



Adventure & Outdoor Update

SupportAdventure.co.nz
SAFETY SYSTEMS ORDERED BY SAFETY CULTURE



Outdoors New Zealand
Mahi Ngahau ā-Waho Aotearoa



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Adventure activities registration update

Safety audit standard

The inaugural safety audit standard has been published in the New Zealand Gazette and is available on the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment's (MBIE) [website](#). Read the government's [media release](#). MBIE will continue to review the standard. MBIE will shortly be announcing a list of recognised safety auditors. For more information, see [MBIE's webpages](#).

Qualmark

[Qualmark NZ](#) has announced that while it remains 100% focused on quality assurance, it will not be taking on additional responsibilities as a provider of safety audits for the adventure tourism industry.

"Qualmark fully supports the requirement for improved safety in adventure tourism operations" says General Manager Tim Keeling. "As part of its assessments, Qualmark will continue to require that operators provide proof of compliance with all regulatory requirements, just as it currently does for operators covered under Civil Aviation Authority or Maritime New Zealand regulations. Qualmark remains committed to providing an assurance of quality for customers, and will work with the adventure industry to ensure an efficient product that compliments regulatory requirements for safety."

Registration schedule reminder

Early registration under the [Adventure Activities Regulations](#) will start shortly with bridge swinging, canyoning, coastering, mountaineering, river boarding, abseiling and rock climbing scheduled to be notified of the requirement to initiate a safety audit in February/March. [Click here](#) to see the audit and registration schedule.

Contractors – reminder to notify

A reminder that contractors are within the scope of the regulations and if you haven't already done so you should notify MBIE immediately, unless you only contract to operators who are required to notify. In that case the operators' safety plans will be the ones audited. For more information contact MBIE's Stu Allan, stu.allan@dol.govt.nz, phone 04 890 6807.



Photo: Serious Fun River Surfing

Maritime NZ update

Drugs & alcohol guidance

Maritime NZ has released [guidance](#) for rafting and jet boat operators on managing the hazard of drugs and alcohol.

New adventure activity resource

Maritime NZ has an [adventure activity resource](#) page on its website, including information on shark cage diving, commercial swimming operations, and kayaking and canoeing safety strategies. These can also be found in the ASG section on [SupportAdventure](#).



Photo: Dart River Jet Safaris

Outdoors NZ update

Qualifications consultation

The stage one consultation round of the Recreation, Sport and Fitness Targeted Review of Qualifications (TRoQ) is underway. This is your chance to feed into the proposed draft qualification pathways and graduate profiles for the recreation, sport, fitness, outdoor recreation, snowsport and dive sectors.

[Click here](#) to find out more, including videos from industry sector representatives, a map of the proposed suite of qualifications (TRoQoGram), draft qualification documents and a feedback survey. Please complete the survey and submit by Monday 25 March as it's extremely important we get as much feedback as possible.

Incident reporting system

One of the recommendations of the Adventure Tourism Review was to improve the collection and collation of incident information in the outdoors. The project to develop a comprehensive national Incident Reporting System (IRS) has been delayed in order to progress other priority programmes.

A preliminary report was presented to MBIE last year and Outdoors NZ has been working with Mountain Safety Council (who currently host the National Incident Database) to develop a comprehensive business case for the IRS. We hope to progress a project scoping exercise in the next few months and will be consulting with a range of stakeholders and reference groups to ensure that the IRS will be user-friendly, effective and timely and to ensure that it provides meaningful hazard management information and resources to operators and the outdoors community as a whole.

If you'd like to know more about the IRS project, please contact Outdoors NZ CEO Garth Dawson, email ce@outdoorsnz.org.nz or call 04 385 7287.



Photo: NZ Ski, Coronet Peak

SupportAdventure working for you

Starting a new business or checking your existing operation? Then you need to be sure you have met your legislative obligations, that your safety management plan (SMP) is in line with industry good practice, and that your staff are verified as competent.

