

Risk Assessment for Adventure Forest Ltd T/as Go Ape! &/or Go Ape! EOT

SUBJECT: Mini Land Rover
WRITTEN BY: Operations Team/Health and Safety Team
REVIEWED BY: Mark Robinson December 2025
NEXT REVIEW: December 2026

RISK ASSESSMENT REF: MLR/2026/V1

Risk Matrix							
Risk rating guidance	Likelihood (L)	5	5	10	15	20	25
		4	4	8	12	16	20
		3	3	6	9	12	15
		2	2	4	6	8	10
		1	1	2	3	4	5
				1	2	3	4
		Severity (S)					Likelihood (L) x Severity (S) = Risk Rating (RR).
Acceptability of risk guidance	High-risk: 15 – 25		High-risk activities should cease immediately. Further effective control measures to mitigate risks must be introduced.				
	Medium-risk: 8 – 12		Medium-risks are an acceptable level based on the reduced likelihood after sufficient control measures are implemented.				
	Low-risk: 1-6		Low-risks are largely acceptable. Where it is reasonable to do so, efforts should be made to reduce risks further.				
Guidance. When completing a risk assessment, you should:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the persons at risk and the significant hazards. 2. Calculate an initial RR for the activity. 3. Identify risk control measures that reduce the risks to an acceptable level. 4. Calculate a revised RR - you should consider how much safer the task will be if the control measures are followed. Here, you should consider changing both the likelihood (L) and the severity (S) ratings. 						
Note. Ideally, you should look to reduce the risks so that the task can be classified as “low-risk”.							

Likelihood	Definition	Points rating
Inevitable	If the work continues as it is, there is almost 100% certainty that an accident will happen, for examples: A broken stair or broken rung on a ladder, Bare, exposed electrical conductors, Unstable stacks of heavy boxes	5
Highly likely	Will happen more often than not. Additional factors could precipitate an incident but it is still likely to happen without this additional factor.	4
Possible	The accident may occur if additional factors precipitate it, but it is unlikely to happen without them.	3
Unlikely	This incident or illness might occur but the probability is low and the risk minimal.	2
Remote possibility	There is really no risk present. Only under freak conditions could there be any possibility of an accident or illness. All reasonable precautions have been taken - This should be the normal state of the workplace.	1

Severity	Definition	Points rating
Very high	Causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction eg. fire, course/building collapse.	5
High	Causing death, serious injury or permanent disability to an individual.	4
Moderate	Temporary disability causing injury (to member of the public, contractor or employees) or disease capable of keeping an employee off work for seven days or more and reportable under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995).	3
Slight	Minor injury (to member of the public, contractor or employee), which would allow the individual to continue work after first aid treatment on site or at a local surgery. The duration of the stoppage or treatment is such that the normal flow of work is not seriously interrupted.	2
Nil	Very minor injury, bruise, graze, no risk of disease.	1

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SER	HAZARD	L	S	RR	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	CONTROL MEASURES	FURTHER CONTROL MEASURES: reviewed annually to formulate Risk Reduction Plan	L	S	RR
1	Injury through manual handling of Mini Land Rover	3	4	12	Staff/ Customers	<p>Follow manual handling guidance given during training.</p> <p>Mini land rovers will not be lifted fully. If having to be lifted by front or rear bumper to remove an obstacle this should be carried out by 2 people minimum.</p> <p>Avoid lifting or moving mini land rovers by adapting site operations. There will be a ramp into the storage area to avoid the necessity to lift the vehicle.</p> <p>Supervisors are reminded to not attempt to lift the vehicle by themselves but to seek instructor assistance should the vehicle get stuck following a collision (as set out in safety rules and advice given)</p>		1	4	4
3	<p>Mini Land rovers fail to function as expected.</p> <p>Mini Land rover will not function as expected if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mini Land Rover is not correctly maintained • The vehicle is driven with insufficient power/charge in the battery • Driver/Drivers are too heavy • Wheels lose traction on the ground 	3	3	9	Staff/Customers	<p>Participants should weigh no more than a combined 130kg (following manufacturers guidelines) and follow the ratios as advised.</p> <p>All Users will be trained in how to drive the Mini Land Rovers following manufacturer's instructions (these will be included in the training package, safety rules and advice).</p> <p>Safety rules will be provided for all customers following the above.</p> <p>Vehicles will not be driven where the surface conditions are judged to potentially cause the vehicle to lose traction.</p>		1	3	3
4	Mini Land rovers colliding with a participant, forest user, or obstacle on the track.	3	3	9	Staff/Customers/ Member of public	<p>Following safety rules only participants and supervising adults deemed competent will be allowed out onto the track.</p> <p>The focus will be on the supervising adult's ability to assist with steering and halt the vehicle to prevent a collision with</p>		1	3	3

