

Flying Fox (Tower) Risk Management Plan



School: _____ Year: _____ Dates: _____

Program: _____ Supervising Staff: _____

Activity Context

The flying fox at Lutanda Yarramundi is located starting from the activities tower and ending at a pole in front of the main building. Flying fox is a fun way to challenge participants to push themselves outside their comfort zone. It is a lesson in trust to be able to step off the tower onto the flying fox.

Leader to Participant Ratios

1 **Activity Facilitator** to 17 participants

For all groups with participants under 18yo:
Group is required to have a **Supervising Adult/Teacher**, provided by the group, present

Variations to ratio requirements may occur on a group by group basis.

Participation Requirements

Minimum Age: 12 years of age (Year 7 onwards)

Variations to participant requirement may occur on an individual client assessment.

Equipment

Participants are required to wear/have the following:

- Appropriate environmental protection (ie. Hat, sunglasses, t-shirts, raincoat, warm clothing)
- Enclosed footwear
- Adequate water
- mid-thigh or longer length pants for protection from harnesses
- Any personal medication required (ie, asthma, epipen etc.)

The following personal protective equipment is provided and must be worn by participants using the course:

- Full body Harness (to be worn on the flying fox)
- Helmet (to be worn by any participant or leader under the flying fox or in the tower)

Activity Facilitators

Activity Facilitators are Lutanda Activity Staff or equivalent.

Activity Facilitators are trained and signed off as competent to run activity by qualified permanent Lutanda staff member.

Activity Facilitators hold current first aid and CPR certificates.

Note: Where it is not specified the management of risk is expected to be undertaken by the Activity Facilitator.

Emergency

Activity Facilitators have small First Aid Kit and Comms available throughout each session.

Large First Aid Kit available in First Aid/ PA room in main dining hall.

For minor incidents, Activity Facilitator communicates with Activity Manager or Site Manager and fills out Incident Report Form.

For major Incidents/ fatality, Activity Facilitator manages scene, performs initial First Aid and calls **000** when Activity Manager or Site Manager is not available. Activity Facilitator fills out Incident Report Form.

Yarramundi site is less than 1 hour from ambulance care. First Aid is performed in this context.

Risk Management Plan

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Activity Specific – Risk factors specifically associated with activity at Lutanda Yarramundi				
Fall from height <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harness not fitted properly while participating in activity Falling off the platform while on the tower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity tower off limits to participants without Activity Facilitator supervising During session a maximum of 3 participants to be on the top platform of the tower at once. Participants are attached to safety line as soon as they come onto the top platform of the tower and remain attached until they are hooked up and ready to go down the Flying Fox. Maximum 2 participants attached to safety line at once, all other participants must wait on the platform below the top platform. Activity Facilitator attached to safety line while working near edge and setting up 	Rare	Catastrophic	Medium

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Facilitator gives harness briefs and ensures harnesses are worn correctly. Activity Facilitator conducts ABCDE checks (checking anchor, carabiners, knots, harnesses and helmets are done correctly) before each participant is un-attached from their safety line and told they may commence abseiling. Equipment protected from sharp edges with protective equipment All load bearing equipment is backed up by a secondary safety attachment eg. Petzle iD backed up by the purple tubular tape safety sling. Equipment rated and maintained for loads well above actual load placed upon it Access to tower restricted by lock on doors and gates 			
Impact Landing on ground too hard when lowering down from flying fox with Petzle iD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants briefed on the correct way to descend Flying Fox Supervising Adult to hold descent rope and briefed on their role of being a back-up brake if participant lowering descends too fast Activity Facilitator provides instruction one on one with participants before they take off from the platform to ensure they remember the correct technique for lowering. 	Rare	Major	Low
Participant Stuck suspended on Flying Fox caused by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant lowering onto their purple safety sling Inability to undo tri-lock Karabiner attaching purple safety sling Purple sling threaded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear and concise brief given to participants at start of session to describe how to lower from the Flying Fox Activity Instructor recaps method for lowering before they leave the tower platform. Participants are shown and practice how to use a tri-lock Karabiner at the top of the tower for attaching/ detaching purple safety sling. Rescue kit containing caving ladder, Activity Facilitator self-belay and 6 to 1 haul system used to climb up to participant and assist/ instruct participant to solve the problem and lower to the ground. Activity Facilitator competent at using rescue kit to rescue stuck person. 	Possible	Insignificant	Low

