

Risk Assessment – General Field Sites
Forest Education Foundation
Last review: January 2021

All forest areas

Risk ratings given with control strategy in place (L= Likelihood, C= Consequences, R=Risk level)

No	Hazard	L	C	R	Control strategy
1	Uneven and irregular terrain (leading to slips/trips/falls)	B	1	B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise schools prior to excursion for the need for closed and sturdy footwear to be worn by all participants • Alert group to potential hazards and advise not to run or carry sticks • Tell group to move with care and maintain awareness of slippery surfaces, especially logs • If conditions too wet/slippery, group remain on established trails.
2	Travel and movement on forest roads	C	1	C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School made aware at time of booking that we will be travelling on roads used by forestry vehicles • Students supervised when crossing/walking along roads • Students told to stay on left of road in highly visible location • VHF radio with FEF vehicles to inform any forestry vehicles of groups location
3	Snake bites	A	2	A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the school and students of potential snake hazards in advance • Tell students to look carefully before putting hands under rocks, into logs or into dense vegetation • FEF staff are first aid trained and carry compression bandage for initial treatment of snake bite • UHF and VHF radio in FEF vehicle for emergency contact if needed.

4	Other bites/stings (and possible allergic reaction)	A	1	A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the school and students of potential bites and sting hazards in advance • School to provide list and inform FEF teachers of any students with known allergies • FEF to maintain awareness of the presence of ants/bees/wasp nests at all times • Tell students to look carefully before putting hands under rocks, into logs or into dense vegetation • FEF staff carry insect repellent and stingose to be applied only with permission of accompanying teachers • UHF and VHF radio in FEF vehicle for emergency contact if needed.
5	Sunburn	A	1	A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers/students advised to bring sunscreen and hat
6	Dehydration	A	1	A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers/students advised to bring plenty of water • Regular stops during the day for breaks
7	Overhead hazards (e.g.limb fall)	A	3	A3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route paths and stops checked for hazardous limbs, especially after storm events • Alternative routes/sites used if necessary • Group not taken to forest area if bushwalkers/strong wind/gale weather warnings broadcast
8	General illness/over exertion	A	1	A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools/students are advised of the likelihood of strenuous activity and told to match pace accordingly • If student feeling unwell teacher can remain with student at bus/trail end until return to school
9	Pre-existing medical condition	B	1	B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools/students are advised of the likelihood of strenuous activity and to carry any appropriate medications and self-administer when required
10	Individual getting lost	A	2	A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students told to stick together and maintain sight of teacher at all times • Regular checks by teachers and FEF staff to ensure all students present

11	Soil and plant pathogens	A	1	A2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students directed to wash hands after touching soil/decaying logs FEF to carry hand wash at all times
12	Falling into water bodies	A	1	A1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students supervised at all times when near water bodies Students must wear appropriate footwear e.g. gumboots Students always to work in pairs when in the water Activities will be stopped if river considered to be dangerous Students told not to drink from water bodies
13	Fire	A	3	A3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FEF staff to be aware of fire risk at all times FEF staff to inform FT staff of route/location of trip if not on major roads UHF radio with FEF staff allows contact with group if fire situation occurs in local area
14	Loss of phone contact (for emergency situations)	B	1	B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FEF staff vehicles have both UHF and VHF radios Location/route of trip

Industry sites – sawmills, harvesting sites

Risk ratings given with control strategy in place (L= Likelihood, C= Consequences, R=Risk level)

In addition to hazards 1 and 2 mentioned above:

No	Hazard	L	C	R	Control strategy
1	Close proximity to heavy/noisy machinery	B	2	B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students given safety briefing before entering site Students will wear high visibility vests at all times, hard hats, earplugs and eye protection when necessary Students informed of emergency procedures before entering site Group will be signed in by FEF teachers so staff aware of visitor presence Tell group to move with care and maintain awareness of machinery movements Tell group to remain within guided walkways/defined areas at all times

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell group to remain together at all times – staff and FEF teachers to check numbers regularly • Staff to remain with group at all times • FEF teachers have completed full induction process to site • Machinery will be approached ONLY IF INSTRUCTED TO DO SO by machinery operator. In this instance, machinery power will be turned off and the machinery inactive.
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