

# **Bushwalking**

## Australian

### Adventure Activity

# Good Practice Guide

Guidance for day and overnight bushwalking and orienteering.



**Outdoor Council  
of Australia**  
Representing the  
Outdoor Sector Nationally

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| Version | Date         | Details              |
|---------|--------------|----------------------|
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## Foreword

### **“Adventure is worthwhile” – Aristotle**

The Australian Adventure Activity Standard and Good Practice Guides are designed to ensure effective, responsible, sustainable and safe delivery of adventure activities to dependent participants. They can help people across the outdoor sector to develop appropriately managed adventure activities which enhance individuals and our communities, while protecting the environment and culturally significant places. In doing this, these documents can help ensure that people will continue to enjoy the benefits of adventure activities well into the future.

Best wishes for all your adventures.

The Australian Adventure Activity Standard Steering Committee.

# Preface

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## About these documents

The **Australian Adventure Activity Standard (AAAS)** and related **Good Practice Guides (GPGs)** are a voluntary good-practice framework for safe and responsible planning and delivery of outdoor adventure activities with *dependent participants*.

The AAAS and related GPGs provide guidance on safety and other aspects of responsible activity delivery, such as respect for the environment, cultural heritage and other users. They are not a full legal compliance guide, nor are they a “how to” guide or field manual for outdoor activities. They do not provide guidance on providing a high-quality experience over and above safe and responsible delivery.

Activity *providers* are encouraged to obtain independent professional and legal advice in relation to their obligations and duties in delivering adventure activities and should reference the relevant laws to the area in which they intend to undertake the adventure activity.

## Does the Standard and Good Practice Guides apply to me?

The AAAS and related GPGs are specifically designed to help activity *providers* who are conducting activities involving *dependent participants*, to provide a safe and responsible experience. It is for each *provider* to determine based on their own individual circumstances, if they are working with *dependent participants* or not.

A *dependent participant* is a person owed a duty of care by the activity *provider* who is reliant upon the *activity leaders* for supervision, guidance or instruction to support the person’s participation in an activity. For example, this often includes participants under the age of 18, participants lacking the ability to safely undertake the activity, or participants reasonably relying on the activity *provider* for their safety. The degree of dependence may vary during an activity.

Considerations for determining if a person is a *dependent participant* may include, but is not limited to:

- the foreseeable level of *competence* of the participant in the activity and the associated level of reliance this creates on the *activity leaders*
- the level of foreseeable self-reliance of the participant to reasonably manage their own safety
- the possible variation throughout the activity of the level of reliance
- the variation of the degree of dependence throughout the activity
- the individual context, nature and circumstances of the activity
- the relevant circumstances and particular facts relating to the responsibilities assumed by the *provider*.

An activity *provider* can be any organisation – business, community group, government agency, school or any other groups – that organises and leads adventure activities. Individuals can also be an activity *provider*, if they have the ultimate legal duty of care to participants. In general, ‘the Standard’ and GPGs relate to a provider as a ‘whole organisation’, rather than to ‘specific roles’ within the provider ‘organisation’.

Some providers may have their own standards or guidelines appropriate to their duty of care. It is recommended that these be reviewed periodically to ensure current duty of care expectations are met. ‘The Standard’ and GPGs may aid such reviews.

## Are they legally binding?

The AAAS and GPGs are voluntary, not legal requirements. However, they may refer to specific laws and regulations which may be legally binding on activity *providers*.

While the AAAS and GPGs are voluntary, some *land managers* and other organisations may require compliance. This may be as a condition of obtaining a licence, permit or other permission, or some other condition (e.g. a contract).

Under Australian common law and relevant legislation, *providers* have a legal duty of care towards *dependent participants* in some circumstances. In broad terms, the legal duty requires *providers* to take reasonable care that their actions and omissions do not cause reasonably foreseeable injury to *dependent participants*.

The AAAS and GPGs are not legal advice, and they cannot answer whether a legal duty exists in specific circumstances. All adventure activity *providers* should check what legal requirements apply in their own situation and seek legal advice if at all in doubt.

Even in cases where participants are not dependent, other legal duties and obligations may arise. The AAAS and GPGs have not been developed for those contexts.

## Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

The AAAS (i.e. the Standard) has a related Core Good Practice Guide (Core GPG). They both include guidance that applies to all adventure activities. They set out recommendations for a common approach to risk management that can generally apply regardless of the specific activity being undertaken.

Individual activity Good Practice Guides include guidance on specific adventure activities.



For any given activity, (i) the AAAS (the Standard), (ii) the Core GPG and (iii) the activity Good Practice Guide that applies to that specific activity, should be consulted.

The AAAS and Core GPG cover only those activities specifically listed. While the AAAS and Core GPG may be useful in managing *risk* generally for other activities, they may not reflect good practice for such other activities.

## Interpretation of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

The following words and phrases are used in all documents and have specific meanings:

- **Must:** used where a provision is mandatory, if the *provider* is to operate fully in accordance with AAAS or GPGs. (This is equivalent to the keyword “shall” used in other voluntary standards e.g. Standards Australia, other International Standards Organisations (ISO’s) etc.)
- **Should:** used where a provision is recommended, not mandatory. It indicates that the *provider* needs to consider their specific situation and decide for themselves whether it applies or is relevant.

- *Can/cannot*: indicates a possibility and capability.
- *May/need not*: indicates a permission or existence of an option.
- *But are/is not limited to*: used to indicate that a list is not definitive and additional items may need to be considered depending on the context.

The following formatting is used throughout:

- Defined words are in *italics*. They are defined in the Glossary.
- Examples are in smaller 9-point font.
- In document references are in underlined. References are to section heading titles.
- External web or Australian AAS & GPG document links are in *dotted underline italic*.

## Creation

The AAAS and GPGs were developed with the input from a wide range of outdoors and adventure activity experts with extensive field experience. They draw on state and territory-specific standards previously in place across Australia. The development process included work by a range of technical expert working groups, as well as open consultation throughout the community of activity providers and other experts.

The Steering Committee wishes to thank all the Technical Working Group (TWG) members for their work and contributions.

The Steering Committee acknowledges all the State and Territory Governments for funding the creation of the first national adventure activity standard and set of good practice guides for the sector.

Further details of the creation of the AAAS and GPGs can be found at [www.australianaas.org.au](http://www.australianaas.org.au).

It is intended that the AAAS and GPGs will be regularly updated to reflect changing practice and better understanding over time. Updates will be noted on the website [www.australianaas.org.au](http://www.australianaas.org.au).

# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Bushwalking Overview

*Bushwalking* is walking in predominately natural areas. This may be for a short period of time for example, a few hours or an extended period requiring overnight *camping*.

*Bushwalking* can occur in a diverse range of environments/natural areas including but not limited to:

- coastal
- plains
- forest
- arid or outback
- tropical
- mountain or alpine.

## 1.2 Exclusions

This activity GPG is not generally applicable to day walks using class 1 and 2 walking trails in *non-remote* areas.

## 1.3 Related activities

Where *camping* occurs on a bushwalk, the Camping GPG must be complied with.

Consideration of the Bushwalking GPG *should* occur when conducting rogaining & orienteering activities with *dependent participants*.

# 2 Management of risk

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## 2.1 Management of risk

There are no additional specific activity provisions other than Core GPG provisions.

# 3 Planning

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## 3.1 Activity plans

*Bushwalking* specific planning considerations *may* include but are not limited to:

- the required navigation skills & equipment
- the suitability of maps for navigation
- what the intended route is
- identifying suitable sites to camp
- what terrain will be encountered on the route
- where sources of drinking water are
- the access to start & finish locations and throughout the activity.
- the impact of current seasonal factors
- identifying route specific hazards and risks
- determining the expected trail classification
- the expected weight of equipment activity leaders and participants need to carry

- having reasonable access in the initial stages, to enable practical assessment of participant's abilities so that in cases where the participant's ability does not match that needed to complete the activity, they can leave or withdraw without significant difficulties.

## 3.2 Emergency management planning

A *non-participating contact* must be used as part of the emergency management plan for:

- class 4, 5 and 6 bushwalks
- remote bushwalks
- overnight bushwalks.

# 4 Participants

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## 4.1 Information provided pre-activity

Pre-activity information given to participants *should* clearly communicate:

- the estimated overall backpack weight that a *participant* is likely to carry
- the equipment the provider will or can supply
- what equipment, clothing or footwear the participant needs to supply
- any necessary guidance as to the weight, size or type of equipment, clothing or footwear the participant needs to supply.

