat exhaustion, dehydration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants are encouraged to bring a water drink bottle with them on the walk Participants are encouraged not to go on the walk in extreme weather conditions Group leader should check current and future forecasts and weather patterns with site program staff In warm conditions, participants are encouraged to wear light, breathable, cooling clothing and should not wear jumpers or thick pants The majority of the Bushwalk is shaded by the forest trees Rest breaks should be taken throughout the walk to give participants a chance to have a drink and sit down 	Unlikely	Minor	Satisfactory
Environmental Hazards Injury caused by contact with; 1. Natural features such as; Rocks, dead branches, vegetation, bad weather etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thorough periodic in-house maintenance checks are completed by trained program staff It is not recommended that the Bush Walk is undertaken in strong winds Group leaders should check current and future forecasts and weather patterns with site program staff Bush Walk will be cancelled if a severe weather warning is issued for the region for strong winds or 	Rare	Major	Satisfactory

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	<p>dangerous weather conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants are directed to stay away from hazardous areas • Participants are warned about overhanging branches or vegetation 			
2. Burns/injury/smoke inhalation caused by bushfire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group leader should check current and future forecasts and weather patterns with program host • Relevant internet sites should be checked for fire danger warnings 	Rare	Major	Satisfactory
3. Difficult terrain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asthmatics should be identified from participant medical forms before commencing Bushwalk • Suitable medication and first aid should be readily accessible (user group must provide First Aid) • Asthmatics must carry inhalers with them whilst on the Bushwalk • Activity to be modified/cancelled at the discretion of the leader • Alternative activities may be arranged in conjunction with the program host and the group leader • Severe asthmatics should consider joining an alternative activity group • The radios must be used to contact Forest Edge Office for any assistance 	Unlikely	Moderate	Satisfactory
Structure Failure Bridge collapse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 3 people on the swing bridge at any time • Participants on the bridge are to walk across (no rocking, jumping or swinging) • Through periodic in-house maintenance checks are completed by trained program staff • Annual activity checks are completed by qualified professionals • If the structure is unsafe the activity is not to be undertaken until appropriate repairs have been completed 	Rare	Catastrophic	Satisfactory
People – Inappropriate participant behavior Participant leaving group – missing/lost participant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head count recommended at location plates or track junctions • Pre activity briefing to include instructions about staying between the group leaders and not to wander off track • Minimum of two group leaders for each Bushwalk – one at the front and one at the rear 	Rare	Moderate	Satisfactory

Risk Rating – BUSH WALK

All identified risks are recorded in the Risk Matrix according to the Likelihood and Consequence ratings. The purpose of this matrix is to provide a snapshot of all identified risks and establish the level of risk associated to determine if further treatment is required.

		Consequence				
X		Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Catastrophic (5)
Likelihood	Almost Certain (5)	5	10	15	20	25
	Likely (4)	4	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slip-Trip-Fall 1 & 2 Slip-Trip-Fall (General) 	12	16	20
	Possible (3)	3	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Exposure 1 Environmental Hazard 2 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People – Participant behavior People – participant ability 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inappropriate use after hours People – Group leader 	15
	Unlikely (2)	2	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cutting / Scratching Environmental Exposure Entanglement Cutting / Scratching Striking People – Group Leader 1 	6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Hazards 3 Environmental Exposure 2 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Hazard 1 People – Camp Instructor 1 & 2 	10
	Rare (1)	1	2	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People – inappropriate participant behaviour Environmental Exposure 3 	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Hazards 1 & 2 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Exposure 4 Environmental Hazard 3 Structure Failure

NB: All risks in **bold** are **Bush Walk** specific risks. All other risks are from the General Activity Hazards RMP and are therefore relevant for all activities.

For grading risks, scores obtained from the risk matrix are assigned grades as follows;

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| <p> 1-4 Low Risk – minimal monitoring and reporting</p> <p> 5-8 Medium Risk – regular monitoring and reporting</p> | <p> 9-12 High Risk – close monitoring and reporting</p> <p> 13+ Extreme Risk – unacceptable, requires urgent attention</p> |
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