

### Risk Assessment: Spoon Knife

Venue	Rewilding Adventure Site, Dunsdale	Completed by:	Morgan Lax	Date:	14th April 2025	Review Date:	14th April 2027
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**Description of site / activity / tools:**

The spoon knife is an additional tool that appears to possess a minor place in the Forest School and bushcraft repertoire; however, the prevalence of spoon making means it is often used. The nature of using the spoon knife means that it is done within the helper hand and close to the body. The result of using a spoon knife, and the previous low instances of injury means that n balance the use of the spoon knife should be supported. It should be considered that strength is needed for the spoon knife to be effective, which means that participants may need to be older to use it.

This RA should be read in conjunction with other carving/cutting tools which will be used as part of the spoon carving process.

	Hazard	Harm	People at Risk	Existing Control Measure	Likelihood (1-3)	Severity (1-3)	Rating LxS (1-9)	New Control Measure Who? When?	Comments
1.	Using the knife	Cutting self (hands, arms, chest, legs)	User/ others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tool talk</li> <li>• Demonstrate safe use</li> <li>• Verbal warning relating to hazard</li> <li>• Static use</li> <li>• Replace cover when not in use</li> <li>• Maintain the tools- <i>keep it sharp</i></li> <li>• Gloves available and their use of them on the helper hand is encouraged</li> <li>• Used in well-lit area</li> <li>• One arm and a tool rule to avoid cutting others</li> </ul>	2	2	4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As learners' ability improves a dynamic assessment can be made as to the necessity of continuing to wear the glove. This is in order to develop the finer skill and finish which will develop without a glove.</li> </ul>
2.	Falling onto knife	Cut/puncture wound	User	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tool talk</li> <li>• Demonstrate safe use</li> <li>• Static use</li> <li>• Carrying blade down with cover on</li> </ul>	1	3	3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of the knife means that a puncture wound is less likely.</li> </ul>
3.	Sharpening	Cut	User	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructors to sharpen</li> <li>• Wearing gloves</li> </ul>	1	2	2		
4.	Standing/kneeling on blade	Cut	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tool talk</li> <li>• Replace cover after use</li> <li>• Return to bag once use is finished</li> <li>• Placed in suitable location during pauses (not on seats/benches etc.)</li> <li>• Use in well-lit conditions</li> </ul>					
5.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>					

6.				•					
7.				•					
8.				•					
9.				•					
<b>Comments/Concerns:</b> This risk assessment will be reviewed in the event of any incident or near miss in order to be fully informed for the future. It is not an exhaustive list, and is written with experience of FS and bushcraft activities in mind and the rare incidents that have been encounter in the preceding 11 years.					<b>Recommendations:</b> For bi-annual review- due March 2025				