

Coast Roads Community Festival 2022 – Adverse Weather Management Plan

Disclaimer: The report has been prepared with all reasonable skill, care and diligence bounded by the terms of South Lakeland Council licensing and considers the project objectives, the agreed scope of works, prevailing site conditions and the degree of manpower and resources allocated to the project.

Summary

The Lock In CIC organises large-scale music events which take place outdoors, mostly on greenfield sites. As such they are susceptible to inclement weather, and poor conditions can prove to be very hazardous to all involved.

Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to ensure that adverse weather is dealt with appropriately and that any injuries or accidents caused by inclement conditions are avoided. The priority is to ensure the safety of all persons on the site at the time of hazardous conditions and to ensure that no damage is done to property on site, or in the surrounding area due to large debris from the festival carried by strong winds etc.

By nature, an emergency situation is likely to be dynamic and potentially dangerous. This document identifies roles and responsibilities for staff and event management team, which should only be undertaken with a due regard to personal safety. If in doubt, all staff should ensure that their personal safety is a primary concern and should not attempt to access an area of heightened risk.

Responsibilities

The event management staff will monitor weather forecasts for three weeks prior to the event. Should these forecasts predict hazardous weather then the appropriate actions will be taken in order to prepare the site. If dangerous or severe weather is forecast, then the event will be cancelled or postponed. Should the conditions on site become inclement without warning then the appropriate action will be taken as listed below for each condition.

The event manager and health and safety officer will be responsible for monitoring the weather forecast prior to and during the event. The weather monitoring method is detailed below. Should inclement weather be forecast for the event dates then the event manager will ensure that the marquee companies and staging companies are aware, and Emergency Plan provisions are put into place. Should inclement weather be forecast for a time period before the event then all on site staff will be informed and work will be altered or cancelled accordingly.

Conditions

Monitoring

Weather monitoring is key to any outdoor event as weather conditions can not only make or break an event, but can also be potentially hazardous and cause attendees to be put at risk. As a result, all precautions must be taken to ensure that any adverse weather can be dealt with and also to be reliably informed of what to expect in order to be suitably prepared. Weather monitoring is the best defence against adverse weather conditions as it allows you to act before the conditions take hold dangerous situations. The event management team will monitor weather through conventional systems such as BBC Weather and Met Office. Alongside these shall be invaluable monitoring techniques such as visual assessments on site.

Wind

When discussing wind speed on this site, we will use meters/second as the preferred units.

The Health and Safety Officer will maintain a register of all structures on site, together with two wind speed ratings:

1. Action Windspeed - the speed at which a structure will begin to be affected by wind, and at which modifications to the structure or it's usage may be required.
2. Evacuation Windspeed - the speed at which a structure is likely to fail and must therefore be evacuated.

For each structure, they will also identify the contractor responsible, their standby or show cover crew and contact details (radio channel and mobile number).

In the event of high wind conditions (anything from 20% below the lowest Action Windspeed for any structure on site), the safety officer will record the prevailing windspeed and direction every 30 minutes and will report it to the Event Manager.

In the event of a forecast or actual windspeed in excess of an Evacuation Windspeed for a structure, the Health and Safety officer will advise the Event Manager of the situation who will then manage the evacuation of the sector or site according to the event management plan.

There are a number of additional considerations when dealing with high winds:

Adjacent Structures

The event recognises that structures may be sited adjacent to other structures with a lower windspeed rating and that a failure of one structure may impact on others. Consequently, when assessing the possible failure of a single structure, due regard will be given to the impact of that failure on surrounding structures.

Small Structures

Information about small structures - particularly trader and sponsor concessions - is often limited, and these structures often are not able to supply a definitive wind rating or structural calculations. Additional checks of these structures will therefore be performed by the safety officer, and advice or

Appendix 2

instructions given. The Operations Manager reserves the right to make any modification to these structures that is reasonably required to maintain safety on the event site.

Trees

A comprehensive tree survey will be conducted prior to occupancy, which amongst other outputs aims to mitigate risk of falling branches in high wind events.

