

Location:	Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre	Date of Assessment:	April 2010	Name of Assessor:	Ed Sibson
Activity:	Canoeing, Kayaking and Bellboating	Assessment Reference Number:	4.9	Signature of Assessor:	E Sibson

ITEM/ HAZARD	Possible outcome of Hazard	Likelihood L – M – H	Consequence L – M - H	Risk Rating	CONTROL MEASURES
Water	Drowning Death	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All persons on the river are to wear a well fitted buoyancy aid checked by an Instructor. ▪ Boats need to be checked by an Instructor prior to use in line with training. ▪ Persons need to be suitably dressed for the prevailing conditions. ▪ Maximum number in group as per Operating Procedures. ▪ Instructors must only be operating with up to date qualifications and within their remit. ▪ 6 monthly check to be made of all equipment.
Paddles and river obstacles	Physical injury	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instructor needs to be aware of the possibility of bottlenecks and obstructions and should act accordingly. ▪ Instructor must carry a first aid kit. ▪ Damaged equipment must not be used. ▪ All participants to wear appropriate footwear at all times. ▪ River debris causing obstruction to be removed or reported to Riverside Ranger.
Other river traffic	Serious physical injury or drowning,	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instructors must mention this hazard in their safety briefing. ▪ Instructor to pay particular attention to any oncoming river traffic. ▪ Participants to be advised to move to safe side of river on approach of river traffic. ▪ Any river traffic observed to be travelling too fast to be requested to slow down and to be reported to riverside ranger if necessary.
Weather	Hypothermia, Immersion, Shock, Death	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Persons to be suitably dressed including waterproofs / hats etc. where necessary. ▪ Instructor must carry emergency equipment in line with training. ▪ In cold conditions Instructors must take appropriate steps to minimise the likelihood of participants falling in.
River born diseases / bacterial infections / Sharps	Infections or diseases, e.g. weill's disease.	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clients must be strongly advised to shower with soap after activity. ▪ Advise clients to thoroughly wash hands on completion of task and before consuming food or drink. ▪ Clients encouraged to cover any cuts or grazes with waterproof dressing prior to the activity, clean well and apply fresh dressing after activity. ▪ All clients must be made aware of water born diseases and their

					<p>prevention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discourage capsizes after high water conditions. Users must be warned not to handle any sharps or syringes if discovered, and to alert instructor.
Lifting	Physical injury	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice on manual handling must be given before moving boats. When moving boats they must be held in an appropriate way according to training. Empty water from boats in an appropriate manner prior to lifting. Foam buoyancy to be included in open canoes when on white water.
Weirs and seal launching	Physical injury, Immersion, hypothermia, drowning	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canoes should not be used for seal launching. Kayaks only to be seal launched at specific 'seal launch area'. One person at a time to be seal launched. Participants to be sitting correctly inside boat. Do not seal launch with boat in reverse. Only appropriate coaches to take groups over weirs. All other coaches must maintain a safe distance from weirs. Weirs must be inspected prior to and only run if there is adequate water. Helmets to be worn by all participants when shooting or playing in weirs. Bellboats not to be taken over weirs or seal launched.
Locks	Physical Injury, Immersion hypothermia, drowning,	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants must not be in boats when they are in locks.
Group dispersal	Physical injury or drowning	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff should seek advice on the likelihood of the group splitting up. Staff should do everything they can to ensure members of the group remain within line of sight.
Fast flowing river	Drowning/ entrapment	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instructors must consider both their remit and the ability of the group when deciding whether to launch.
Further risks	Physical injury or drowning	L	H	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All risks should be minimised by continual appraisal of participants condition, the environment and equipment through dynamic risk assessment by the staff members involved. Some risk remains due to the nature of the activity but every care must be taken to minimise these.