

CRITICAL INCIDENT ANALYSIS

Set up: Depending on the number of participants, divide the group into teams of 4-8. Give each team a copy of the Accident Matrix. This matrix groups and lists possible common types of causes for accidents that occur in outdoor adventure activities.

Framing: Each groups simulates a Risk Management Committee charge with analyzing a recent serious incident that has occurred in the organization's program.

Activity:

1. Distribute the case study. (Use a real incident from your organization's history. Remember to redact any names in the interest of confidentiality.)
2. Using the Accident Matrix, systematically work through all of the causes and identify and make a list of any that might have played a part in the incident.
3. Discuss what policies and procedures might reduce the likelihood of such incidents occurring in the future.

POTENTIAL CAUSES OF ACCIDENTS IN OUTDOOR PURSUITS

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Potentially Unsafe Conditions Due To:	Potentially Unsafe Acts Due To:	Potential Errors in Judgment Due To:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inadequate Area Security (Physical, Political, Cultural)• Falling Objects (Rocks, etc.)• Bad Weather• Equipment/Clothing• Swift/Cold Water• Animals/Plants• Physical/Psychological Profile of Participants and/or Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inadequate Protection• Inadequate Instruction• Inadequate Supervision• Unsafe Speed (Fast/Slow)• Inadequate or Improper Food/Drink / Medications• Poor Position• Unauthorized/Improper Procedure (Includes Failing to Follow Directions, Misuse of Technology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desire to Please Others• Trying to Adhere to a Schedule• Misperception• New or Unexpected Situation (Includes Fear and Panic)• Fatigue• Distraction• Miscommunication• Disregarding Instincts

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