

Risk Assessment Worksheet		1. Project/Incident/Work Activity: General Field Work				2. Location: Georgetown and Pacific RD					
3. Specific Objective: mitigating hazards for safe fieldwork		4. Name and Title of Preparer: Michael Hartman-Koltun, Recreation Management Specialist				5. Date Prepared: Tuesday, January 13 th 2026					
6. Risk Decision Authority: The risk decision authority block should be signed after the worksheet is completed. Use the Risk Decision Authority matrix to determine the authorization required to sign in block 6.											
Signature:		Title: District Ranger				Date: January 20 th 2026					
Identify Hazards		Assess Hazards			Risk Control Options		Residual Risk			Decision	Implement
7. Task	8. Hazard	9. Hazard Probability	10. Severity / Consequence	11. RAC	12. Identify hazard mitigations & abatement measures (press [alt + enter] to add a line)	13. Hazard Probability	14. Severity / Consequence	15. RAC	16. Task Necessary?	17. Hazard Control Assigned to:	
Field work/Foot travel in various conditions/working alone	Fatigue	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Fatigue can cause poor judgment. Don't go out and continue with your work plans if you are too tired to think.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel	
	Falls, Sprains, Strains, Cuts, Bruises, Blisters	Likely	Moderate	High	Wear boots with non-skid soles, eye protection, hardhats, and other PPE and carry tools on downhill side. Always watch your footing. Slow down and use extra caution around logs, rocks, and animal holes. Extremely steep slopes (>50%) can be hazardous under wet or dry conditions, consider an alternate route if possible.	Unlikely	Negligible	Low	YES	All personnel	
	Thick brush including whitethorn and deerbrush	Likely	Moderate	High	Slow down and make sure you have solid footing. Try to find path of least resistance. Try to step on top of branches to push them down as you walk.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	All personnel	

	Falling objects	Possible	Catastrophic	Extremely High	Wear hardhat for protection from falling debris. Use discretion to stay on task or withdraw to safe location during high winds. Stay out of the woods during winds exceeding 25 MPH. Avoid working near known hazard trees and be observant of trees with indicators that can make them prone to failure such as bark wounds, conks/rot, damage to roots, abnormal leans, etc.	Unlikely	Critical	Moderate	YES	All personnel
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	Working in Hot Weather	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Carry plenty of clean drinking water with you. Carry more than you anticipate you will need. Drink water often. Work at a moderate pace and adjust your pace as the temperature increases. Schedule the most physical part of your work during the cooler morning hours. Do not over exert yourself to the point of heat exhaustion. As the temperature rises take rest brakes as needed to prevent heat exhaustion and heat stroke. If with a crew, look out for other crew members as well as yourself. If you are working alone provide an extra margin of safety. Carry a radio with you. If you start to get dizzy or have signs of possible heat exhaustion or heat stroke, use your radio to get help as quickly as possible. Do not drive if you are dizzy or nauseated. Wear proper clothing. Clothing should be light and loose fitting and headgear is recommended. Avoid prolonged periods in the sun and use sunscreen. Avoid caffeinated drinks.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel

	Hypothermia	Possible	Critical	High	Cover head and neck to retain heat. Keep clothing dry. Eat high energy foods. Prevent dehydration by drinking plenty of water – do not eat snow. If hypothermia occurs – prevent further heat loss, add heat to neck, armpits, and groin area, replace wet clothing. Know symptoms: shivering, weakness, slurred speech, loss of coordination, difficulty in performing tasks, poor decision making, irrational behavior, clumsy, not concerned with physical discomfort.	Unlikely	Critical	Moderate		All personnel
	Water	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Do not drink water from streams; it could be infected with Giardia. Carry at least 2 quarts of water with you into the field and ensure that additional water is at the vehicle.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low		All personnel

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	Becoming stranded or Lost	Possible	Negligible	Low	M	Rare	Negligible	Low	YES	All personnel
Inclement weather	Lightning	Possible	Catastrophic	Extremely High	Do not use radio and put down all tools. Turn off the radio until the storm cell has passed. Take shelter in a vehicle or building. Avoid ridges, ledges, tall lone trees, open exposures, and outcrops.	Rare	Catastrophic	Moderate	YES	All personnel

	Wind	Possible	Catastrophic	Extremely High	Avoid working in old, defective timber, especially hardwoods, during periods of high winds due to snag hazards.	Unlikely	Catastrophic	High	YES	All personnel
Working in Bear Country	Black Bear encounter	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	DO NOT RUN: When you run you may look like prey to the bear. Allow the bear a way out. Talk to the bear in low, soft tones and slowly BACK away at a slight angle. Pretend you are not afraid. Maintain control of situation. The key with bears is to avoid surprises. Be aware of wind direction. The bear may not smell you. Use noise makers while you work (a bell, a whistle, loud conversation with field partners, radio squelch). Always work with one or more field partners if possible.	Rare	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel

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Working in Mountain Lion Country	Mountain Lion encounter	Rare	Critical	Moderate	Observe body language and probable corresponding behavior of mountain lions. If attacked or pursued turn immediately and face the lion. Maintain eye contact with the mountain lion. DO NOT RUN AWAY. Maintain control of your response. Raise your arms, coat, vest, or pack to appear bigger. Always leave the animal an escape/retreat route. Talk loudly and in a firm voice. Shout if necessary to repel the lion's advance towards you. Don't hesitate to make noise using, tools, and/or any object with sizeable mass; that can be used for protection. If lion continues to crouch and advance, make noise and throw whatever you can without losing eye contact or bending over. If you are attacked, FIGHT BACK. Use any type of object with sizeable mass for protection. The animal's eyes and face are your primary zones to inflict damage to retard the attack. If the lion withdraws, begin backing away, but stay aware of its possible return from a different direction. Although unusual, always be alert for a second lion.	Rare	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel

