

Risk Assessment:	Abseiling
Revised Date:	May 2024 By KM



Hazard	Who might be at risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Outcome (Risk)	Controls Implemented	Who Implements these controls	New Likelihood	New Consequence	New Outcome (Risk)
Falling objects/ rocks	Participants, Staff & other visitors of The Cap Caves	Unlikely (2)	Major (4)	Moderate (8)	Ensure all equipment/tools are tethered or attached to harness, or placed in a secure location away from an edge	Adventure Guide/Staff	Rare (1)	Moderate (3)	Low (3)
					Ensure all loose rocks have been cleared or secured, prior to activity				
					Halt the activity while there are other patrons exiting the caves or walking across the bridge, below the abseil site				
					Ensure all abseil participants who have reached the bottom of the abseil are mustered to end of the bridge, away from the “drop zone”				

					While activities are underway at the abseil sites, all participants and staff are to wear the appropriate PPE I.e. Helmets		Rare (1)	Moderate (3)	Low (3)
Falls from height	Participants and Staff	Unlikely (2)	Major (4)	Moderate (8)	All participants are made aware of edges and where to stand/sit until they are attached to a safety line, to prevent them from falling over the edge	Adventure Guide/Staff	Rare (1)	Moderate (3)	Low (3)
					All staff and persons conducting the activity are required to attach to a safety line before moving closer than body length toward the edge				

					Participants are to follow all safety instructions given to them by any Teacher/Supervisor and or Recreational Guide/Staff		Rare (1)	Moderate (3)	Low (3)
Improper use of safety equipment	Participants and Staff	Unlikely (2)	Moderate (3)	Moderate (6)	No abseiling activity is undertaken without a fully qualified and experience guide	Adventure Guide	Rare (1)	Minor (2)	Low (2)

					All participants are shown correct use and operation of equipment and aren't left unsupervised		Rare (1)	Minor (2)	Low (2)
Equipment failure	Participants and Staff	Rare (1)	Moderate (3)	Low (3)	All equipment is maintained to industry and manufactures standard	Adventure Guide	Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)
					Equipment is checked and inspected before, during and after use. And on a 6-monthly period it is recorded and logged, unless any discrepancies arise first, and if so, equipment is then taken out of service		Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)
Exhaustion due to physical exercise, heat	Participants and Staff	Unlikely (2)	Minor (2)	Moderate (4)	The Abseiling sites are shaded from trees and water is encouraged throughout the activity. Participants have plenty	Adventure guide and staff	Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)

and or sun exposure.					of time to take breaks and rest on hot days				
					Participants are taken care of while abseiling down the cliff by being attached to a belay line, if they are too tired to continue, they can be lowered off with ease.		Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)
Panic Attacks (reaction to being at heights)	Participants	Possible (3)	Insignificant (1)	Low (3)	Some participants will have a fear of heights and either panic about the activity or show discomfort. Guides are to ensure every safety precaution has been followed and maintained.	Adventure guide and staff	Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)

					Prestart talks will always occur to find out who is nervous about the activity and the guide will always be there to help the patron complete the activity safely		Rare (1)	Insignificant (1)	Low (1)
Pinch points and jams	Participants and Staff	Possible (3)	Minor (2)	Moderate (6)	Participants hair, jewellery, clothing or body parts have the potential to get caught in the belay or descending devices. Guides are to ensure all rings and loose jewellery are removed and long hair tied back before the activity is underway	Adventure guide and staff	Rare (1)	Minor (2)	Low (2)
					Guides are to ensure correct use of equipment and correct hand placement while abseiling. Guides are trained in mid crag rescue and lifts to unjam devices and can also perform “lower off” rescues		Rare (1)	Minor (2)	Low (2)

The Capricorn Caves uses a simple Risk Matrix (See below) to identify the hazards and risk associated with our activities. With trained guides and supervisors implementing the appropriate controls in our environment, we've mitigated the risk to the safest possible levels. No activity can be undertaken without continuous hazard monitoring and the risk levels being at their absolute lowest.

All staff conducting the activity have read and understood our procedures and risk management processes.

		Consequences				
		Insignificant (1) No injuries / minimal financial loss	Minor (2) First aid treatment / medium financial loss	Moderate (3) Medical treatment / high financial loss	Major (4) Hospitalable / large financial loss	Catastrophic (5) Death / massive financial loss
Likelihood	Almost Certain (5) Often occurs / once a week	Moderate (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Catastrophic (20)	Catastrophic (25)
	Likely (4) Could easily happen / once a month	Moderate (4)	Moderate (8)	High (12)	Catastrophic (16)	Catastrophic (20)
	Possible (3) Could happen or known it to happen / once a year	Low (3)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (9)	High (12)	High (15)
	Unlikely (2) Hasn't happened yet but could / once every 10 years	Low (2)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (8)	High (10)
	Rare (1) Conceivable but only on extreme circumstances / once in 100 years	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (5)