

Risk & Operational Assessment Activities / Raft Building

Next Review: Dec 2025

Centre: Whitemoor Lakes	Assessed By: Nicola Whiting (Chief Instructor) Robin Jones (Senior Instructor) Chris Browning (senior instructor) Luke Austin (senior instructor) Alex Jones (Senior Instructor)	ASSESSED	ASSESSED	ASSESSED	
		Nov 2013	Nov 2017	April 2022	
		Nov 2014	Nov 2018	March 2023	
		Nov 2015	Nov 2019	Dec 2023	
		Nov 2016	April 2021	Dec 2024	

Overview
Raft building is carried out on a large 40 acre lake on site. Buoyancy aids and helmets are worn. Both instructors are in-house trained & assessed, hold a minimum of BC paddle explore and PSRC and there will be a minimum of one safety boat with a throwline on the water at all times. Staff Ratio is 2:12+1 or 3:24 (under special circumstances) or 2:16 (under exceptional circumstances with consent from the group leader)

STEP ONE	STEP TWO	STEP THREE	STEP FOUR	STEP FIVE
List significant hazards here:	List groups of people who are at risk from the hazards you have identified:	List the Control Measures for the identified risks:	Identify any residual risk remaining after the control measures have been put in place:	Identify any benefits that may result from exposure to the perceived and residual risk for participants:
Water (drowning)	Instructors & Guests	Safe Working practice Session guide Personal Protective Equipment Group leader responsibilities Equipment safety checks BC paddle explore & PSRC Qualifications In-House Training Emergency procedures First Aider always present	Trespassers	The perceived risk of being on the water heightens the level of challenge and therefore achievement.
Equipment – Knocks, bumps & bruises	Instructors & Guests	First aid & near miss forms Centre very close – showers etc. BC paddle explore & PSRC Qualifications In-House Training Emergency procedures First Aider always present	Weather elements or unstable rocking the raft.	

		Shown and told correct manual handling technique for handling barrels, poles and ratios for carrying.		
Slips & trips	Instructors & Guests	Signage, Safety talk at beginning of groups stay, Area left tidy after use Safety rules, instructors to check rafts. Shown and told correct manual handling technique for handling barrels, poles and ratios for carrying.	Weather-wind and/or rain. Participants not looking where they are standing.	
Weil's Disease	Instructors & Guests	Participants are suggested to have a shower after the session to lower the risk. Staff to monitor the conditions/environment around the lake	The risk of Weil's disease can never fully be removed	
Weather (high winds, lightning, extreme temperatures)	Instructors Guests	Sessions cancelled in the event of lightning or extreme winds. Maybe Cancelled due to lightening.	Negative effects of weather on individuals can never be fully removed	Exposure to cold and inclement weather has proven positive developmental effects and teaches people about their limitations.
Unauthorised access	Guests Public	Safety rules might not be adhered to. Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	Misuse of equipment by outside parties/trespassers.	
Entrapment	Guests	Staff always Carry a Knife for cutting ropes in emergencies.	Guests choose to ignore rules.	
Poles and barrels (crushing)	Instructors Guests	Staff always Carry a Knife for cutting ropes in emergencies.	Guests choose to ignore rules	
Swim/water games	Guests	Boundaries with clear instructions to anyone entering the water. Instructor to be ready with throwline and to be stood in the water.	Participants choose to ignore rules.	Opportunity to have fun in a safe environment to create memories