

Risk Assessment

Type of Trip: Friends recreational kayak trip **Venue:** River Usk–Aberbran to Brecon

Grid Reference: 988292 **Access** 036290 **Egress** Aberbran **Date of visit:** 09/11/98

<http://rainchasers.com/river/usk/sennybridge-brecon> <http://webcam.wyeuskfoundation.org/navigation/downloads/Sennybridge%20to%20Brecon.pdf>

River Usk: <http://rloi.naturalresources.wales/ViewDetails?station=4050> Trallong

See Video <https://youtu.be/nJbqk4m22IU...>

	2	3	4	5
What is the hazard? Specific	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Access: Aberbran, see wyeusk foundation map	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low River Level = 0.58	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
Egress: Car park on the left hand side of the river before the weir, see as above.	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low River Level = 0.9 rising again	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Grade 2 Rapids; Weir at the access point, bear centre left as the “Hole” could be difficult to the right and hold paddlers. When river is high and flooded be aware of fishing platform after 2/3rds of the journey on the right. A sign on the tree indicates the area.	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med NB.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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What is the hazard? Generic/Dynamic	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Drowning - "Overhanging" branches	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med	Check Environment Agency for Current River levels at Trallong Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Apply "Buddy" checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats	
Over hanging tree or strainers	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med Identify hazard areas to paddlers.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Advised to avoid & informed how to escape entrapment.	
Medicinal risks	Club Members	S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low Friends not taking necessary medication. Unauthorised consumption of medication	Agreed action between participants & instructors of routine consumption of necessary medication. Instructors may hold any necessary medication on request/agreement of participant involved.	
Weather & Environmental Conditions	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med Floods	Check weather forecast & river levels. Dynamic risk assessment. Re-locate or cancel if inappropriate to group ability	

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Weather related injury Hypothermia Hyperthermia.	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Advised on appropriate clothing to wear. Adjustment to clothing as required, e.g. use of wet to dry suit depending on weather forecast, temperature & time of year.	Check weather forecast. Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief; recommended kit to wear. Sun block, extra water, hot drink, change of clothing Group shelter	
Slips, trips & falls	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Identify hazard areas to paddlers.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	
Sprains, strains, soft tissue injuries	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 8 Low Trained to lift correctly. Ask for help. Trained to paddle correctly.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. On-going training in manual handling	
Pollution & water quality	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 mod Advised to bath/shower after paddle. Made aware of flotsam	Risks higher in "Spate" conditions. Avoid intentional capsizes in poor conditions	

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Other river uses	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Paddlers instructed to be aware of other uses & how to take appropriate action to avoid them.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Illness & fatigue	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med Paddlers to inform instructors	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance.	
Road Traffic accident Breakdown	Club Members	S = 5 L = 4 = 20 High Paddlers to follow instructions from leaders	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. First aid kit, food and water, evacuation procedures and assistance.	
Equipment: unserviceable	Club Members	S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low Loose seat, footrest, ratchets, missing bung,	Periodic safety checks of equipment, qualified instructors.	

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Fisherman; various spots below & above rapids; line & hook causing facial injuries		S = 2 L = 2 = 4 Low Identify & inform participants & instructors.	Dynamic risk assessment. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Bridge Stanchions'	Club Members	S = 4 L = 3 = 12 Med Avoid paddling in front of bridge Stanchions, as this may lead to a capsise.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	

Handout (1) CALCULATION OF RISK SEVERITY

In assessing a RISK you need to take into account two factors:

- (1) How serious could an injury be?
- (2) How likely is it to occur?

The following would be a rough guideline:

High Risk: A very serious injury that had a high probability of occurring.

Med. Risk:

- Either (a) A serious injury unlikely to occur
(b) A lesser injury likely to occur

Low Risk:

Would be a slight injury that was unlikely to occur.

- If you take (1) above as a scale of 1 to 5 (5 = high) Seriousness
(2) above as a scale of 1 to 5 (5 = high) Likelihood

Then, multiply them together, this would give a scale as follows:

Translating into: LOW (1-8) MED. (9-17) HIGH RISKS (18-25)

SERIOUSNESS OF INJURY

- 5 = Very high potential for multiple death and/or wide spread destruction.
- 4 = High causing death or serious injury to an individual, i.e. reportable accident under the RIDDOR regulations.
- 3 = Moderate causing injury or disease capable of keeping an individual off work for three days or more, may require reporting under RIDDOR regulations.
- 2 = Slight causing minor injuries, i.e. person able to continue work after first aid.
- 1 = No risk of injury or disease.

LIKELIHOOD OF THE EVENT OCCURRING

- 5 = Very likely, almost certain.
- 4 = Likely to occur, i.e. easily precipitated with slight carelessness for external event, e.g. vibration.
- 3 = Quite possible, the accident is only likely to occur with help, i.e. if somebody slips, failure to replace a light, etc.
- 2 = Possibly - probably is low or minimal.
- 1 = Not likely at all, there is really no risk and accidents will only occur under freak conditions.

