

Risk Assessment for Darwin Centre / Science Festival Event - Rock Pooling

Location – Various rocky beaches

Activity Description – A coastal visit to collect and discuss marine litter

Person Responsible – Marten Lewis

People at Risk – Darwin Science Employees, School Pupils, School Representatives

Hazard	Risk	Locations tick those that apply - highlight specific areas on route map if appropriate	Possible Outcome give details if appropriate or note as uncertain or unsure	Probability low/mod./high or note as uncertain or unsure (AAC- assumes appropriate controls)	Severity low/mod/sev ere/v. severe	At risk	Controls / Action req. additional i.e. not covered already under general comments
Uneven, slippery surfaces	Slip or trip	path foreshore crag scree slope steps	physical injury esp. ankle/knee injury but could easily be more serious	high ankle/knee injuries are a fairly common occurrence during walks	depends on circumstances mostly relatively low	Anyone	esp. important to be aware of diagnosis/treatment for ankle/knee injuries and carrying techniques

Difficult terrain & long routes	Over exertion	any where but esp. steep gradients and if carrying heavy load	cardiac arrest asthma attack	moderate	severe, possibly fatal even if appropriate	anyone especially if overweight, unfit or with previous history	special care if anyone declares previous history
Sea cliffs, rock faces & crags	Falling over/down	Steep cliffs Wet/slippery/grassy slopes above steep cliffs	physical injury	low *AAC *if appropriate controls are in place	severe likely to be serious, possibly fatal	anyone	choose routes & viewpoints very carefully
	Landslide	Unstable cliffs	burial/physical injury	low *AAC	v. severe multiple casualties	all	choose routes & viewpoints very carefully – be aware of runout distances
	Rockfall	Under steep and/or unstable cliffs	burial/physical injury	low *AAC	v. severe multiple casualties	all	as above
	Accidental dislodgement or deliberate throwing of stones or other items over cliff	esp. cliffs above accessible areas of foreshore	physical injury and/or damage to property	mod. *AAC	severe	one or more members of the group or other people	choose routes very carefully, shout warning keep children under close supervision
Caves	Rockfall / roof collapse	anywhere	burial/physical injury	high *MR	severe	all	Restrict visits to caves
	Deep pools & increase in water level	anywhere	drowning	high	severe	anyone	as above (do not enter if heavy rain is forecast)
	Claustrophobia	esp. in tight squeezes	panic attack	mod.	low	anyone	as above

Road traffic	Strike pedestrian or swerve & collide Frighten horses	esp. on narrow roads, corners and when crossing busy roads	physical injury	low *AAC	potentially severe	participants drivers vehicles horses	single file, use verge, leader & backmarker to wear high visibility jacket
Driving	Road traffic Accident (RTA)	narrow roads	physical injury vehicle damage	mod *AAC	potentially severe	driver/s participants pedestrians	appropriate training & vehicle maintenance
Car Park	Unexpected movement of vehicles, not looking for traffic	Car park	Physical injury	Low *AAC	Potentially severe	All particularly children	Keep the group together and near the coach. Have adult supervisors to control movement of group
Wild & domestic animals, insects, marine life and birds	bites (horse, dog, snake, seal etc) faeces stampeding	anywhere	bites, stings, allergy infections, disease poisoning	mostly low	low	one or more	try to avoid dangerous situations
Plants & Fungii	Inhalation of pollen & spores Skin contact Ingestion	anywhere on land	asthma, allergy blistering, poisoning cancer (e.g. bracken spores)	mostly low	low	one or more	learn to recognise common types do not eat wild plants avoid bracken when in spore
Sea	freak waves on foreshore & low cliffs during rough weather	esp. on exposed headlands	physical injury hypothermia drowning	low *AAC	mod. *DOC	all	avoid specified locations in stormy weather
	getting cut off by tide	sandbanks & cliffed coastline	hypothermia drowning	low *AAC	mod. unlikely to be fatal	all, esp. non-swim.	check tide tables, local knowledge is essential
Rivers & streams	strong currents deep/cold water raw sewage	main rivers during floods fording points & stepping stones/boulders	physical injury drowning	low *AAC low *AAC	severe mod.	anyone all	Take care and keep away from the edge avoid ingestion, use gloves, cover cuts

	&waterborne diseases	outsides of meanders anywhere	e.g. Weils Disease				
Weather	Cold/wet/windy	esp. hills and exposed coastlines	hypothermia 'windburn'	low *AAC	low *AAC	one or more	continuous monitoring of group if conditions are wet, cold & windy
	Hot	esp. in enclosed areas e.g. quarry	heat exhaustion	low *AAC	low	anyone	carry spare cold drinks sun hats, seek shade & cooling draught
	Sunny	esp. unshaded areas	sunburn	low *AAC	low	anyone	apply protective sun cream, wear sunglasses & sunhat
	Lightening	esp. exposed ridges & headlands	electrocution	low *AAC	potentially severe	one or more	avoid locations, take appropriate action if caught in storm

Overall Controls – Pupils to be supervised by adult school representatives during the visit and should be wearing appropriate clothing.