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						<p>participant and obstacle. They may use the remote key/killswitch to stop the vehicle.</p> <p>Signage will be installed accordingly to direct forest users away from the track. Supervisors will be instructed to be aware of the potential for forest users to unwittingly enter the track and to use the kill switch to stop any potential collision or crash occurring.</p> <p>All trails are one way and will be signposted to that effect.</p> <p>Obstacles will be designed to be a very low impact if collided with. Supervisors will be shown how to engage reverse should the need arise following a minor collision with an obstacle.</p> <p>When moving units on multi use trails (from storage to charging and return to trails) drivers should give way to other forest users and drive on the left of the trail. Only to be driven on the agreed route between storage/charging/operating.</p> <p>Supervisors will be reminded to not attempt to lift the vehicle by themselves but to seek instructor assistance should the vehicle get stuck following a collision (as set out in safety rules and advice given)</p>				
5	<p>Falling from a Mini Land rover</p> <p>Mini Land rovers are safe and stable when driven correctly. Falls may result from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riding off designated trails • The incorrect seated driving position • Not following instructions given • Collisions with obstacles on the track 	3	3	9	Staff/Customers	<p>Mini Land rovers will only be driven by those trained to do so.</p> <p>Vehicles will be driven with direct supervision from the supervising adult at all times.</p> <p>The track will be designed so that the Mini Land Rovers are only driven on appropriate surfaces and over suitable obstacles.</p> <p>Correct driving procedures and techniques covered in safety rules should always be followed and observed</p>		1	3	3

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						If a driver or supervisor requires assistance, they should alert an instructor, via the whistle attached to the kill switch with the supervisor.				
6	<p>Electrical Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical sockets inside the cabin/container. • Plugging in Land Rover • Unplugging Land Rover • Moisture • Electrical fire • Faulty Cables • Trailing cables trip hazard 	3	4	12	Staff	<p>Training (on-line and practical)</p> <p>Land Rover unit end of cable to be inserted and removed first</p> <p>Wall socket end of cable must be inserted and removed last</p> <p>Cables only to be inserted and removed whilst socket is switched off</p> <p>All plugs/sockets/hands should be dried before use</p> <p>No charging tasks should be undertaken with wet Hands</p> <p>Instructors trained to remove cables by holding the plug and not the cable to avoid damage.</p> <p>Units must never be moved when plugged in.</p> <p>Cables visually inspected daily as part of the daily checks.</p> <p>Any faulty cables to be discarded immediately. A stock of spare cables to be held at site.</p> <p>Any Land Rover site must hold a copy of INDG231 HSE leaflet electricity and you. All instructors to read</p> <p>Electrical spec fire extinguishers are present in the location units are charged</p> <p>All training cables to be matted over or signed accordingly</p>		1	4	4
7	Slips and trips and uneven ground	2	3	6	Staff/ Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland trails • Surfaces reviewed and adjusted at start of the day. Following pre-opening inspection • Customer advice on uneven surfaces and remaining aware of surroundings given pre activity 		1	3	3
8	<p>Challenging Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbally abusive 	2	3	6	Course Users, Employees and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Customer Conflict Policy • Staff Training 		1	3	3

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physically abusive Failure to follow rules Aggressive 				Members of the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusion from activity Safety Rules and Advice Terms and Conditions Verbal warning, of session being cut short Emergency Services 				
9	Darkness causing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disorientation Inability to read safety signs Impaired Supervision 	2	3	6	Activity users, Employees, Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Careful planning of session availability in line with sunset times Torches available Adequate supervision Staff assistance Termination of the activity 		1	3	3
10	Weather <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lightning High Wind Ice and snow Extreme Cold Excessive Heat Mist and Fog 	3	3	9	Activity users Employees Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course closures and evacuations due to adverse weather policy Emergency Evacuation Procedure Suitable clothing guidance and uniform Communications and use of radios and phones Rest periods and breaks Training of staff and customers Monitor weather reports and forecasts Patrolling instructors' observations (Beaufort scale) Provision of water 		1	3	3
11	Inappropriate clothing	2	3	6	Activity users Employees Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre booking and on arrival advice/checks Refer to Footwear policy for agreed requirements by activity 		1	3	3
12	Inappropriate participant age/ratios/supervision	2	3	6	Activity users Employees Contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre booking and on arrival advice/checks Refer to supervision policy for agreed requirements by activity 		1	3	3
13	Medical conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-existing injuries Pregnancy Fatigue Hearing and Visual impairment Individual additional needs Other 	2	2	4	Course users Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical, Disability, Pregnancy, Additional Support, Deaf Participants, Existing Physical Injuries Policies Risk Acknowledgement Terms and Conditions Staff training Safety Rules and Advice Dynamic assessment of risk Patrolling and observation Users advised to seek medical advice 		1	2	2

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References:

HSE Information Sheet Entertainment Sheet No 14

HSE 5 Steps to Risk assessment INDG 163

HSE A Guide to Risk Assessment requirements INDG 218

Go Ape Generic Risk Assessments

Control Measures. Where a control measure has been identified, it is only included once and not repeated under every subject. Therefore, for a specific hazard identified, a control measure noted above may apply to that hazard. (HSE RA guidance.)

Go Ape operational and training systems. These include the following: Go Ape Operations on how to run a Go Ape Activity, Go Ape Training Manual including training and assessment policy, Practical Session plans and online training and Go Ape Company Handbook.

Instructor Training. Go Ape staff must undertake relevant training and assessment programme specific to their role. They undergo training in accordance with the Go Ape Online Training Manual