An appropriate pre-activity assessment *should* be completed to ensure *participants* meet the necessary requirements to carry the overall backpack weight that they are likely to carry.

# 5 Environment

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## 5.1 Environment related planning

Other environmental considerations other than climate or weather for bushwalking *may* include but are not limited to:

- the type of flora expected (e.g. impeding progress, ability to cut or scratch etc.)
- the fauna expected (e.g. risks associated with venomous snakes, ants etc.)
- the terrain (e.g. steep slopes, uneven or unstable footing, cliff edges etc.).

### 5.1.1 Weather information

Refer [Appendix 3 - Weather information](#).

### 5.1.2 Severe weather triggers

*Trigger points* must be based on the relevant Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and actual weather conditions.

The risk management plan and emergency management plan *should* include guidance on *trigger points* and associated actions for:

- severe weather warnings
- thunderstorm warnings
- coastal waters wind warnings
- tropical cyclone advice: watch and warning
- extreme cold temperature
- extreme hot temperatures.

Actions for relevant weather *may* include but are not limited to:

- cancellation
- modification and/or evacuation to a safe location
- avoiding locations affected by tides or surf
- avoiding areas and river crossings that have the potential for flash flooding
- preparations to avoid the risks associated with blizzards
- moving to areas that are protected from strong winds
- managing risks of flying or falling items during strong winds
- moving to areas that are protected from hail
- preparations to avoid the risks associated with lightning.

## 5.2 Bushfire, prescribed fire and fire danger

Refer [Core GPG - Bushfire, prescribed fire and fire danger](#).

## 5.3 Water crossing and flooding

The crossing of swollen creeks, rivers, flooded bridges or fords, or the entry of floodwaters *should* be avoided.

When assessing the suitability of a potential crossing, considerations *should* include but are not limited to:

- if there is debris floating or flowing in the current as this can indicate the risk of being hit and/or swept away by debris
- how clear the water is and if the base of the crossing be seen as this can help determine the depth of crossing and its base
- the depth of the crossing as this can indicate the amount of water and force needed to be overcome to avoid being washed away
- the speed of the water as this can indicate the volume of water and force needed to be overcome to avoid being washed away
- where the water flows as the flow may wash people into dangerous or deadly situations (e.g. into trees in the water that act as strainers, into narrow rock crevices)
- the base of the crossing (e.g. pebbles, sand, small rocks or large rocks) as moving water can move the base increasing the danger of foot entrapment and/or reducing the likelihood of maintaining stable footing during the crossing).

### 5.3.1 Flash flooding

When *camping*, locations likely to experience *flash flooding* *should* be avoided.

Areas likely to experience *flash flooding* *should* be avoided during severe weather or thunderstorms.

The suitability of water for drinking during and after flooding *should* be assessed.

## 5.4 Wildlife safety

Procedures *should* be in place to minimise the risks associated with wildlife that *may* be encountered.

The types of wildlife encounters that *may* need to be considered include but are not limited to:

- crocodiles
- snakes
- ticks
- wild pigs.

# 6 Equipment and logistics

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## 6.1 Equipment requirements

Procedures *must* be in place to ensure appropriate clothing for the expected and foreseeable weather conditions is available.

Procedures *must* be in place to ensure appropriate footwear for the expected and foreseeable terrain is available.

Procedures *must* be in place to ensure a personal drink supply is available.

Procedures *should* be in place to ensure important equipment provided by participant(s) are appropriate for the activity context.

Example equipment lists can be found in [Appendix 2 – Common bushwalking equipment](#).

## 6.2 Use of equipment

Training for the appropriate lifting, lowering and manual handling techniques for backpacks *must* be provided.

Training for the appropriate fitting and adjustment of backpacks *must* be provided.

# 7 Leadership

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## 7.1 Naming conventions

The *activity leader* naming convention enables this activity GPG to be related to [Core\\_GPG](#) requirements.

The leadership naming conventions for *bushwalking* activities are:

*Bushwalking guide* is equivalent to *Leader* in [Core\\_GPG](#).

*Assistant bushwalking guide* is equivalent to *Assistant leader* in [Core\\_GPG](#).

## 7.2 Competencies

This section outlines the *competencies* that activity leaders *should* have.

