

Aberdeenshire Council Outdoor Activity Generic Risk Assessments

7. Expeditions: Mountain activities, Paddlesport, Snowsports, Trail and Mountain Biking, Sailing.

Risk to: Instructors/Group members

Hazard	Risk	Control measures
1. As for specific activities.	As for specific activities.	As for specific activities
2. Remoteness/ Extended period away from base.	Possible greater reaction/response time to incidents/accidents. Use of stoves. Food/water contamination. More equipment/ food etc. required which has to be carried.	Instructors/leaders will be trained to NGB or Aberdeenshire Council standards in group management and instructional techniques appropriate to the level of the activity. Particular care will be given to the choice of route with reference to the consequences of a mishap. Participants will be given specific training on safe use of stoves and general campcraft. Participants will be given specific training on food and camp hygiene. Higher levels of prior training will be given to ensure participants can cope with the higher levels of physical and psychological stress likely to be present on expeditions.
3. Remotely supervised expeditions.	Increased possibility of losing touch with group/group members. Greater reaction/response time to incidents/accidents.	Instructors/leaders will be trained to NGB or Aberdeenshire Council standards in group management and instructional techniques appropriate to the level of the activity and have sufficient experience to cope with the extra demands made on them by indirect supervision. Appropriate and sufficient prior training will be given to ensure groups have the skills to cope with the demands of an expedition. Particular attention will be given to details of escape routes/contingency plans/check points /communication methods to ensure that all reasonable contingencies are covered.
4. Equipment.	Possible more serious consequences of failure.	All equipment will meet current specifications and/or accepted standards where applicable and will be suitable for its intended use. Equipment will be regularly maintained, serviced and tested to current specifications where required. A thorough check of equipment will be made prior to departure. Enhanced repair kit/spares will be carried.
5. Weather/condition changes.	Uncertainty of and consequences of changes over extended periods of time.	Instructors/leaders will obtain information on weather and other relevant factors and make an assessment of conditions prior to any activity taking place. In winter conditions an avalanche forecast will be obtained for mountain or ski touring activity. Instructors/leaders will modify or curtail the activities if prevailing conditions are inappropriate for the group or the planned activity. Instructors/leaders will ensure that each member of the group is appropriately clothed, carries sufficient food and shelter and that additional food, clothing and equipment is available to suit the expected conditions and nature of the activity. Instructors/leaders will be First Aid trained to the level required by the NGB for the activity or Aberdeenshire Council.

Aberdeenshire Council
Outdoor Activity Site/Route Specific Risk Assessments

Activity:

Risk to:

Hazard	Risk	Control measures

Continue on separate sheet if required.