Risk Assessment

Type of Trip: Friends recreational kayak trip Venue: River Twrch to River Banwy Grid Reference: Access () 951129 Egress: Foel 988116 Llanerfyl 031098 Date of visit: 24/03/18

Rain Chasers Guide: http://rainchasers.com/river/twrch-banwy/dol-y-gaseg-foel River levels http://rloi.naturalresources.wales/ViewDetails?station=2062 Llanerfyl

Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LwYqmMmcTlg&feature=youtu.be (John's: Section to the house – four drops)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbJKvKvTWvw (Tim's 1st drop)

	2	3	4	5
What is the hazard?	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Access: Take permitted footpath down to the bridge to access river. Egress at Foel after bridge, find eddy with Xmas Tree on right side before caravan site. Egress at Llanerfyl – get out for River Gam for a longer trip but uneventful flat water except for	Club Members	S = 2 L = 3 = 6 Low	Check Environment Agency or Rain chasers for Current River levels at Appropriate levels at Llanerfyl above 1.80 River level 1.30 on day Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	
2 weir drops & 1 natural drop. 1st Drop – Grade 3+; After natural beach on the right approximately 100m. Position close to right hand bank before taking sharp left route through drop see from 9.40 video -John, & Tim's at a higher level. At higher levels keep tight to left as you descend drop, as you can get caught going too far right, if you see Tim's video where Rich got stuck.	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbJKvKvTWvw (Tim's 2nd drop)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obJKvKvTWvw (Tim's 2nd drop)

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2 nd Drop – Grade 3+; keep to the right before bearing left down slope at 1.8 gauge – See Tim's 2 nd video at a higher level 035 seconds, can get stuck at the top before entry into drop. This happened at lower level see John's at 13.40, went too far down, Dave had to push Rich & John around rock to enter drop area.	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
3 rd Drop before house on the left – Grade 3; At lower level had to take left hand route, whilst at higher levels keep to the right. Take a right to left position slipping over a small pour over to a metre drop. See John's video from 13.30 & Tim's at a higher level at 2.30 minutes.	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief	

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Videos: (John's: Section to the house – four drops) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0L97_sl7HkE&t=10s (Tim's 2nd, 3rd, 4th drop before house) (Rich's 1st drop after house) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQhoGgYXHd0 (Tim's 1st & 2nd ZIG zag drop after house) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUIx2CGyMtc

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4th Drop before house on the	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by	
left – Grade 3; At lower and			instructor, safety brief.	
higher level take right to left				
hand route, before switching				
back from left to right and				
slipping down drop tightly to				
the right. See John's video from				
14.45 & Tim's at a higher level				
at 4.25 minutes.				
1 ^{st &} Drop after house on the	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by	
left – Grade 3+; At lower level			instructor, safety brief	
had to take left hand route and				
drop into eddy, (See Dave's				
position) ease boat between				
the centre rock on the right, see				
Rich's video at 7.00 minutes				
otherwise can get "Pinned" like				
John, see video 2.15 minutes, &				
Rich's video at 7.40. NOTE, not				
shown on any of Tim's video.				

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What is the hazard?	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
2 nd & 3 rd Drops; at higher levels, see Tim's 1 st & 2nd Zigzag drop after house at 0.50 minutes. See John's video at 6.04	Club Members	S = 3 L = 4 = 12 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Tree across river after bridge, see Rich's video at 11.55 minutes	Club Members	S = 4 L = 4 = 16 Med.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief.	
Fisherman; various spots below & above weir; 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 capsize.	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	
Weir; At Browty, flat ledge stepping stone type	Club Members	S = 3 L = 3 = 12 Med Be aware of any "Stoppers".	Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Dynamic risk assessment.	

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What is the hazard?	Who might be harmed?	How may the risk be adequately controlled?	What further action is necessary?	Review comments Review date
Drowning	Club Members	S = 4 L = 2 = 8 Low Kayak 3*Whitewater paddlers only to play in identified "Surf" areas & grade 2-3 water. S = 3 L = 3 = 9 Med. Establish a boundary sheltered area. Instructions given on capsize procedure.	Check Environment Agency for Current River levels at Corwen. Correct supervision and group control by instructor, safety brief. Apply "Buddy" checks on helmets & buoyancy aids, boats	At 7.27 grade 6 at Mile End Mill
Over hanging tree or strainers	Club Members	S = 4 L = 2 = 8 Low 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 = 5 L = 5 = 25 High 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 capsize 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.	

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.