

# Risk Assessment Activity – Zipwire

| Pioneer Centre   | Assessed by: James Kniffen                           |               |          |               | Assessed:  | Next Review Date |
|--|--|---------------|----------|---------------|--|------------------|
|  |  |               |          |               | 10/01/2022   | 09/01/2023       |
| <p><b>Overview:</b> Zipwire - Steel cables are tensioned between purpose-built poles and climbing towers. The towers, poles and wires are inspected annually by High Times Technical Consultants. Trained staff do a check of the zipstop mechanisms before the zip wires can be used for the day as recommended by the manufacturing company and the zipstops them self are sent off for annual servicing and inspection. Also, a quarterly inspection of the wires and brake bomb trolleys are carried out by trained staff. All rope techniques, together with equipment and its life inspection procedures are established and overseen by the Chief instructor who has the Winter Mountaineering and Climbing Instructor (WMCI). Staff are in-house trained and assessed. Preferred Staff to Client ratio 2:12 and a maximum of 2:16 under supervision (under instruction 1:1 instructor to client for doing the zip line).</p> |  |               |          |               |  |                  |
| Hazards  | Groups of People at Risk from the Hazards Identified | Probablity    | Severity | Risk Category | Control Measures   |                  |
| Structural Failure   | Instructors, staff and guest/participants            | Very unlikely | Fatal    | Low           | Zip wire built by approved contractors. External annual inspection carried out. Monthly checks on PPE are carried out and quarterly checks on structural elements. |                  |
| Falling objects  | Instructors, staff and guest/participants            | Unlikely      | Major    | Medium        | Group briefed to empty pockets. All equipment at top of tower secured. Participants briefed on how to stand if objects fall to protect themselves.                 |                  |

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| Unauthorized access to Towers | Instructors, staff, guest/participants and general public | Very likely   | Fatal | Low    | Tower doors locked and shut when not in use. Access to the Towers is only allowed with a trained staff member. No access signs clearly displayed on fencing around the tower areas.   |
| Rope burns                    | Instructors, staff and guest/participants                 | Unlikely      | Minor | Low    | Group briefed on correct clothing. Instructor supervises guests contact with rope. Instructors are trained in safe lowering practices of lowering slowly and smoothly.  |
| High level fall               | Instructors, staff and guest/participants                 | Very Unlikely | Fatal | Low    | Detailed in-house training & assessment are carried out ensure safe practice is used for activity. Correct use of all equipment. All PPE checked and recorded monthly. See supporting documents for safety practices.   |
| Low level fall                | Instructors, staff and guest/participants                 | Unlikely      | Major | Medium | Instructors belay participants down upon finishing the zip wire run by taking hold of rope they are attached and walking the participant through the lower. The instructor has hold of the rope while lowering to ensure participant is brought to the ground safely. |
| Environmental Hazards         | Instructors, staff and guest/participants                 | Very likely   | Fatal | Medium | All participants are briefed on proper clothing for the current weather conditions. Tower not used or sessions cancelled in the event of thunder &  |

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|  |   |               |                       |        | lightning (activities can resume 30mins after last thunder was heard) or winds above force 9 (50mph)   |
| Slips, trips and falls                   | Instructors, staff and guest/participants | Likely        | Minor                 | Medium | Maintenance of site, instructor visually checks area upon arrival. General brief and group management is provided by instructors to ensure play is safe.   |
| Soft tissue injury                       | Instructors, staff and guest/participants | Unlikely      | Minor                 | Low    | Instructor aware of group's capabilities. Warm up/warm down as needed.   |
| Physiological effects                    | Guest/participants                        | Very unlikely | Major                 | Low    | Instructors aware of groups needs and medical issues. Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participates choices and be sensitive and adapt to participates reactions to the activity they are invited to participate in.  |
| Stress / Panic Attack                    | Guest/participants                        | Likely        | Major or traumatizing | Low    | Challenge by choice brief is given and instructors will respect participates choices. Instructors will air on the side of caution if participants start to panic or have strong emotional reaction to the activity the instructors will react quickly to ensure the level of stress is brought back down to acceptable level. This should help ensure the activity runs well for all those involved. |
| Helmet suspension (caught on an element) | Instructors, staff and guest/participants | Likely        | Major                 | Medium | Lowering practices taught that prevents helmets catching e.g. slow careful lowering of participants in the correct position.   |