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
through harness attachment point.				
Incident Involving Rescue Kit caused by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructor incompetent at using the rescue kit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Facilitator given thorough training on the use of the rescue kit and has demonstrated proficiency in using the rescue kit before being placed on a session. Activity Facilitator has shadowed and been shadowed on a session and been signed off as competent to run the activity. 	Rare	Major	Low
Wire Burn participant holding Flying Fox wire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants to be briefed on where to hold on while using the Flying Fox Participants suspended low enough to prevent them from reaching the wire 	Rare	Moderate	Low
Entanglement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jewellery Hair Loose Clothing Scarves etc. Fingers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All loose clothing, jewellery and other objects that may become entangled are to be removed for the activity Long hair is to be tied back for the activity Participants briefed on where to place hands away from equipment 	Unlikely	Minor	Low
Chafing Caused by harness rubbing on skin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of appropriate clothing provided to group prior to camp Participants asked to change into appropriate clothing prior to activity to prevent harness resting on skin Participants clearly briefed and checked for correct harness fit 	Unlikely	Insignificant	Low
Participant falls Unconscious during flying fox.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Facilitator immediately use rescue kit to lower participant to the ground. First aid administered, medical attention sought. 	Rare	Moderate	Low
Slipping/Tripping/ Fall/ From uneven surfaces, equipment, trip hazards,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area inspected by Activity Facilitator prior to activity and any hazards removed or mitigated eg. Sticks & rocks on the ground removed. Equipment in activity area set up in an organised manner to reduce trip 	Unlikely	Minor	Low

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
obstacles in the environment.	hazards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants to walk up tower stairs and briefed that stairs may be slippery when wet Regular inspections of tower for hazards 			
People – Risk factors associated with the people using the activity				
Participant Behaviour Inability or decision to not follow directions or cooperate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear behaviour expectations set at start of activity sessions Encouraging supportive environment Activity Instructor collaborates with Adult Supervisor/ teacher to maintaining adequate supervision of all participants throughout the session. Outline consequences of inappropriate behaviour Removal of individual from activity or cancellation of whole activity if safety procedures and instructions are not being followed. 	Unlikely	Major	Medium
Participant Ability Unable to complete activity due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear / Anxiety Complacency / Overconfidence Physical Ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Instructor promotes a supportive environment Participants briefed according to age, ability, experience Participation is based on meeting requirements Demonstration of understanding and/or skills must be shown prior to undertaking activity Participants are guided through activity supportively by Activity Facilitator Activities are challenge by choice - participants are positively challenged but not forced to participate in activity 	Possible	Minor	Medium
Activity Facilitator Unsafe practices leading to an injury to a participant caused by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor supervision and instruction by Activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Facilitators must follow Standard Operating Procedures at all times Activity Facilitators are trained and signed off as competent to run activity by qualified permanent Lutanda staff member. Formal qualifications in Outdoor Recreation and instructing activity area desired. 	Unlikely	Major	Medium

