



Easy to integrate activity to visualize the typical fleeing distances of animals.



Learning experience



Topic
Fauna



10-15 minutes



Participants

- understand the distances required to minimise disturbance



Suitable for
outdoor sport instructors
and course participants



Practical sessions



Outdoor F2F



Materials needed

No



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Preparation

Have the group gathered on the beach or an area with enough green space for free movement.

Activity instruction

Ask the participants to pace out the minimum distance under which disturbance of fauna is likely (e.g. for seals). When everybody is placed at the distance they would assume as being adequate, walk the distance yourself (For seals the participants will nearly always stop at 50m. The correct distance is 100m).

Reflection and discussion

Ask the group if they have ever encountered a respective animal. How did they behave?

- Discuss signs of disturbance (e.g. seals upright and scanning you by moving heads from side to side, cascading rapidly into the water) and how we can adjust our behaviour to limit the impact (e.g. if you have discovered a deer, chamois etc. do not stop and gaze at it. If you keep on walking in normal speed it will believe to not have been spotted; People who stay on paths are easier to assess and cause less disturbance).
- How will what they have learned / discussed change any behaviours in the future?

Note: of course the disturbance and fleeing distance is just an approximation and is varying due to a couple of factors like time of the day, possible coverings, shape of environment, speed of the persons, existing trails, etc.

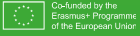


Potential Variations

See activity "WiSe with marine animals" for variation in activity.



FLEEING DISTANCE



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Background knowledge

Background knowledge on typical fleeing distances of wild fauna in your natural site needed.



Key words

#fauna



Source

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