

## Risk Assessment – Fishing

**Area of Operation:** fishing and crabbing

### Who is at risk?

- Staff
- Students
- Members of the public

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Falls or Entry into the Water	Risk of falls or entry into the water, leading to drowning or injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Select fishing areas with safe footing, avoiding steep, slippery, or unstable edges.</li> <li>○ Ensure students understand boundaries and follow safety instructions on staying within designated areas.</li> <li>○ Staff trained in water safety and carry throw lines for emergencies.</li> <li>○ Strictly instruct students not to enter the water.</li> <li>○ Staff positioned near edges for monitoring and emergency response. When on a boat Students must wear lifejackets, properly fitted with staff assistance and staff to reinforce the provider's instructions to stay seated and within safe areas on the boat.</li> </ul>
Fishing Equipment (Hooks, Lines, etc.)	Injury from hooks, tangled lines, or improper handling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provide age-appropriate equipment and demonstrate safe handling.</li> <li>○ Closely monitor equipment use.</li> <li>○ Staff carry first aid kits to handle minor injuries.</li> </ul>
Fish Handling and Regulations	Risk of injury to students or harm to fish from improper handling; legal penalties for noncompliance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Obtain required licenses and follow local fishing rules, including catch-release and size limits.</li> <li>○ Train students in gentle handling techniques (e.g., wetting hands before touching fish).</li> </ul>
Separation or Wandering Fishing on Land	Risk of students straying from the group, potentially moving toward deeper water or restricted areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implement a buddy system with small groups supervised by each staff member.</li> <li>○ Staff carry ID, mobile phones, or radios for quick communication in case of separation.</li> </ul>
Separation or wandering When on a Boat	Risk of separation during boarding and disembarking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conduct headcounts, especially when boarding/disembarking. - Staff use buddy systems and remain vigilant during transitions on and off the boat.</li> </ul>

Hazards	Risks	Safety Measures to Control Risks
Extreme Weather Conditions (All)	Risk of sunburn, dehydration, hypothermia, or discomfort from exposure to extreme weather.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Check weather forecasts; ensure appropriate clothing and supplies (e.g., sunscreen, hats, rain gear).</li> <li>○ Plan regular breaks in shaded or sheltered areas.</li> <li>○ Encourage hydration and monitor for weather-related discomfort.</li> </ul>
Seasickness	Discomfort from seasickness or extended periods of standing or sitting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Monitor for signs of seasickness or fatigue; provide seating or mats. - Offer regular hydration and snacks, positioning students in shaded or seated areas if needed.</li> </ul>
Fatigue or Discomfort (Sea, Freshwater)	Fatigue or discomfort from extended standing or sitting during fishing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plan regular breaks, providing seating or mats for comfort.</li> <li>○ Monitor for signs of discomfort or fatigue, ensuring hydration and snack breaks.</li> </ul>
Interaction with the Public	Risk of misunderstandings or conflicts with other anglers or boat passengers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare students to behave respectfully around others and keep noise levels low.</li> <li>○ Staff positioned to monitor interactions and mediate as necessary.</li> <li>○ Staff trained in de-escalation and conflict resolution techniques.</li> </ul>
Use of Public Toilets	Risk of separation from the group or interactions with strangers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Staff accompany students to toilets, ensuring privacy and monitoring. - Designate meeting points outside restrooms to prevent separations.</li> </ul>
Emergency Situations	Confusion or delay in response to emergencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Staff familiar with emergency procedures and assembly points.</li> <li>○ Communicate emergency plans calmly to students.</li> <li>○ Staff carry mobile phones for emergency contact and first aid supplies for immediate assistance.</li> </ul>

To be read in conjunction with the following:

- Student's Risk Assessments
- Participant Consent / Medical Information
- Emergency Action Plan Flow-Chart

Reviewed: September 2025

Approved by: **RAISE-AP** Educational Directors, September 2025

Next Review Date: September 2027