### 7.2.1 Competencies overview

The Australian Adventure Activity Standard and Good Practice Guides refers to units from the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Training Package for descriptive statements of the knowledge and skills required of *activity leaders*.

The Training Package units are used for the sole purpose of providing descriptions for the knowledge and skills required. It is not intended to imply or require that specific formal training, assessment or qualification is the only means of gaining or recognising knowledge and skills.

*Providers can recognise activity leaders* as having the ‘ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve expected results’ (i.e. *competencies*) in a number of different ways as detailed in the [Core\\_GPG - Recognition of competence](#).

The Training Package units listed can be found by searching for the units on the [training.gov.au/Home/Tga](http://training.gov.au/Home/Tga) website. The code provided with the unit name assists in this search.

## 7.2.2 Bushwalking competencies

Also refer to [Core GPG - Competencies section](#).

Providers *must* determine the competencies required by activity leaders based on the context of the activity.

Refer [Appendix 4 – Bushwalking leader competencies](#) for recommended leader competencies for the different walking trail classifications.

For activities that involves overnight *camping* also refer to the [Camping GPG](#).

## 7.2.3 Recognition of competence

Refer to considerations for recognition pathways outlined in [Core GPG](#).

## 7.3 Group size

The following table outlines the maximum group size that *should* be used when leading bushwalks for specific classes of bushwalks.

Also, refer to considerations for determining group size in [Core GPG](#).

| Bushwalking Class | Day    |        | Overnight |        |
|-------------------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|
|                   | Minors | Adults | Minors    | Adults |
| 1-2               | 46     | 46     | 22        | 22     |
| 3                 | 46     | 46     | 22        | 22     |
| 4                 | 23     | 23     | 22        | 22     |
| 5-6               | 19     | 19     | 19        | 19     |

### 7.3.1 Bushwalking minimum group size

The recommended minimum group size *should* be three for class 4, 5 and 6 bushwalks.

## 7.4 Activity leader to participant ratios

### 7.4.1 Supervision considerations

Supervision ratios are dependent on the activity context and a range of considerations.

Prior to determining ratios, providers *must* consider the recommended supervision ratios provide in this document and considerations on [Core GPG sections](#):

- Activity leader to participant ratios
- Land owner, land manager and other authorities' activity leader ratios
- Land owner and/or land manager requirements
- Environmental sustainability principles
- Environmental sustainability procedures.

The following tables outline the supervision ratios that *should* be considered when deciding the leadership requirements for specific bushwalk classes.

### 7.4.2 Supervision recommendations for minors

| Leader requirements – Minors Class 1-2   | Day   | Overnight |
|--|-------|-----------|
| 2 responsible persons minimum or 2 activity leaders depending on context       | 1-30  |           |
| 3 responsible persons minimum or 3 activity leaders depending on context       | 31-43 |           |
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available |       | 1-20      |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  |       | 1-20      |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 46    | 22        |

| <b>Leader requirements – Minors Class 3</b>                                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum                             | 1-30       |                  |
| 1 activity leader and 2 responsible persons minimum                            | 31-43      |                  |
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available |            | 1-20             |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  |            | 1-20             |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 46         | 22               |

| <b>Leader requirements – Minors Class 4</b>                                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available | 1-20       | 1-20             |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  | 1-20       | 1-20             |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 22         | 22               |

| <b>Leader requirements – Minors Class 5-6</b>                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader minimum                          | 1-17       | 1-17             |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements) | 19         | 19               |

### 7.4.3 Supervision recommendations for Adults

| <b>Leader requirements – Adults Class 1-2</b>                                  | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 responsible person or activity leader depending on context                   | 1-22       |                  |
| 1 activity leader  |            | 1-15             |
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available |            | 16-20            |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  |            | 16-20            |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 46         | 22               |

| <b>Leader requirements – Adults Class 3</b>                                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 activity leader  | 1-22       | 1-15             |
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available |            | 16-20            |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  |            | 16-20            |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 46         | 22               |

| <b>Leader requirements – Adults Class 4</b>                                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 leader   | 1-21       | 1-15             |
| 1 activity leader and 1 responsible person minimum *Suitable support available |            | 16-20            |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader  |            | 16-20            |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements)               | 22         | 22               |

| <b>Leader requirements – Adults Class 5-6</b>                    | <b>Day</b> | <b>Overnight</b> |
|--|------------|------------------|
| 1 leader   | 1-3        | 1-3              |
| 1 leader and 1 assistant leader minimum                          | 4-17       | 4-17             |
| Maximum group size^ (also refer land owner/manager requirements) | 19         | 19               |

*Responsible person(s) should have a first aid qualification.*

#### **Table Notes:**

^Maximum group size = total of all activity leaders plus responsible persons plus participants.

