**Reviews**

**Risk Assessment**

**Completed By Revision Date Approved By Appr Date**

H. McAllister 07/07/2023 S.Bidwell 07/07/2023

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Description automatically generated

The Fish Whisperers

7 Coora Rd, NSW, 2120

ABN: 36 628 099 070

PH: 0434 879 570

**Risk level Action required/approval**

**Low** Little chance of incident or serious injury. ALP = Activity Lesson Plan for Fishing.

**Description**

This document relates to student’s participation in catching fish using fishing poles (3-5metres in length)

**Minimum Supervision**

At least 1 Qualified Activity Instructor is to be present to run fishing event.

**Recommendations**

It is highly recommended that Parents, or Staff from an OOSH/ school Service be in attendance should be present to assist with participant

behaviors.

**Qualifications**

All The Fish Whisperers staff and contractors hold at a minimum, one of the following qualifications /skills sets or other recognised skill sets/ qualifications: mandatory First Aid/ CPR and working with children check.

With well-maintained equipment, training and accredited staff and sound operating procedures and policies The Fish Whisperers

control the “real risks” associated with this activity

In assessing the level of risk, considerations such as the likelihood of an incident happening in combination with the seriousness of a consequence are used to gauge the overall risk level for an activity. The matrix below has been used as a guide to assist with developing the risk assessment.

**Likelihood**

**Consequence**

1 Insignificant 2 Minor 3 Moderate 4 Major 5 Critical

5 Almost Certain Medium Medium High Extreme Extreme

4 Likely Low Medium High High Extreme

3 Possible Low Medium High High High

2 Unlikely Low Low Medium Medium High

1 Rare Low Low Low Low Medium

**Risk Level**

**Low** Little chance of incident or serious injury.

**Medium** Some chance of an incident and injury requiring first aid.

**High** Likely chance of a serious incident and injury requiring medical treatment.

**Extreme** High chance of a serious incident resulting in highly debilitating injury.

**Minimum Equipment/Facilities**

First aid kit suitable for activity

Sun Safety equipment (hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, shirt etc)

Equipment that is appropriately sized to match the ability and strength levels of participants.

Enclosed footwear that can get wet.

Clear separation between participants 360 degrees

Drink plenty of water yet don’t share drinking containers with other students.

Adhere to all permit requirements.

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| **Hazards/Risk** | **Control Measures** |
| **Insect bites/ Animals**   * Insects * Oyster Shells | * Brief students on basic awareness and potential of sharp shells * Supply and provision of insect repellent * Use of long-sleeved clothing is recommended * Brief participants about National Park and respecting Flora and Fuana |
| **Environmental conditions**  • Weather  • Surfaces  • Surrounds  • Temperatures | * Ensure participants bring appropriate clothing * Assess weather conditions before and during activity (e.g. temperature, storms) * Check and assess surrounds for loose items, debris and hazards and suitability of participants. * Sunscreen is provided * Gazebo is provided for some shade * All participants must have hats, and enclosed shoes |
| **Equipment**  • Equipment failure | * Conduct regular equipment checks prior to start of sessions.   • Check for worn or faulty equipment   * Supply all equipment in a clean and serviceable condition.   • Provide specific training of awareness of safety requirements |
| **Physical exertion**  • Strains and sprains  • Cramps  • Exhaustion and fatigue | * Ensure the suitability and competency of students participating in the activity. * Make any required modifications   • Constantly monitor students for fatigue and exhaustion |
| **Water**   * Fishing at water edge * Children falling into the water * Drowning risk | * All participants are instructed to maintain a safe distance from the edge of the water. * Instructors, parents and staff maintain a vigilance on all participants. * Participants are informed explicitly on safe behaviour around the water * Parents and/ or OOSH staff must inform The Fish Whispers ahead of the event of the swimming ability of all participants. * It is the duty of **ALL** to keep watch of the participants at all times * Have a floatation device with rope attached to it on hand |
| **Getting separated from the group or lost** | * Strict instructions about staying together are given before arriving at the location. * Instructors are to provide instructions on location about staying together, taking a buddy and an adult at all times, toilets, and other facilities * Parents and OOSH Staff are to do a periodic head counts especially on departure. * Parents and or OOSH staff are responsible for the care and supervision all children if they **leave** the fishing instruction area. |
| **Injury from hooks** | * Participants to be instructed on safe handling of poles. Poles tips should remain up and a distance between participants when walking or standing in a group adhered to. * Hooks **barbless** and risk of harm is very low * Instructors are to repair or adjust equipment as necessary. |
| **Injury from casting** | * Instructor to demonstrate correct casting technique. * There is to be a 1 metre space between stations. * Explicitly inform about dangers of knocking others |
| **Injury from fish caught** | * Instructors will assist in getting the hooks out at all times * Cloths are provided to ensure no spiking or scratches * Participants to follow instructions at all times |
| **Allergies** | * Fish Whispers staff are to inform Parnts/ OOSH Staff that we use bread for bait. * Ensure that there is no participant allergic TO TOUCH bread. * Know ahead of the event if there are any allergies to bread. |
| **Other anglers, general public, boats, watercraft, and cars in the carpark** | * In the event of watercraft coming past (boats, Kayacks, canoes, paddleboards) instructors will instruct that the lines of participants will be brought in. * Walking across the carpark is not permitted. The participants will remain on the designated area or as directed by parents and/ or OOSH service staff. * Inform participants of safe behaviour around cars |
| **Injury to Fish** | * Most fish that are caught are released * Instructors take all measures to ensure fish are unharmed |