



JET SKIING

Step 1: IDENTIFY THE HAZARDS: Let's look at the hazards associated with jet skiing:

- Location (crowded area, marked area)
- Operator ability (new/experienced)
- Condition of jet ski
- Condition of the water
- Protective equipment

Step 2: ASSESS THE RISK: Then assess the impact of each hazard in terms of potential loss and severity:

- Loosing control of ski and running into the crowd
- With less experience you need more room for error
- Could be stranded out far from shore, possible fire if in poor mechanical condition
- Is the water rough, murky, rip tides, under tow
- Lack of personal flotation device could result in drowning

Step 3: MAKE RISK DECISIONS: Once you have identified the hazards and assessed the associated risk, you should develop risk control options. Start with the most serious risk first and select controls that will reduce the risk to a minimum consistent with mission accomplishment. Decide on some controls that can be employed to reduce or mitigate the hazards:

- Stay away from crowded areas
- Stay within limits
- Have flares, life vest
- Evaluate water conditions prior to going out
- Don't go out if you don't have proper gear

With selected controls in place, decide if the benefit outweighs the risk. If risk outweighs benefits or if assistance is required to implement controls, communicate with higher authority in the chain of command. You need to either accept the risk, avoid the risk, reduce the risk, or spread the risk. Do not make dumb decisions.

Step 4: IMPLEMENT CONTROLS: Once you select appropriate controls, implement them! A plan is only good if it is followed.

Step 5: SUPERVISE: As always, the situation is subject to change quickly. Monitor the situation and adjust as necessary to keep things under control. Jet skiing is a great way to have fun and we all deserve a break every now and then. Use risk management to make your jet skiing experience fun, memorable, and safe. No one wants an outing to turn into a tragedy!

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Date