Staff Handbook





Caving

Likely high water levels	YES	1. Has it rained in the last few days / weeks?	NO	Indicates low water levels
Water is probably still rising	YES	2. Is it raining now	NO	No more water is being added to system
Confirms that we can expect high water	✓ YES	3. Has a previous group reported high water levels?	NO	Confirms that the water levels were already low
The water is likely to continue rising	YES	4. Is it forecast to continue raining?	NO	The water level is unlikely to rise any further
The water in Scar House reservoir will be being blown towards the dam	YES	5. Is a westerly wind forecast?	NO	Water levels at the dam shouldn't be affected by the wind
Winds of 20mph could create a wave/surge of water around 1.2meters high.	YES	6. If the wind is westerly is it forecast to be stronger than 20mph	NO	Water levels at the dam shouldn't be affected by the wind
Indicates that ground may be saturated	YES	7. Were there any signs of high water levels on the journey?	NO	Good indicator that water levels are low

Information Gathering Before Leaving Centre

Answering these questions should enable you to build up a mental picture of the conditions you are likely to encounter.

You should prepare the group and leaders for the expected worst case scenario (i.e. cancelled session) before leaving the centre and offer them an alternative to consider.

Carlton Lodge Activity Centre Caving Water Guidelines Reviewed 10/12/2018 By Rebecca Avery

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Arrival at location and decision-making