\*Suitable support available: *Providers* considerations for operating with only 1 *activity leader* include but are not limited to:

- factors identified in Core\_GPG – Activity leader to participant ratios & Land owner, land manager and other authorities' activity leader ratios
- the skills and knowledge of the responsible person
- what nearby suitable support the provider has that can reach the group within a reasonable response time.

## 7.5 Supervision and management during the activity

### 7.5.1 supervision and management

Procedures *should* be used to reduce the potential of participants becoming separated or lost.

### 7.5.2 Rogaining & orienteering supervision

Where dependent participants *may not* have activity leader *direct* or *indirect* supervision for parts of the activity, refer to the following sections of the Core\_GPG:

- remote supervision
- indirect and remote supervision instructions considerations
- leadership of training activities.

# Glossary

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Also, refer terms and definitions from Core\_GPG.

AAAS: Australian Adventure Activity Standard – See Preface for details.

*Assistant bushwalking guide*: is an *Assistant Leader* for a bushwalking activity

*Bushwalking*: walking in natural areas

*Bushwalking guide*: is a *Leader* for a bushwalking activity.

*Camping*: the use of a temporary site for overnight camping.

*Day walks*: *bushwalking* that has the intention and expected results of being completed without the need for *camping* or sleeping overnight.

*Flash flooding*: is flooding in a localised area with a rapid onset, usually as a result of relatively short intense bursts of rainfall.

GPGs: Good Practice Guide(s) – See Preface for details.

*Trigger point*: a particular circumstance or situation that causes an action to occur.

# Appendices

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## Appendix 1 Walking trail classifications

### **Class 1:**

Tracks provide opportunities for large number of visitors, including those with reduced mobility, to traverse the natural environment easily. They provide high level of interpretation and facilities. Steps allowed only with ramp access. Users need no previous experience and are expected to exercise normal care regarding their personal safety.

### **Class 2:**

Tracks provide opportunities for large numbers of visitors to walk easily in natural environments. They provide moderate to high level interpretation and facilities. They are generally on low gradients. Users need no previous experience and are expected to exercise normal care regarding their personal safety.

### **Class 3:**

Tracks provide opportunities for visitors to walk in slightly modified natural environments requiring a moderate level of fitness. They provide low level of interpretation and facilities. Users need no bush walking experience and a minimum level of specialised skills. Users may encounter natural hazards such as steps and slopes, unstable surfaces and minor water crossings. They are responsible for their own safety.

### **Class 4:**

Tracks provide opportunities for visitors to explore and discover relatively undisturbed natural environments along defined and distinct tracks with minimal (if any) facilities. They provide minimal interpretation and facilities. Users can expect opportunities for solitude and few encounters with others. Users require a moderate level of specialised skills such as navigation skills. Users may require maps and navigation equipment to successfully complete the track. Users need to be self-reliant, particularly in regard to emergency first aid and possible weather hazards.

### **Class 5:**

Tracks provide opportunities for visitors with outdoor skills to discover the natural environment. Visitors require a higher degree of specialised skills such as navigation skills. Users may require maps and navigation equipment to successfully complete the track. Users need to be self-reliant, particularly in regard to emergency first aid and possible weather hazards.

### **Class 6:**

Users require previous experience in the outdoors and a high level of specialised skills such as navigational skills. Users will generally require a map and navigation equipment to complete the track. Users need to be self-reliant, particularly in regard to emergency first aid and possible weather hazards.

The above classifications come from the [Australian Standards 2156.1-2001: Walking tracks – Classification and signage](#).

A detailed review of the [Australian Standards 2156.1-2001: Walking tracks – Classification and signage](#) can be downloaded from <http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/file.aspx?id=36771>

## Appendix 2 Common bushwalking equipment

The equipment required and the appropriate “type” of equipment used is dependent on the specific *context* of the activity.