Legislative obligations

Check the [legislation section](#) in SupportAdventure. Remember that if you fall within the scope of the adventure activities regulations you need to notify the [Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment](#) BEFORE you begin business.

SMP in line with industry good practice

Check your SMP against the [safety management section](#) on SupportAdventure. Use the forms and checklists and check your operational procedures against industry guidelines where they exist, such as [Activity Safety Guidelines](#) (ASGs) and compare them with other operators delivering similar activities.

Competent staff

Check your staff selection, training and competence verification processes against the [staff section](#) on SupportAdventure to ensure you are in line with industry good practice. Use nationally recognised qualifications when possible.



Photo: Tourism BOP

Activity Safety Guidelines

Thank you to those who have offered their expertise for the development groups of the Abseil and High Wire, High Ropes, Bridge Swinging and Canyon Swinging ASGs. It's great to see the calibre of people putting their names forward. Expressions of interest closed on 15 March and groups will be finalised soon.

The second meeting for Heliski and Quad bike ASGs will take place in the coming month.

Groups without ASGs or other guidelines should talk with sector peers to ensure you are operating according to industry good practice and that safety information is being shared. Use suitably competent staff and nationally recognised qualifications to help. For more information email rachael.moore@tiansz.org.nz



Photo: Evan Freshwater

Collaborating on safety

The Great Adventure

Registrations are now live for The Great Adventure, a new TIA event to bring together adventure and outdoor tourism leaders to share their experience and contribute to building a strong, unified and prosperous sector.

[Click here](#) for more information, including the programme, speaker bios and registration. Register now to take advantage of the early bird special!

Outdoors NZ Roadshow

A reminder to register for Outdoors New Zealand's nationwide roadshow, travelling to nine locations in March and April. Held over one day, the morning session will provide updates on projects affecting the outdoor community, including safety management, professional development and education. Attendees can attend one of two practical workshops during the afternoon session:

- developing safety management systems for your organisation
- creating successful marketing & communications strategies

This is an opportunity to network, get updates on industry initiatives and changes and have input into what's happening in the outdoors community. [Click here](#) for more information and registration details.

Education Outdoors NZ roadshow

A series of two-day workshops in March and April will explore the Ministry of Education document 'EOTC Guidelines, Bringing the Curriculum Alive', support participants to provide education outside the classroom opportunities, introduce planning and safety principles, examine current best practice and introduce a systems-based approach to address individual school needs.

Note: Auckland and Wellington are fully subscribed but please register your interest and if there is enough demand they will provide another opportunity.

[Click here](#) for more information and registration.

The World Outdoors Summit 2013

An international conference held every four years, the 2013 World Outdoors Summit 2013 is on in Rotorua, 18-22 November, hosted by Outdoors NZ. The theme is the value of the outdoors to society. To be notified by email as soon as registrations open please email register@wos2013.com

Climbing on Artificial Structures Industry Symposium

The inaugural national symposium for this sector was held in Palmerston North on 8 March, opened by the city's Mayor and hosted by YMCA - Vertx climbing wall. Members of the Climbing on Artificial Structures ASG working group talked with other operators and managers from over 20 climbing walls around the country to look at implementing the [ASG recommendations](#). TIA, the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment and Outdoors NZ attended the event which was very successful with sharing of safety information and an activity group network formed.

Death at high-wire adventure park

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment safety inspectors are investigating the death of Clifford Brabet after he fell from high wires at [Tree Adventures](#) in Woodhill Forest near Auckland earlier this month. The incident attracted a high level of media attention, with TIA Advocacy Manager Geoff Ensor interviewed by print, radio and TV ([click here](#) to view interviews 4-5 March). Our thoughts are with Mr Barbet's family and friends, and the team at Tree Adventures. We will keep you informed of the investigation outcome, so any learnings can be quickly shared amongst this sector.

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(Main photo Old Ghost Road, by Gareth Eyres)

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