Trail Audit Template

AUSCYCLING

Trail Audit Template - Sample

Trail Location / Network Name:				Assessment Date:		
Trail Name:				Assessor/s:		
Ref #	**Location**	**Photo #**	**Issue**	**Feature/Maintenance Issue Description & Measurements**		**Trail Rating**
Example 1	WP 205 or 50 394604E 6459558N	3	Steep Section	Gradient of 20% for 30m	17m	Blue
Example 2	WP 206 or 50 394614E 6459559N	3	Erosion	Fall line trail eroded for 10m – requires realignment	15m	NA
Example 3	WP 207 or 50 394615E 64595560N	3	Berm	Natural earth berm height - 800mm, radius - 5m	11m	Blue
Example 4	WP 208 or 50 394613E 64595760N	3	Trail Marker	Blue trail marker in correct location, good condition	9m	NA
				Overall Trail Classification		**Blue**

Trail Classification Matrix

Classification						
Very Easy	Easy	Easy / Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate / Difficult	Difficult	Extreme

Notes

1. GPS used in recording waypoints need to be:
   - Set to UTM coordinates, GDA94 Datum
   - Downloadable
2. Gradients are to be measured using a clinometer, and not estimated by eye.
   Always- measure gradient as a percentage.
3. Feature includes: TTFs, built structures, turns, slowing points, steep sections, change in trail surface etc.
4. Issues may include, erosion, drainage required/not working, safety issue, trail drainage, damage, signage, etc.

Trail Audit Process

The trail audit procedure is a two person job. When assessing a trail the following equipment will be required:

- Trail Classification Matrix
- Trail Assessment Form
- Pen
- Clinometer
- GPS records in .shp
- Graduated survey staff
- Measuring wheel (optional)
- Camera
- Tape measure

Travel along the trail until you come to an element that exceeds the classification of Easy on the Trail Classification Matrix or a maintenance issue. Remember gradient, tread width, trail surface, trail exposure, natural obstacles, technical trail features all affect a trail's classification.

Assess the individual feature or maintenance issue.

Feature may include:

- technical trail features (TTF)
- steep sections
- structures
- turns
- changes to the trail width or surface
- slowing features

Maintenance issues may include:

- safety issue
- erosion
- drainage issue
- damaged TTF
- overgrown vegetation

Record the results on the Trail Audit Form by:

1. Taking a GPS waypoint in the middle of the feature or issue
2. Photograph the feature or issue (record number of photograph) using a graduated survey staff as a scale (allows for monitoring and future comparison).
3. Record the feature type.
4. Describe the feature and record the specifications and condition.
5. For each feature, work through the Trail Classification Matrix to work out which classification the feature falls under.
6. Move onto the next feature and repeat process for each feature until all of the features along the trail have been recorded.
7. Complete Trail Audit Form, where the overall trail classification is the highest individual feature classification. The basic premise is that anyone riding the trail will need to have the appropriate experience and skill to attempt the most difficult feature on the trail.

Note:

If there are alternate routes through a feature, identify the separate routes as 'main trail and alternate route'.