Illegal activities	Marijuana growing	Possible	Critical	High	If you encounter illegal activities, stop, and turn around swiftly and quietly leave the area. Illegal activities include water lines, cleared areas outside timber sales, structures, and garbage piles. Contact the district law enforcement officer (LEO) or Camino once out of the area, preferably by phone or in person. Do not use FS radio frequencies.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel
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Safety Procedures/Radios	Lack of communication	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Always sign in and out at the office or directly with a supervisor as well as signing out with Camino. Make sure someone knows your plan and where you plan to be. Always check to make sure radio is in working condition. Never assume the battery is charged, and always bring an extra battery just in case. Know who is monitoring the radio frequencies if you have an emergency. Know how to use the radio comfortably. Do not turn the scanner on unless it is necessary for the project, save the battery. In the field make sure you know where the dead spots are and find locations where the radio can transmit. If you encounter and accident, stay calm and determine the seriousness of the situation/injury. Make radio contact with Camino via Forest Net and state emergency traffic. Request needed resources; make sure you know the location of the accident before you call.	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel
Infectious and/or Poisonous insects and plants	Poison Oak	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Learn to recognize poison oak with and without leaves. Avoid poison oak areas when possible. If you come in contact with the plant wash the area with Technu (or similar product) as directed as soon as possible or upon returning to the station. Do not wear infected clothes more than one time.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	All personnel

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	Ticks	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Ticks can carry Lyme’s disease. After your shift check yourself thoroughly from head to foot. If any ticks are attached remove tick and save it in an empty container with a date label. Fill out a CA-1 form if bitten by a tick. The early symptoms of Lyme’s disease include a characteristic-spreading rash accompanied by flu-like symptoms, fever and aches. Possible complications include: heart and nervous system disorders and severe arthritis. Methods to minimize the risk of bites include: 1. Spray clothing with insect repellent as a barrier. 2. Wear light colored clothing that fits tightly at the wrist, ankles, and waist. 3. Each outer garment should overlap the one above it. 4. Cover trouser legs with high socks and boots. 5. Tuck in shirt tails. If a tick becomes attached pull it by grabbing it as close to possible to the point of attachment and pull straight out with gentle pressure (don’t twist). Wash skin with soap and water then cleanse with rubbing alcohol. Do not try to remove ticks by burning with a match or covering it with chemical agents. If you cannot remove the tick, or the head detaches, seek prompt medical care.	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	YES	All personnel

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	Insects/Rattle snakes	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	Be alert to bee/yellow jacket nests and rattlesnakes while hiking. Give any stinging insect nest or rattlesnake a wide berth. Do not attempt to destroy the nest. Be aware of your own or coworkers allergic reactions. Carry a bee sting kit with you at all times if you are allergic, and check to see that it has not expired. If victim develops hives, asthmatic breathing, tissue swelling, or a drop in blood pressure seek medical help immediately. Give victim an antihistamine (Benadryl, chlo-amine tabs). If you encounter a rattlesnake retrace your steps without making any sudden movements and do not molest the snake. If bitten by a rattlesnake notify Camino ECC immediately, keep victim calm, do not apply a tourniquet or cut the bite area and suck out the venom. Apply a compression bandage from the point of the bite up the limb to where it meets the torso and immobilize limb if possible, seek immediate medical attention. Bites in the neck, face, or torso will probably require medi-flights (helicopter transport).	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	YES	All personnel
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Parking and Working around and falling hazard trees (snags and green)	Snags/green trees falling in the work area, High risk tree species present, crews working in hazard tree areas, winds increasing or predicted to increase, presence of hazard trees in work area, crew members taking a break in hazard tree area	Unlikely	Catastrophic	High	• Post lookout to keep crew informed when working near hazards. • Leave the woods when 25 MPH wind speed is exceeded or before if branches or snags are falling. • Establish communications to alert crewmembers in the event of a falling hazard trees or branches. • Identify escape routes and safe areas away from the hazard trees. • Scout the area, and be aware of snag/hazard tree locations in relation to your work area. • Include “Snag Intelligence” in all work activity discussions. I.e. hazard tree location and marking, additional hazards due to slope, and other safety precautions • Take breaks and stage crews in safe locations. • Advise personnel when winds increase or change direction. • Direct and train all workers to conduct their own safety assessments, and encourage all to interact with their supervisors to ensure better safety. • Share our experiences with hazard trees with others. • SNAGS -- STOP, NOTICE, and GO SAFELY • SNAG SMART -- LOOK UP and LIVE	Rare	Catastrophic	Moderate	YES	All personnel
	High concentrations of severely decayed and unstable snags	Unlikely	Catastrophic	High	Use all measures above but identify areas with high concentrations of snags (snag patches) that resulted from fire. May defer working in and around these areas all together, or develop specific tasks that would be permitted. Examples could be only working in enclosed cab equipment	Unlikely	Catastrophic	High	NO	All personnel
By signing this RA you are acknowledging that you understand risks and mitigations, and will follow the mitigations and discuss any questions with your supervisor.										
				No Data				No Data		
				No Data				No Data		

				No Data				No Data		
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