

Crocodile Safety Policy



Purpose

This policy provides a guide to recognising and overcoming risks associated with the provision of Lifesaving Services in regions which crocodiles may inhabit.

Scope

All operational levels of Life Saving Victoria

Policy

This policy aims to:

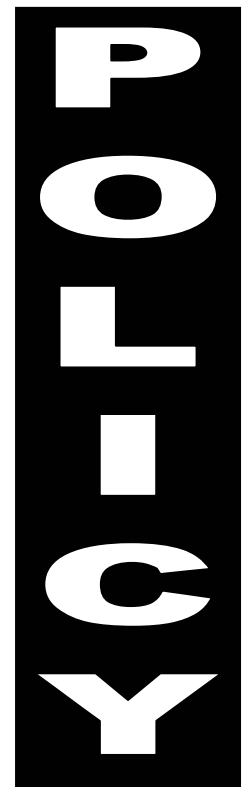
- Help identify existing and potential health and safety issues.
- Raise the overall awareness of hazard identification and risk reduction.
- Assist in establishing risk management procedures.

For the purposes of this document the word crocodile is used in the broad sense to include all crocodiles, alligator, caimans, gharials.

Actions of a Sighting

In the event of a crocodile sighting the following precautions are recommended:

- Request swimmers leave the water.
- Close the beach to all swimming and post appropriate signage (if specific signage is not available standard “no swimming” and “danger” signs may be utilised).
- Advise beach visitors to remain clear of the waters edge.
- Do not attempt to kill, capture or injure the animal.
- Record as much detail regarding the sighting as possible.
- Contact the Department of Environment as soon as possible.

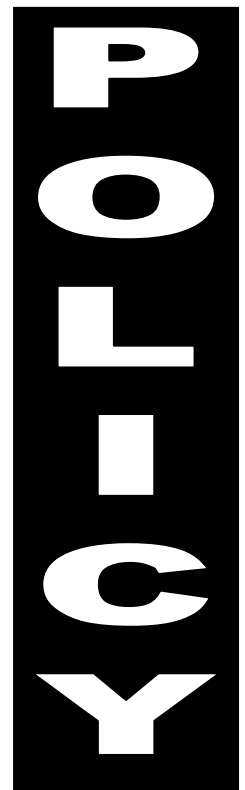


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Actions in the event of a Crocodile Attack

Shark or crocodile attack and powerboat injuries can result in massive tissue damage and severe blood loss. The following general treatment applies:

- Bring the patient to the beach as quickly as possible.
- Apply immediate first aid.
- Co-ordinate hospital transport and pre-hospital emergency care.
- Follow precautions outlined in 'Action on Sighting'.



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