



Assessment of:		Bush Craft				
Location:		Mount Cook	Date of assessment:		February 2022	
Completed by:		Bernard Müller	Expiry Date:		February 2023	
Ratio:		1:12 Max and Min 1 Group Leader	Staff Competencies		Inhouse Trained and signed off by Activity Manager or Bushcraft for Practitioners	
Hazard <i>(something with potential to cause harm)</i>	Risk <i>(How could hazard cause harm and to whom)</i>	Control Measures <i>(What is required to reduce risk)</i>	In place <i>(Y/N)</i>	Action Required	Action Owner	Residual Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>
Weather Conditions	Exposer to Heat, Cold, Wind and Rain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct clothing, shelter, sunscreen, evacuation plan for Thunder and Lightning. 	Y	Monitoring of weather, Evacuation zone	Mount Cook and participants	LOW
Dead fall and dead standing trees	Crushing injuries, breaks, death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sites checked by Mount Cook staff. All tents and other structures placed to reduce risk. Pre-course checks by bush craft Leader. Regular weather checks for high winds. Evacuation procedures 	Y	Regular weather checks for high winds. Evacuation procedures	Mount Cook Staff	LOW

Low = Slight injury or minor ill health / It is highly unlikely that the harm would occur

Medium = Serious Injuries or significant health effects / There is a likelihood that harm may occur;

High = Major death, major injury (RIDDOR) or irreversible health damage / There is a high likelihood that harm will occur.

Uneven Ground / Animal holes	Breaks, Twists, Falls, Sprains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal holes identified, and filled in where necessary • Initial safety brief to highlight danger areas. • No running rules enforced in woods • Supervision at all times. 	Y	Filling in any dangerous holes, removal of any dangerous stumps and roots	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Low Branches	Head and eye injury's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-course checks for any likely branches to cause harm • Safety brief enforcing NO running • Supervision throughout the woods. 	Y	Pruning of branches at eye or head level	Mount Cook staff	LOW

Emergency Access	Unable to leave or gain access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two forms of access to the woods. • Vehicle access to border of woodland 	Y	Emergency access maps	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Lack of Boundaries	Missing participants. Unwanted public access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddy systems and regular head-checks • Brief on what to do if a student becomes lost. • Clear markings of boundaries, fences and gates 	Y	Boundaries in place. Monitoring of boundaries	Mount Cook staff	LOW

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Animal/Insect habitats	Disturbing off habitats, Lime disease (Ticks) potential anaphylaxis, wasps/bees/mosquitoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-course checks for insect nests, any insect nests in or very close to camp to be removed or destroyed 	Y	First Aid kit, Epi-pens kept close for those with allergies and staff trained on how to use them.	Participants and Mount Cook staff	LOW
Toxic flora	Poisoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-course checks to identify any potentially hazardous flora, Safety brief not to touch any fungus or berries, and not to eat anything foraged from the woods. 	Y	Washing facilities and disinfectant, Use of non-toxic wood during sessions	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Fire lighting, Open Fires	Burns Smoke inhalation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full safety brief by instructor. Supervision of students at all times, Designated fire pits and wooden discs for fire steels. Fire pits only to be used under direct supervision. Downwind side of roundhouse to be left unoccupied to avoid excess smoke inhalation. Wet wood not to be burned inside roundhouse fire pit. 	Y	First Aid, Supervision, designated fire zones, water sources and fire-extinguishes	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Boiling water, and cooking, over open fires	Burns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruction and demonstration of proper techniques, full safety brief from bush craft staff, supervision at all times. Water heated using only pre-approved 'stove gadgets' and 		First Aid, Safety distances from fire, gloves, hand	Mount Cook staff	LOW

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		<p>kettles designed for intended use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat proof gloves if required, Hand washing before & after activity. • Blue gloves for raw meat, fish and eggs. 		sanitation, kettle and		
Shelter Building	Collapse of shelter, eye damage, hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief from bush craft staff, • Instruction on construction and collection of materials, supervision ratios per shelter, • All shelters to be checked for structural safety by Instructor throughout the building process. • No participants to enter the shelter until complete and checked by instructor for structural integratory 	Y	All shelters to be checked for structural safety by Instructor	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Heavy lifting	Lifting and twisting, crushing injuries, breaks, concussion, head injury, eye injury.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief from staff, instruction on correct lifting techniques, student ratios for shared lifting, materials safe for use. 	Y	First Aid, Instructor instructions on safe lifting. (no wood larger than a cricket ball in diameter) Team lifting techniques	Mount Cook staff	LOW

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Vehicles and Machinery	Contact with Machinery, unsupervised machinery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief from bush craft staff on safely moving through the car park. • Stay away from any machinery in or out of use. • No vehicles parked onsite. 	Y	Staff briefing and Boundaries	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Public Access	Unauthorised access contact with staff and Students, vandalism in and out of work hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting of any unauthorised persons and damage to Mount Cook property 	Y	Providing staff and students with I.D key cards. Fencing around property	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Litter	Hazardous substances (Poisoning), cuts and grazers, slips and trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter picks, reporting of Hazardous substances 	Y	Safe removal of glass. gloves, bags, litter pickers, safe disposal of unidentified liquids	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Moving through woodland	Slips, trips and falls, Eye damage, Lost child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief from bush craft staff, Supervision ratio of 1:12 bush craft staff to students • Buddy system for students, regular head counts, boundaries, no running • Head torches in low light, • No climbing. 	Y	Safety Briefing, Head Counts, registers.	Students and Mount Cook staff	LOW

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						LOW
Trap Making and Snaring	Puncture wound, Trapping, head injury, eye injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief by bush craft Leader, • Exclusion zones for students, • Only pre-approved traps to be demonstrated. 		Small triggered traps and snares only	Trained Mount Cook staff	LOW
Poor Hygiene	Sickness and Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mount Cook tour to outline all cleaning facilities available, • Warm water for regular hand washing always available, • Showers available on multiple day courses, hand sanitizer located in the woodland. 	Y	Available Facilities in working order	Students and Mount Cook staff	LOW
Exhaustion	bad temper, lack of participation, discontent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff trained to spot signs of over-exertion, • Staff to monitor food & water in-take and regular snack breaks scheduled to keep energy levels up 	Y	First Aid trained, available food and water	Students and Mount Cook staff	LOW
Woodland Foraging	Poisoning, stings, pricks and cuts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full safety brief from bush craft Leader, • NO berries or fungus to be collected, all plants to be cleared by bush craft leader. • No consumption of any unidentified Flora. 		First Aid, gloves, plant and tree ID books	Trained Mount Cook staff	LOW

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloves to be worn when handling Nettles/Brambles/bracken 				
Tool Use	Laceration, Puncture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full safety brief from bush craft Leader, Instruction and Demonstration of techniques, Supervision ratio of 1:6 bush craft staff to students (knife safety sessions). Safe working area. 		First Aid, trained and competent staff with tool use. Staff signed off inhouse for safe tool use.	Trained Mount Cook staff	LOW
Falling from Height	Concussion, breaks, cuts, bruises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full safety brief from bush craft staff. No climbing of trees or handing on branches. 	Y	First aid, time out punishment	Mount Cook staff	LOW
Fuel Use	Breathing in of carcinogens. (smoke from Toxic timbers and modern fire lighting methods.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full safety brief from bush craft staff. Staff training on carcinogenic natural, man made materials, Poisonous timbers. Well ventilated working areas. (Do not use Yew tree for anything) 		Minimalize use of Bracken.	Mount cook staff	LOW

Risk Assessment checked by H&S or Line Manager

Name: Steve Turner CEO

Date: 7th February 2022