Equipment used for *bushwalking* may include but is not limited to:

### Emergency/rescue

- documentation (see [Core GPG - Activity leader required documentation](#))
- emergency communication equipment (see [Core GPG - Emergency communication](#))
- first aid kit in waterproof storage (see [Core GPG - First aid equipment and medication](#))
- a waterproof method of storing and carrying documentation and communications equipment
- specific activity context equipment required
- emergency shelter where appropriate for the context
- emergency equipment to keep a patient warm (e.g. mat, sleeping bag) where appropriate for the context
- signalling device(s) (e.g. mirror, flares)

### Activity Leaders

- communications equipment (standard communication rather than emergency communication where this differs) and spare batteries or backup “power banks”
- relevant maps and navigation information
- a waterproof method of storing and carrying maps and navigation information
- compass and/or other navigation aids (e.g. GPS)
- pen/pencil and blank writing paper
- watch or equipment suitable to tell and measure time for first aid purposes
- head torch and spare batteries
- appropriate spare equipment
- appropriate repair equipment
- same as for participant

### Participant

- personal medications (including for asthma and anaphylaxis)
- personal hygiene requirements
- whistle
- strong backpack, suitably sized and adjusted
- waterproof pack liner
- water containers
- jumpers
- thermals
- beanie or balaclava
- sun hat
- raincoat suitable for the environment
- overpants
- footwear suitable for the conditions
- suitable socks
- shirt with collar and preferably long sleeves
- strong shorts or trousers
- underwear
- gloves
- light garden gloves
- handkerchief
- pocket knife
- sock covers or gaiters
- sunglasses
- spare prescription glasses
- walking pole(s)
- sit mat
- high visibility vest
- sunscreen

**Group**

- trowel for toileting
- toilet paper
- hand sanitiser
- water purification system
- repair kit
- food for duration plus spare
- rubbish bags
- multi-tool with knife
- sunscreen
- insect repellent

**Repair equipment**

- buckles
- needle and thread
- duct tape
- multi tool
- multi-purpose glue
- tent pole repair tubes
- sleeping mat repair kit

Refer Core\_GPG for first aid kit common content.

Additional equipment used for overnight or extended duration walks *may* include but is not limited to:

**Emergency or rescue**

- emergency fire lighting equipment appropriate to the activity and location

**Activity Leaders**

- as per participant

**Group**

- appropriate shelters (e.g. tent)
- cooking equipment and 'lifters' for pots
- cleaning equipment for catering equipment
- cooking stove and fuel
- matches/lighter
- glow sticks, spare batteries, candles

**Participant**

- small torch and spare batteries
- sleeping bag in waterproof bag
- eating utensils such as cutlery, bowl, plate and cup
- spare clothing
- spare shoes for camp
- sleeping mattress.

## Appendix 3 Weather information

The Bureau of Meteorology also provides a range of services. For details refer to:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/WeatherGuideLand.pdf>

The following table details the:

- current Australian weather warnings
- associated weather for each warning
- mainland warning trigger points for issuing warnings for strong winds and hail.

Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and associated weather Table:

| <b>Severe Weather warning</b>                   | <b>Severe Thunderstorm warning</b> | <b>Marine Wind Warning</b>                 | <b>Tropical Cyclone Advice: Watch or warning</b> |
|---|------------------------------------|--|--|
| High tides                                      |                                    |  |  |
| Large surf                                      |                                    |  |  |
| Blizzards                                       |                                    |  |  |
| Heavy rain/flash flooding                       | Heavy rain/flash flooding          |  |  |
| Strong winds<br>Wind >63 km/h<br>Gusts >90 km/h | Strong winds<br>Gusts >90 km/h     | Strong winds<br>Wind >48 km/h or >26 knots | Strong winds<br>Wind >62 km/h or >=34 knots      |
|   | Tornadoes                          |  |  |
|   | Hail (>=2cm)                       |  |  |
|   | Lightning                          |  |  |

## Appendix 4 Bushwalking leader competencies

The following table outlines the recommended *competencies activity leaders should* have when leading bushwalking for specific walking trail classes.