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Facilitator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incompetence of Instructing activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication equipment available readily at activity sessions Vigilant supervision required by Activity Facilitator at all times Leader personal protective equipment and rescue equipment available at activity at all activity sessions 			
Supervising Adult Unsafe practices including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor supervision by group leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups briefed on requirement to provide Supervising Adult for groups with participants under 18 years old, prior to camp and activities. Activity Facilitator will stop or cancel activity without adequate supervision from Group Leader 	Unlikely	Major	Medium
Observers Injury to... Guests or others observing activity while it is running	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observers not allowed to participate in activity without activity briefing Observers briefed on safe areas to view the activity and monitored by Activity Instructor. 	Unlikely	Major	Medium
Unsupervised Users Injury to... Guests on site when activity is not running; Members of public accessing camp land (unauthorised)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups briefed on not using facilitated activities without Activity Instructor Gates giving access to heights locked when not in use. Activity equipment packed and locked away after use. Signage at low ropes Instructing Unsupervised users to keep off. 	Unlikely	Major	Medium
Equipment – Risk factors associated with the equipment used for the activity				
Structure Failure Safety of the Activity tower, end pole and anchors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flying Fox built by Adventure Developments, an expert provider of Adventure Activity rope and height structures. Yearly inspection conducted by this provider and maintenance conducted as required. Regular inspections and required maintenance or action taken for the upkeep of the Tower, Activity Structure and anchors performed by Qualified staff and Activity Manager 	Rare	Catastrophic	Medium
Equipment Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Facilitators trained in selection, use, inspection, care & 	Rare	Major	Low

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Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
		Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Due to improper use, faulty / damaged equipment, wear and tear.	<p>maintenance of activity equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants briefed on care of equipment eg avoid standing on equipment and store on tarp when not in use. Activity Facilitators inspect equipment prior to use by the participant each time and not used if there is an issue with the equipment – equipment reported to Activity Manager. All equipment clearly stored and labelled for intended activity. Equipment regularly inspected and maintained Equipment stored, maintained and retired according to manufacturer instructions and retired early if showing significant signs of wear and tear. All equipment rated for its use and used for its intended purpose. Equipment used during the session by participants are laid out on a tarp to protect from the ground and dirt. 			
Environment – Risk factors associated with the environment including weather				
Exposure to UV rays Causing sunburn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun smart strategies are encouraged 	Possible	Minor	Low
Exposure to Heat Causing dehydration, heat stroke etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun smart strategies are encouraged Participants are encouraged to drink water, carry water bottles Guests are briefed on location of water filling locations on arrival Activities modified / cancelled if necessary or alternative activities arranged 	Unlikely	Moderate	Low
Cold / Wet Weather Causing hypothermia etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather conditions regularly monitored for adverse conditions Participants briefed on wearing suitable protective clothing Activities modified / cancelled if necessary or alternative activities arranged 	Rare	Moderate	Low
Lightning Strike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather conditions regularly monitored for adverse conditions Activities delayed / cancelled during lightning storm, participants moved 	Rare	Catastrophic	Medium

Hazard / Risk Description	Existing Control Measures	Risk Rating		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to safe area Activities modified / cancelled if necessary or alternative activities arranged 			
Injury, bites or allergic reaction caused by organism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups briefed on arrival of appropriate actions for sighting/be bitten by snakes Area monitored for bees, snakes, spiders and if spotted participants notified of the hazard and managed accordingly. Prescribed medication readily available if participant is high risk eg EpiPen. Small first aid kits and radio communication readily available at each activity area, and a more comprehensive first aid kit available in the first aid room if required. Activity Facilitator administers first aid accordingly. Medical attention/ ambulance sought if required. 	Unlikely	Major	Medium
Tree or Tree branch falling on person/s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular checks of activity area carried out and appropriate maintenance performed eg. Dead tree branches removed Participants briefed on safe waiting areas and high risk areas to avoid. In high winds participants removed from under or near trees deemed high risk eg eucalyptus. 	Rare	Catastrophic	Satisfactory

Risk Ratings

This risk assessment is measured according to the following risk ratings:

Likelihood Ratings

Likelihood is the description of the probability and frequency. The likelihood of the risks occurring as outlined in Lutanda Yarramundi risk management plans is determined after the control measures have been implemented.

Score	Description	Broad description of frequency	Time framed description of frequency
1	Rare	The event may occur, but only in highly exceptional circumstances	Not expected to occur for years
2	Unlikely	Could occur at some time	Expected to occur at least annually
3	Possible	Might occur at some time	Expected to occur at least monthly
4	Likely	Will probably occur in most circumstances	Expected to occur at least weekly
5	Almost certain	Is expected to occur in most circumstances	Expected to occur at least daily

Consequence Ratings

The outcome of an event or situation expressed qualitatively or quantitatively, being the human impact, damage to infrastructure, disruption to public or financial loss.

