## **Risk Identification – Canoe**



What could go wrong? RISK	Why would this happen? HAZARD	Significance? RISK RATING Refer to SMP pg. 17	Controls - What we will do about it – Standard Operating Procedures The Assessor is accountable for the overall safety of the course and must ensure the below controls are in place
Serious Injury or Death - Entrapment	<ol> <li>Person swims or canoes through sieve, strainer or undercut rock</li> <li>Person stands in moving water</li> </ol>	Medium	<ol> <li>Research river section prior to using e.g. guidebooks, local knowledge, river trip. Avoid/portage sections of river with known entrapment hazards e.g. logs, willow, rock sieves.</li> <li>Select river sections that are appropriate to the skill level of the group and within the scope of the qualification.</li> <li>Consistently look out for sieves, strainers and under-cut rocks while instructing on a river. If any are seen this is communicated with other groups.</li> <li>White water float position is known to all participants prior to a river trip.</li> <li>4 &amp; 2. Correct equipment is carried to rescue a participant from an entrapment. E.g. saw, pin kit</li> </ol>
Serious Injury or Death - Hypothermia	1. Exposure to the elements	Medium	<ol> <li>Participants have appropriate clothing on or available e.g. thermals, dry top, hats. Model clients are briefed on food and clothing requirements in pre-event letter as prevention to hypothermia.</li> <li>Spare clothing is available and model clients are fitted out if needed.</li> <li>Use skills and rescue techniques to minimise participant time in the water.</li> <li>Warming resources are available e.g. thermos, cooker, bothy bag</li> <li>Updated weather forecast is obtained and conditions are suitable for the participants.</li> </ol>
Serious Injury or Death - Impact injury	<ol> <li>Capsize</li> <li>Collision</li> <li>Flooded rivers</li> </ol>	Medium	<ol> <li>Correct techniques are being used, taught and monitored. E.g. white-water float position.</li> <li>Participants wear helmets and personal flotation devices on river and river bed.</li> <li>Use games and rescue techniques that minimise impact on participant hands.</li> <li>E.g. tag with hand not paddle</li> </ol>

			Identify potential collision hazards and manage the group to avoid collisions amongst themselves and with objects including jet boats.
			Check with commercial operators e.g. Jet boats, if and when they are using the river section.
			3. Obtain an updated weather forecast and river flow information, to ensure river flows and conditions are suitable for the participants.
			River sections after heavy rain/flooding are scouted/checked prior to the group getting on the river or running rapids. Hazardous sections are avoided or portaged, or route/river section is changed.
Death -	1. Participant capsizes or multiple capsizes	Medium	1 & 2. NZOIA ratios are maintained at all times.
			Model clients are briefed about what to do if someone capsises.
Lost – person or group	2. High river flows		A safe method of running rapids is set up with model clients and Assessors are able to step in/take over if things go wrong.
			Intentions are left with someone.
			2. An updated weather forecast and river flows are obtained and conditions are suitable for the participants.
Serious Injury or Death -	1. Known medical condition arises	Medium	1 & 2. All Assessors and candidates have a current first aid certificate and a means of contacting emergency services.
Medical Condition	2. Unknown medical condition occurs		1. Medical forms of candidates and model clients are checked and relevant information is considered.
			Personal medication is being carried by the participant (ie. inhalers, adrenaline). A first aid kit is carried at all times.
Injury -	1. Incorrect technique	Low	1. Check and give feedback to candidates/trainees on their bracing techniques.
Shoulder dislocation	2. Previous Injury		Candidates are teaching and monitoring correct techniques with their model clients.
			2. Check candidate/trainee and model client, health information. Ensure steps are in place to minimise dislocation e.g. shoulder brace, correct technique. Or eliminate by stopping activity.
Injury - Slips, trips or falls	1. Slippery banks	Low	1. Assessors, candidates and model clients wear helmets, appropriate footwear and personal flotation devices on the river bed.
			Model clients briefed on footwear requirements in pre-event letter.

## Site specific Hazards - Canoeing:

These site-specific hazards are reported by Assessors following a NZOIA course. This is only one source of the potential hazards in an area and is quickly outdated. Assessors are responsible for seeking up to date information on the location they are going to work in from other sources for e.g. DOC, local operators, instructors and guides.

Risk	Location of Hazard	Date Identified	Control - What we will do about it – Standard Operating Procedures