| Walking Trail classification    | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent) | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent) |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Common bushwalking units</b> | All Core Good Practice Guide units plus   |                          | All Core Good Practice Guide units plus                         |                          |
|                                 | Operate communications systems and equipment  | <u>PUAOPE013A</u>        | Operate communications systems and equipment                    | <u>PUAOPE013A</u>        |
|                                 |   |                          | Plan for minimal environmental impact                           | <u>SISOOPS304A</u>       |
|                                 |   |                          | Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site                  | <u>SISOOPS202A</u>       |

| Walking Trail classification | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent) | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge       | Code (or the equivalent) |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Classes 1-3</b>           | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus               |                          | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus |                          |
|                              | Demonstrate bushwalking skills in a controlled environment                          | <u>SISOBWG201A</u>       | Demonstrate bushwalking skills in a controlled environment            | <u>SISOBWG201A</u>       |
|                              |   |                          | Demonstrate navigation skills in a controlled environment             | <u>SISONAV201A</u>       |
|                              |   |                          | Guide bushwalks in a controlled environment                           | <u>SISOBWG303A</u>       |

| Walking Trail classification | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent) | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge       | Code (or the equivalent) |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Class 4</b>               | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus               |                          | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus |                          |
|                              | <b>All class 1-3 units plus</b>   |                          | <b>All class 1-3 units plus</b>                                       |                          |
|                              | Demonstrate navigation skills in a controlled environment                           | <u>SISONAV201A</u>       |   |                          |
|                              |   |                          | <b>Plus specialist environment unit where appropriate</b>             | See below                |

| Walking Trail classification | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent)           | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge       | Code (or the equivalent)           |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Class 5</b>               | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus               |                                    | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus |                                    |
|                              | <b>All class 4 units plus</b>   |                                    | <b>All class 4 units plus</b>   |                                    |
|                              | Apply intermediate bushwalking skills   | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG302A</u></a> | Apply intermediate bushwalking skills                                 | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG302A</u></a> |
|                              | Apply navigation skills in an intermediate environment                              | <a href="#"><u>SISONAV302A</u></a> | Apply navigation skills in an intermediate environment                | <a href="#"><u>SISONAV302A</u></a> |
|                              | Manage risk in an outdoor activity  | <a href="#"><u>SISOODR404A</u></a> | Manage risk in an outdoor activity                                    | <a href="#"><u>SISOODR404A</u></a> |
|                              | Implement and monitor occupational health and safety policies                       | <a href="#"><u>SISXOHS402A</u></a> | Implement and monitor occupational health and safety policies         | <a href="#"><u>SISXOHS402A</u></a> |
|                              | Use and maintain a temporary or overnight site                                      | <a href="#"><u>SISOOPS202A</u></a> |   |                                    |
|                              |   |                                    | Guide intermediate bushwalks  | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG405A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | Coordinate emergency responses  | <a href="#"><u>SISXEMR402A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | Apply river crossing skills   | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG404A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | <b>Plus specialist environment unit where appropriate</b>             | See below                          |

| Walking Trail classification | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent)           | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge       | Code (or the equivalent)           |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Class 6</b>               | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus               |                                    | All Core Good Practice Guide units, all common bushwalking units plus |                                    |
|                              | <b>All class 5 units plus</b>   |                                    |   |                                    |
|                              | Guide bushwalks in a controlled environment   | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG303A</u></a> |   |                                    |
|                              | Coordinate emergency responses  | <a href="#"><u>SISXEMR402A</u></a> |   |                                    |
|                              |   |                                    | <b>All class 4 &amp; 5 units plus</b>                                 |                                    |
|                              |   |                                    | Apply bushwalking skills in uncontrolled landscapes                   | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG406A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | Guide bushwalks in an uncontrolled environment                        | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG510A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | Navigate in uncontrolled environments                                 | <a href="#"><u>SISONAV403A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                                    | <b>Plus environment specialist unit where appropriate</b>             | See below                          |

| Walking Trail classification | Assistant Bushwalking Guide (Assistant Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent) | Bushwalking guide (Leader) Unit describing skills and knowledge | Code (or the equivalent)           |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Specialist</b>            | <b>Environments</b>   |                          |   |                                    |
|                              |   |                          | Apply advanced bushwalking skills in alpine areas               | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG507A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                          | Apply advanced bushwalking skills in arid areas                 | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG508A</u></a> |
|                              |   |                          | Apply advanced bushwalking skills in tropical areas             | <a href="#"><u>SISOBWG509A</u></a> |

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