



Risk assessment form (H&S)

Name of assessor(s)	Carly Kew	Group / Establishment:	Great Wood SSE Outdoors
Date	January 2026		

What is the workplace / activity / equipment / conditions being assessed: Great Wood	How was the assessment done? e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?	Next review date: January 2027
Low ropes – It is a purpose-built activity element. It has varied elements to help develop team skills, trust to build confidence and many learning objectives. It is annually inspected by an external company who erected the structure. This service is organised by the GWT	Site visit, in consultation and agreement with instructors and Great Wood Trust	Is the assessment 'generic' or specific to the situation? S

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done	Residual Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood		
		S	L	S x L					S	L	S x L
Instructors & participants Slips, trips & falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footwear appropriate for activity Long trousers to be tucked into socks All participants briefed on foot placement on wires / wood Participants briefed on 'spotting' of each other / instructor to constantly observe technique Spotters to be matched roughly in size where possible 	3	1	3							
Instructors & participants Falls from height	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spotters to be used where needed Well fitted helmets to be worn for all the elements 	3	2	6							

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants to be shown and then practice getting on and off from equipment correctly 										
Instructors & participants Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants briefed on the importance of not picking up fecal matter/fungi All participants to wash hands after activity Constant monitoring throughout session Checks carried out prior to each session 	2	1	2							
Instructors & participants Getting lost / going with an unknown person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief given to assisting staff of expectations during the session Continuous observation of participants throughout the session Ensure participants know which rest room is best to use if they need to be excused during session Visiting staff can supervise bathroom visits Remaining within camp boundaries 	3	1	3							
Instructors & participants contortion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity/safety brief given to all Correct foot placement explained, both feet facing same direction on wires 	3	1	3							

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief participants if they feel like they are falling to step off safely first No wrapping of rope around limbs at any time Correct footwear to be worn 										
Instructor & participants Entrapment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety briefing given to all Instructor to monitor foot and hand placement Tyre crossing to be monitored by instructor Encourage peer monitoring Not wrapping rope around limbs 	3	1	3							
Instructors & participants Bumping into objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety brief given to all participants Participants wear correctly fitted helmets Fit checked by the instructor Care and slow progress around the course Good group control always Encouragement and reminding of safety briefings 	2	2	4							

* Please refer to the risk rating matrix below. Further guidance on how to calculate a risk rating from the matrix is on the [Risk Assessment policy HS 004](#).

Please now pass this assessment to your manager for approval

Name of assessor's manager:	Ack Moore	Date:		Manager's comments
Signature:				

Risk Matrix

Risk Rating				Consequence (Impact/Severity of Injury)				
Very High (VH) 16-25	High (H) 10-12	Medium (M) 5-9	Low (L) 1-4	1. Insignificant	2. Minor	3. Moderate	4. Major	5. Catastrophic
Likelihood Descriptor		Consequence Descriptor		• Near Miss. • No treatment required.	• First-Aid treatment (e.g. minor cuts, bruises, bumps)	• Medical treatment • Lost time of >3 working days.	• Serious injury/ medical treatment. • Hospitalisation. • Lost time (RIDDOR)	• Loss of life. • Permanent disability.
Likelihood (Probability/Chance)	Very likely. Event is expected to occur in most circumstances: More than 95% chance of occurring.	5.	Almost Certain	M-5	H-10	VH-15	VH-20	VH-25
	There is a strong possibility the event will occur. Between 65% - 95% chance of occurring.	4.	Likely	L-4	M-8	H-12	VH-16	VH-20
	The event has occurred before or could again. Between 35% - 65% chance of occurring.	3.	Possible	L-3	M-6	M-9	H-12	VH-15
	The event is not expected to occur but could under specific circumstances. Between 5% - 35% chance of occurring.	2.	Unlikely	L-2	L-4	M-6	M-8	H-10
	The event has not occurred before, but it may occur in exceptional circumstances. < 5% chance of occurring.	1.	Rare	L-1	L-2	L-3	L-4	M-5