

Company: Thistle Trekking LTD	Description of Work Activity or Area of the Workplace Assessed: The Cape Wrath Trail					Compiled by: Scarlet Trevett
	The North West Wilderness Weekend Risk Assessment					Date completed: February 2018
Location: UK		All RA's should be reviewed if changes are made to the trip, e.g. the group, transport, ratios etc.			Updated/Reviewed 23.1.19	
STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4			STEP 5
List potential Hazards:	List of people who are at risk from the hazards. Including those most vulnerable:	List of existing measures to manage the hazard or note where information may be found:	Calculation of the residual risk taking the presence and effectiveness of existing measures into account: Severity x Likelihood = Risk Rating			List further control measures necessary to reduce risk to an acceptable level <i>and</i> date of their proposed introduction:
Slipping/ Tripping	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable footwear must be worn where possible. Hazards must be clearly explained to the group. 	1	2	2	
Falling	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide appropriate supervision where such hazards exist. 	3	1	3	

Note – Risk Ratings of 4 or more are significant and require further action to control risk

Severity: **1=Slight** (all injuries not defined as major or serious); **2=Serious** (injuries that are not major but are likely to prevent someone working normally for more than 3 days); **3=Major** (death or major injury e.g. fracture of a bone, amputation, serious damage to an eye etc)

Likelihood: **1=Low** (unlikely to happen); **2=Medium** (could well happen); **3=High** (certain or near certain to happen)

Blisters	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear suitable footwear where possible. • Provide advice regarding socks. • Provide advice regarding lacing footwear up properly. 	1	2	2	
Lyme disease From Tick bites	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When in an area with ticks advise all group members to wear long trousers and or put on an insect repellent. • Provide advice on how to remove them. • Tell participants what the signs and symptoms of Lyme disease are and emphasise that they should to go to the doctor if they appear. 	3	1	3	
Reaction to midge bites	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise everyone to take along an appropriate insect repellent. • Advise everyone to take along a head net when appropriate. 	2	1	2	
Sickness from drinking polluted water	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise everyone not to drink from any rivers or streams while walking unless necessary. • If it is necessary to drink from streams or rivers advise all participants to treat the water 	3	1	3	

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		using a tested commercially available method.				
Sickness from eating wild vegetation.	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise everyone not to eat wild berries, mushrooms, flowers or any other wild vegetation. 	3	1	3	
Exhaustion	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for the participants to eat drink and rest. Where necessary provide shelter. For the 1st night of wild camping the guide must assess the customers' level of fatigue at the Loch Arkaig access road. Should a customer seem unfit to continue then they will need to be taken out of the group via trek manager. On the second day of the exped the guide must continually assess the fatigue level of the customers. Should the guide feel anyone may be unfit to get to Kinloch Hourn the guide will need to head back to Loch Arkaig with the full group. 	3	1	3	
Hypothermia	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate clothing. Encourage adequate intake of food prior to and during the trip. All tents used need to be waterproof. 	3	1	3	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While camping all members of the group need to use suitable sleeping bags. • Leader should advise group members to remove all wet clothing while camping to keep warm. 				
Sunburn/eye strain	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use sun hats/baseball caps. • Encourage participants to bring and use an appropriate cream/spray. • Drink water at regular intervals. • Seek shade where required. • Use sunglasses as required. 	1	1	1	
Getting Lost;	Group Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief all participants that they must be able to see the guide at all times. If they cannot see the guide they must stop and wait. • Brief all participants to take their mobile phone should they decide to ignore the above. • Only use remote supervision if it meets all criteria of use in the remote supervision policy. 	3	1	3	
Livestock	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice participants to avoid all livestock. 	3	1	3	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find an alternative route for participants with dogs when reasonable. Advise participants with dogs to release the dog if being chased by livestock. 				
Being hit by a vehicle	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise participants to walk on the right hand side of the road where possible. Warn participants of upcoming roads. Advise participants to be aware when in car parks. 	3	1	3	
Collision with cyclists	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warn participants of approaching cyclists when visible. Warn participants of well-known cyclist areas. 	2	1	2	
Alcohol Related Injury	Group Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise all participants to limit their alcohol intake during the daytime. 	1	1	1	
Lightning	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A weather forecast should be checked before each day of walking begins to see the risk of lightning. During a high risk of lightening the support vehicle must remain ready for emergency pick up if lightning starts. 	3	1	3	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If lightening begins which has not been forecast or if the support vehicle is unable to reach the participants for an emergency pick up the leader must follow "The Lightening Procedure". 				
Snow	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A weather forecast should be checked before each day of walking begins to see the risk of snow. If heavy snow is forecast or if the path is covered in deep snow an alternative route must be found. 	2	1	2	
High winds	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A weather forecast should be checked before each day of walking begins to see the risk of high winds. If high winds are forecast or develop during the walk care should be taken when walking through forest or wooded areas. Walking should not be attempted during winds of over 60mph. Care should be taken when choosing a camping spot and the surroundings should be checked for anything which may fall. 	1	3	3	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tents need to be securely pegged down. 				
River Crossings/Drowning	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guide will continually monitor river levels throughout the duration of the walk. • River crossing should only be attempted if the river level is below the knee height of all members of the group. • The guide must follow the river crossing procedure. 	3	1	3	

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