Water Smart Levels 5 & 6 – Years 7 to 10

Assessing Aquatic Environments
Activity Sheet 3 – Risk Assessment Matrix

Using the information you collected on 'Activity Sheet 2 – Aquatic Environment Assessment', decide on three incidents that could potentially occur in your chosen aquatic environment. Record them on pages 2 and 3.

Now, determine the risk level of each incident using the matrix below.

Firstly, determine the probability that the incident will happen (how likely is it to occur?). Secondly, how serious are the consequences if the incident does happen (e.g. would the result be a minor injury or a potential death)?

Likelihood

What is the chance that the incident will happen?

	Minor	Moderate	Major
Very likely	Acceptable risk Medium	Unacceptable risk High	Unacceptable risk Extreme
Likely	Acceptable risk Low	Acceptable risk Medium	Unacceptable risk High
Unlikely	Acceptable risk Low	Acceptable risk Low	Acceptable risk Medium
	Minor	**Moderate**	**Major**

Consequences

How serious would the consequences be if the incident occurred?

Water Smart Levels 5 & 6 – Years 7 to 10

Assessing Aquatic Environments
Activity Sheet 3 – Risk Assessment Matrix

Name: _____

An example:

Incident:

A busy beach has a jetty with no fencing over shallow water. Someone could lose their footing and fall off the jetty into the water.

Matrix rating: Low   Medium   High   (Extreme)

Reason for rating:

The incident is very likely to happen, as the jetty is busy and has no fence. The consequences could be major (e.g. a broken neck or drowning) if someone falls into the shallow water.

What could be done to prevent this incident from happening?

A fence should be added to the jetty immediately and signs should be posted to warn users of the dangers of jumping into shallow water.

1. Incident:

    _____

    _____

    _____

    Matrix rating: Low   Medium   High   Extreme

    Reason for rating:

    _____

    _____

    _____

    What could be done to prevent this incident from happening?

    _____

    _____

    _____

Assessing Aquatic Environments
Activity Sheet 3 – Risk Assessment Matrix

2. Incident:

_____

_____

_____

Matrix rating: Low   Medium   High   Extreme
Reason for rating:

_____

_____

_____

What could be done to prevent this incident from happening?

_____

_____

_____

3. Incident:

_____

_____

_____

Matrix rating: Low   Medium   High   Extreme
Reason for rating:

_____

_____

_____

What could be done to prevent this incident from happening?

_____

_____

_____