Score	Description	Injury or impact details
1	Insignificant	Little or no injury requiring no medical attention; Minimal impact on environment; Insignificant adjustments to program; Insignificant damage to property, normal wear; Some difficulty in retaining competent staff; Expected running costs incurred
2	Minor	Minor injuries requiring first aid / some medical attention; Minor impact to plants / animals, no disruption to ecosystems; Rescheduling / replacement of program activities to client satisfaction; Damage requiring small repairs, low cost; Some difficulty in attracting, developing, resourcing and retaining competent staff; Minor costs incurred (<\$250)
3	Moderate	Serious injuries requiring hospitalisation / ongoing medical attention; Ecosystem / landscape self repairs within 12mo; Significant disruption / cancellation of program events; Damage requiring moderate repairs or replacement, moderate cost; Significant difficulty in attracting, developing, resourcing and retaining competent staff; Moderate costs incurred (<\$1,000)
4	Major	Injuries that are life threatening or causing long term disability; Ecosystem / landscape self repairs within 36mo; Program disruption causing loss of program; Damage requiring high cost/projects for repair/replacement; Guest experience and program is majorly affected by lack of competent staff; Major costs incurred (<\$15,000)
5	Catastrophic	Fatality; Irrecoverable loss of ecosystem / landscape; Program disruption causing broad loss of reputation; Massive damage, significant replacement of infrastructure required; Programs unable to be fulfilled due to lack of competent staff; Massive costs incurred (>\$15,000)

The consequence of an incident occurring may vary greatly depending on the individual circumstances of each incident.

Example – A student trips and falls – a detailed analysis of falls might show that although falls occur weekly, more serious injuries from falls only occur once or twice a year. In the main most of the other falls have relatively minor outcomes. Therefore the incident could be scored either according to the severity of the actual outcome, or according to the most likely or typical outcome for that type of incident.

Both approaches are valid, however to ensure consistency Lutanda Yarramundi has adopted an approach to record the most likely or typical outcome for all incidents.

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Risk Rating Matrix

All identified risks are recorded in the following risk matrix according to likelihood and consequence. The purpose of this matrix is to provide a snapshot of all identified risks and establish the level of risk to determine if further treatment is required.

Likelihood	Consequences				
	1 - Insignificant	2 - Minor	3 - Moderate	4 - Major	5 - Catastrophic
1 - Rare	1	2	3 Exposure to cold	4 Harness trauma, equipment failure	5 Fall from height, lightning strike, structure failure
2 - Unlikely	2	4 Falling object, injury from environment, chafing	6 Entanglement, exposure to heat	8 Injury to observers, unsupervised persons, participant behavior, unsafe activity facilitator, participant ability, group leader, allergic reaction	10
3 - Possible	3	6 Slipping, cuts, impact injury, rope burn, inverting, UV exposure	9	12	15
4 - Likely	4	8	12	16	20
5 - Almost certain	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Treatment

1-4 Low Risk

- Risk does not generally need to be managed any further (current controls are adequate), however the risk needs to be monitored for changes in circumstances and current control effectiveness.
- Risk generally may be accepted.

5-9 Medium Risk

- Risk needs to be regularly monitored for any changes and control/treatment effectiveness.
- Risk may be accepted after consideration.

10 -14 High Risk

- Risk is unacceptable, risks must be further treated or removed to bring rating to medium
- Risks are to be re-assessed by Activities Manager

15+ Extreme Risk

- Unacceptable risk, urgent attention is required to treat or remove risks
- Management to consider elimination of activity

Original Risk Assessment Conducted by: *Jemima Robinson, Activities and Hosting Manager, Mt Victoria* Date: 27th January 2016

Reviewed:

V1: January 2017

V2: November 2018 by *Amanda Bennett, Activities Manager, Yarramundi*

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V2: November 2018