

## Accident Potential Model

### Hazards:

As part of a sorority here on campus, I hold an executive position as one of the vice presidents of social within the organization. As a social chair, I plan and host social events for the members of the sorority, that provides a break from schoolwork (since most of members of the sorority are engineering students with very heavy and busy schedules), and spending that time destressing and hanging out with their sisters by having a good time.

A recent event that I hosted was a hike at Bald Hill here in Corvallis not too long ago. In choosing this location, time, and day for the hike, identifying the human and environmental hazards of this experience became very beneficial to take into consideration beforehand. First we had to consider the human hazards of the hike. With over more than 80 members, there are many skill levels within the organization. For every social event created, it needs to tailor to every member. With hiking, we have to consider the lack of mental and physical capabilities. Not every member has been hiking or is that physically fit for intense activities or has ever been hiking ever or in Oregon, so such knowledge of it may be minimal.

Secondly, environmental hazards of hiking in Corvallis, include the weather, terrain, and the wildlife of the hike. Hazardous weather can include heavy rains, snow, or ice, or very cold or below freezing temperatures during a given day. Such weather conditions can cause slippery or rough and muddy terrain, along with possible invisible or covered up trails of hiking. Other hazardous terrain can include very steep elevations or underdeveloped or unstableness of a trail. And then possible dangerous wildlife in Corvallis can be more apparent to hikers depending on the hikes location.

### Action, Preparation, and Thought:

In consideration of the possible human and environmental hazards of this hiking trip, lead me to determine an ideal time, day, and location for the members of the sorority. The decision was made that such a hike would have to be on the easier side, while being safe, without being so mentally or physically demanding yet still very enjoyable for the girls.

First off, in order to reduce the complexity of the hike also, we needed to choose a day that was not forecasted to rain or consisting of very low, below freezing levels of temperature for it, which can appear to be a hazard for some of the girls. Then with terrain, a more leveled and solid ground would be preferred, because having a hike that is too physically demanding can cause health risks, or be too stressful for some of the members. Lastly, in consideration of the possibly wildlife in Corvallis, choosing an area that was not so secluded from paved or popular trails would be considered less dangerous in regards to the more predatorily or harmful animals in the outdoors.

The hazard that was most difficult to recognize and to prepare for was definitely the harmful and hazardous weather that can occur on any given day in Corvallis. When looking back at it, we had to change the official posted day of the hike just because of the weather, and how it was going to rain or snow during it. Thankfully, we had a weekend when it was forecasted to be sunny and not rain with decent temperatures predicted when we were finally able to have our hike. Finding a decent day to go on our hike was difficult, also because Corvallis weather can be unpredictable at times, and that most of days during the winter time, consist of very low temperatures or constant rain throughout the day. We were fortunate enough to actually have a weekend (a time when most members are hopefully free to take some time off and go on a hike) before the winter term ended, to plan our hiking trip with members of the sorority.

The hazards including the terrain and wildlife of a hike wasn't too difficult to take into account and plan for, because such information can be researched online and such an ideal location can be predetermined based off of those factors ahead of time.

### Future Planning:

A trip that I hope to do soon, would be a camping or backpacking trip with some close friends. Such friends though, having about the same of level of experience and knowledge of such a trip as myself, which is not a whole lot, closer to the beginner level side of it all. We would definitely consider the human hazards of the plan, due to the fact that most of us are not very skillful and also fully equip with enough gear for such a trip. We would possibly then only go once we have or at least have access to enough supplies to take with us, and then possibly after at least one us takes the backpacking course here at OSU, or at least has done enough research to be knowledgeable enough to go on the trip, where later then can be taught to the rest of the group in order to be as prepared as we can, and go on the trip in a reasonable amount of time, preferably before we all graduate and then split up and go off onto different path of our lives.

Being well prepared knowledgably, for a camping or backpacking trip together, we can then or alongside, pick a range of days and location to go on our trip to, taking into consideration the environmental hazards of the trip, which can then be continually applied before and during the trip given the situation at hand, with both environmental and human hazardous variables. Which will then hopefully lead to an enjoyable, safe, and memorable trip overall, and a memory that we shared together for the long road and our lives in the beyond.