Build & Break Conditions

Prior to the commissioning of the event site, or during the dismantling phase, it is the responsibility of the Site Manager (advised by the Health and Safety Officer, when present) to monitor forecast and actual windspeed on site. Particularly consideration should be given to the suitability of the conditions for Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) operations, construction and dismantling operations, and craning or lifting operations.

Lightening

In the event of a thunder storm with lightning that may be nearby (6-8 miles between the site and the storm is an acceptable risk), public will be reminded to stay away from electrical equipment and take shelter until the storm has passed.

The weather will be monitored regularly via the internet. If there are storms in the region of the event, all staff and crew will be informed that a response may be required in the immediate future. Real time weather radar websites such as www.raintoday.co.uk and www.nowcast.co.uk/lightning will be closely monitored to determine direction of storm.

If lightning is observed and the time taken for the thunderclap to be heard is greater than 30 seconds then the site will remain at alert. If it is less than 30 seconds then the following will apply:

Build & Break

All crew chiefs and security will be informed immediately. All rigging, roof work and lifting operations will stop immediately, leaving equipment in a safe state. All staff and crew will be advised to keep clear of trees and structures. If lightning is in the immediate vicinity all crew and staff will be directed to sit in vehicles or move to a steel clad portacabin. Office workers will need to stop work on electrical appliances. Care is needed to ensure people sit away from walls and they should not touch the shell of either the car or cabin. Work at risk of lightning strike will only resume 30 minutes after the last heard thunder clap.

Show Days

All of the above remains valid for technical, office and site crew. Once the storm is within 8 miles of the site, event management team will be informed and staff stood by. It is most likely that people will shelter in Marquees during a thunder storm. Whilst these do not offer much protection from Lightening it is most likely that lightening will strike the highest object as it will always follow the quickest route to the ground.

Should a storm pass directly over a marquee it is therefore assumed that the central pole will be struck, being the highest point and made of a conductive material. This could provide injury or death

Appendix 2

to a person or persons in contact with the pole. Therefore, all marquee poles will be separated from public contact with an insulating material and/or a barrier.

Rain

During periods of bursts of intermittent rain fall, event marquees will provide temporary shelter, though if the rain looks to be extended and heavy, the event Management Team will discuss whether to carry on or close the event. In either case, the following factors and outcomes should be considered by the event manager and mitigation put in place where appropriate:

- Uneven surfaces and slopes around site can become slippery resulting in slips trips and falls.
- Emergency Access and Egress can become more difficult.
- Anchors for any temporary structures can become inefficient resulting in unstable structures.
- If not managed, enclosed structures can quickly become overcrowded resulting in crushing and possible crowd disorder.

Any of the above may require the enacting of one of the emergency protocols.

Should adverse weather result in severely muddy or waterlogged ground conditions, appropriate action will be taken to ensure that ground where there is heavy footfall does not represent a safety hazard. Action may include laying temporary roadway, mulch, straw or wood chippings.

- **Trakway** - The site and stage positioning allows ease of build and production. In addition, trakway will be deployed in key vehicle and plant movement areas around the site such as entrances and site boneyards to minimise the impact on the ground surfaces.
- **Surface protection** - During the build and break periods, utmost care will be taken to ensure vehicle movement is kept to a minimum on the grass, especially in cases where the ground is wet.

Sun Exposure

All event staff, crew and volunteers shall be briefed to wear appropriate clothing and sun block or sun cream. The compare on each stage / in each area will announce a reminder that all attendees should be wearing sun cream and cover any exposed skin and wear a hat in extreme cases. Attendees will also be reminded via the stage and staff that they are welcome to take shelter from the sun in any of the numerous marquees around the site and that free water is available from the bars. If high temperatures and high sun exposure is forecast, the management team will be informed and adequate amounts of sun cream will be made available to the public.

Appendix 1 – Main Stage High Wind Action Plan

Supplied by Main Stage Structure contractor – Fluid Productions