

# Bush Walking Risk Management Plan

Mountain View Holiday Retreat, Harrietville

School:	Year:	Dates:
Program:	Supervising Staff:	

## **Activity Context**

Bushwalking is a traditional outdoor activity, encouraging participants to explore nature and be active. Bushwalking as a self-facilitated activity at Mountain View Retreat and is usually conducted in the nearby Alpine National Park with the Teachers and Parent supervisors facilitating.

This document contains the specific risks, control measures and grading for the Bush walking activity at Mountain View Holiday Retreat

## Risk Management Plan

	Existing Control Measures		Risk Rating		
Hazard / Risk Description			Consequence	Control Effectiveness	
Bush Walking – Risk factors specifical	ly associated with the bush walking activity at Mountain View Holiday Retreat				
Getting Lost	<ul> <li>Participants are required to walk as a group</li> <li>Activity is conducted on clearly marked and defined bush trails</li> <li>Activity is to have a Teacher or Supervising adult present</li> <li>Teacher carries map of trails</li> <li>Participants are briefed on what to do if they are separated from group</li> <li>Phone to be carried by Teacher or parent supervisor</li> </ul>	Rare	Major	low	
Fatigue / Over Exertion	<ul> <li>Participants instructed in proper walking technique</li> <li>Bushwalk length amended according to group ability</li> <li>Participants encouraged to carry water bottles, drink plenty of water prior to activity</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	Low	
Bite / Sting Snake, spider, other insect / organism	<ul> <li>Participants required to stay on designated tracks</li> <li>Participants are required to stay together as a group</li> <li>Teachers / Supervisors to carry first aid kits with snake bite bandages</li> <li>Insect repellent available</li> </ul>	Rare	Major	Low	
Slip – Trip – Fall	<ul> <li>Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times</li> <li>Participants instructed to walk at all times</li> <li>Trip Hazards are identified to the group on the walk</li> <li>Teacher / Supervisors to carry first aid kit</li> </ul>	Unlikely	Minor	low	

Bushfire	<ul> <li>Walk leader to check with local land manager before starting a walk in a fire prone area during fire season</li> <li>Carry a Mobile phone on extended walks during the fire season to check daily fire status</li> <li>Overnight walkers to take food that doesn't require a stove</li> <li>Research the walk area in terms of fire zone, emergency exit routes and safe places</li> <li>Consider cancellation of the Event</li> <li>No day walks in forest areas on a total fire ban day</li> </ul>	Possible	High	Low
Extreme Cold	<ul> <li>Clothing checklist for remote areas, mountain areas</li> <li>Gear checklist for overnight walks</li> <li>Leader must confirm that party members are carrying minimum clothing requirements (include day walks if cold condition and off trail)</li> </ul>	Possible	High	Low
Extreme Heat	<ul> <li>Clothing Check list</li> <li>Gear check list includes water bottles</li> <li>Leader to carry extra water</li> <li>Leader to be Emergency Response Trained</li> </ul>	Possible	High	Low
Toileting In the bush	<ul> <li>Participants are encouraged to use bathrooms at camp prior to bushwalk</li> <li>Participants are briefed on appropriate toileting procedures in the bush</li> <li>Teacher carries trowel and paper for toileting in pack</li> </ul>	Rare	Moderate	Low

### **Risk Rating Matrix**

All identified risks are recorded in the following risk matrix according to likelihood and consequence. The purpose of this matrix is to provide a snapshot of all identified risks and establish the level of risk to determine if further treatment is required.

	Consequences				
Likelihood	1 - Insignificant	2 - Minor	3 - Moderate	4 - Major	5 - Catastrophic
1 - Rare	1	2	3 Toileting	4 Bites/stings, ,lost	5
2 - Unlikely	2	4 Slip-trip-fall, fatigue	6	8	10
3 - Possible	3	6 Bushfire, Extreme heat, Extreme Cold	9	12	15
4 - Likely	4	8	12	16	20
5 - Almost certain	5	10	15	20	25

### **Risk Treatment**

#### 10 -14 High Risk 1-4 Low Risk Risk does not generally need to be managed any further (current controls are adequate), Risk is unacceptable, risks must be further treated or removed to bring rating to medium however the risk needs to be monitored for changes in circumstances and current control Risks are to be re-assessed by Activities Manager effectiveness. Risk generally may be accepted. 15+ Extreme Risk 5-9 Medium Risk Risk needs to be regularly monitored for any changes and control/treatment effectiveness. Unacceptable risk, urgent attention is required to treat or remove risks Risk may be accepted after consideration. Management to consider elimination of activity Risk Assessment Conducted by: Program Manager, Mountain View Holiday Retreat

Date of Risk Assessment: 11th July 2018 Date of Review: July 2019