

Bushcraft Notes loosely based on WA Police Manual: "Aids to Survival".

Size up the situation/people/resources
Undue haste makes waste
Remember where you are
Vanquish fear and panic
Improvise
Value Living
Act like a native
Lean on your skills

Priorities: order varies over time!

Rescue
Shelter
Water
Food
First Aid
NB Order Changes

Accept the situation.
Brew.
Choice - stick to it

Planning: first collect facts and assumptions.

What if, so what (what if I do/don't do something).

6 Wise men: who, what, when, where, how, why.

Actions on Plane sighted, Lost, Injured, ...

3s hope, 3min air, 3hrs shelter, 3days water, 3wks food

Develop >=3 Courses of Action and compare them!

Some things to consider

Individual/Group Stresses. Team/Task Organisation. Leadership will change.

Drink nothing for 24hrs (sometimes). Urine for cooling.

When will SAR start, how, what will we do if they do/don't come.

Don't cut string (...) if you don't need to, **avoid one way choices!**

Select items for multiple uses (e.g. plastic bags).

Give everyone a job: **one must be SAR/fire watch!**

Time spent in planning/recon is seldom wasted.

Build a map of the area, give things names.

Build a sun compass for direction/timing.

Do watch the sunset (take pleasure in little things).

Keep your tools as sharp as possible, use other methods if possible.

Plan for getting weaker as time goes on, by day 4-7 you will be quite weak.

Reminders:

Always walk, never run, once you start running, you stop thinking - Jock Lewes.

Water: Finding, Clarification, Purification (boiling, chemical, sun), Bag Transpiration (not ironwood, sump), Desalination (boil->condense), Dew Collection, Storage (bags), Rationing.

Food: Collection, Storage, Preservation, Testing, Identification, Fishing, Hunting, Fish traps, Termites, Ants, Palm hearts, Snails, Crabs, ...

Rescue: 30-50m triangle (or line of 3) fires, tinsel tree, signalling mirror, flares, EPIRB. Oil/..->Black smoke, Green Leaves->White smoke: consider background colour. SOS (5m high). Rescue V (30m) signal. Shadow Trench.

Navigation: Compass, Sun (left foot, right foot, hands point N), Stars (Sthn Cross, Orion, Sirius-Canopus). Count paces. Hand angles. Someone must check navigate. Consider blazing a trail. Develop a track plan. Make a camp map.

Kit (remember people are more important): plastic bag, paracord (can be split), hutchie cord, whistle, signalling mirror, compass button, knife, flint, fish hooks, gloves first aid, iodine, scalpel, needles, fishing line, torch.

Orders (Start State, End State, Actions On, Abort Criteria, Phases, Who->what?)

Situation: 6 wise men based outline.

Mission: ... will ... from ... to ... in order to ...

Execution:

Actions on All Phases: Lost, Separated, Injured, Delayed, ...

Phase 1.: Start, How, Actions On ..., End

Administration: who carries what, use of water/kit...

Command and Control: who is in charge, who is navigating, pacing, checking.

Everyone must understand the orders, in particular the Actions On.