



Adventure & Outdoor Update



Outdoors New Zealand
Mahi Ngahau a-Waho Aotearoa



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MBIE safety audits - when and how

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) has released a list of transitional audit providers in relation to the Adventure Activities Regulations. Safety audits carried out by these organisations will be accepted during the transitional period before the new regulations are fully implemented on 1 November 2014.

Go to [SupportAdventure](#) for a summary of key points and links to MBIE information including a useful flowchart and the list of transitional audit providers.



Photo: AJ Hackett Bungy

Highlights from the MBIE update:

- Operators who are given written notice by MBIE requiring earlier registration must initiate a safety audit by a recognised safety auditor within three months of the date they receive the notice, and must then pass the audit within six months of the date when it started
- MBIE will provide an update on recognised audit providers later this year, until that time providers are advised to use the transitional list
- MBIE expects that the requirement for early registration will be phased across groups of operators in order of priority from the beginning of 2013.
- MBIE will make an announcement soon regarding the categories of activity that will be a priority for early registration
- An operator who belongs to a category of operators which is required to obtain early registration will be exempt from that requirement if certain conditions are met
- Operators are encouraged to initiate safety audits well ahead of time to ensure legal deadlines are met
- It will be an offence to provide adventure activities unless the operator is registered to provide those activities as required under the regulations (unless MBIE has granted an exemption)



Photo: Aspiring Guides

Outdoors NZ projects update

Outdoors NZ is continuing to work closely with MBIE on implementation of the Adventure Activities Regulations and the recommendations it has been contracted to deliver. We are currently working on the following projects:

- Continuing to examine how best to address the information deficit about incidents and accidents in the sector with the aim of using the information to determine risk level and improve safety. This will involve significant collaboration within the adventure and commercial outdoor sector as a whole and with the Mountain Safety Council in particular.
- Supporting sector activity in the review of qualifications for adventure tourism and outdoor commercial sector instructor and guides.
- Providing advice to MBIE on a certification framework for assessing and certifying people or organisations as safety auditors for adventure activities. Certification would provide a basis for recognition of safety auditors as required under the Adventure Activities Regulations.
- Providing advice to MBIE on the arrangements required to operate the safety audit standard/s as required under the Adventure Activities Regulations.



Sue Gemmell

The Outdoors Forum

The Outdoors Forum is scheduled for the 12- 13 October in Wellington. This year the focus of the forum is "The Value of the Outdoors to New Zealand Society". This is a two-day annual event hosted by Outdoors New Zealand that enables delegates from the heart of the outdoors community to share knowledge, ideas and discuss important issues and initiatives through workshops, seminars and networking opportunities. Presentations have been chosen to match the theme, as well as for their interesting and inspirational views that we see value in sharing with the wider outdoors community. Contact [Jaya Gibson](#)

TIA projects update

Activity Safety Guidelines

Activity Safety Guidelines (ASGs) are being developed by activity specialists to provide detailed safety information for specific sectors. TIA is facilitating the development process.

ASG process consultation

A process for developing the ASGs has been drafted and is up on the SupportAdventure website for a month long sector wide review. [Click here](#) to read the drafts and provide feedback.

Approval update

The structure and form of the first three ASGs (canyoning, caving, indoor rock climbing) is now being reviewed by MBIE. Following their sign off, the ASGs will be available to download on the SupportAdventure website. Congratulations to the activity specialists involved in their development, and a big thanks to all those who have contributed their expert advice to date.

Next activities for ASG development

TIA has been contracted by MBIE to facilitate the development of four more ASGs over the coming year. These will be:

- heli-skiing
- high wire crossings
- quad bike tours
- abseiling

These activities were selected by comparing empirical evidence with information compiled during the government's 2009/10 adventure safety review and current government information on accidents and incidents.

Initial work will begin shortly to establish databases for stakeholders in each of the four activities. TIA will then seek expressions of interest and nominations of activity specialists to be part of the development teams.

Email TIA Adventure & Outdoor Project Manager [Rachael Moore](#) for more information.

Adventure forums - [register now](#)

Rachael will run a series of adventure safety forums during October.

These Forums are aimed at operators, contractors and senior staff responsible for safety management systems. "It's a great chance to be sure that you are aware of the safety guidance material available, the new regulations and their audit requirements and to look at the effectiveness of your safety management system. We'll ask the crucial question "are you and your team sure that the focus of your safety efforts is where it should be?". I'm looking forward to seeing you there, helping to clarify the registration and auditing requirements and sharing safety information and ideas." Rachael

TIA CEO Martin Snedden will be attending at least two and hopefully all three of these forums and is looking forward to gaining a better understanding of the current commercial adventure safety environment.

Adventure Forums will be held in Christchurch 17 October, Queenstown 19 October and Rotorua 24 October. [Click here](#) to register.

Additional information opportunities

Rachael will facilitate sessions at the [NZOIA National Training Symposium](#) on 5 October, at [The Outdoors Forum](#) on 12 October, and at the [Northland Outdoors Forum](#) 26th October.

Session will cover topics such as the new adventure regulations and audit requirements, activity safety guidelines and the current commercial adventure safety environment

Contribute to SupportAdventure

- If you have recently passed a safety audit we encourage you to share your learning on the [SupportAdventure](#) website. Add your thoughts to the [Operator Speak](#) section or contribute to the [Safety Management Plan Examples](#) section
- It's time to update photos on the site – email images to [Rachael](#)
- Contribute to the [Operator Forum](#) – email [Rachael](#)



Photo: Sharon Nicolas



Photo: Adrenalin Forest



Rachael Moore

Maritime NZ safety

Maritime New Zealand is developing safety guidelines for activities that fall within its jurisdiction. It is currently working on guidance for parasailing, shark cage diving and marine swimming.

Maritime NZ is also working to introduce the new [Maritime Operator Safety System \(MOSS\)](#) next year to improve maritime operator safety. It has published Q&A in response to public meetings to help operators who come under its jurisdiction understand how MOSS will work and what it means for them, including audits, surveys and costs. If you have more questions about MOSS email moss@maritimenz.govt.nz



Photo: Whale Watch Kaikoura

Collaborating on safety

If you have any upcoming training or workshops that would benefit from including external attendees let us know and we'll help to spread the word. Examples of collaborative work currently underway:

- Northland Outdoors Forum - safety workshop
Convened by Sam Russek from Northland Polytechnic.
Date 26th October, Whangarei at ASB Leisure Centre, approx. 10am – 6pm.
Groups to present including NZOIA, Outdoors NZ, MBIE (DOL), Education Outside NZ, TIA
This is a collaborative work shop approach. Groups, organisations, individual operators (contractors) schools and adventure operators are invited to bring current safety systems. RSVP or for more information email srussek@northtec.ac.nz
- The Tongariro Alpine Crossing Transport and Guide (TACTAG) concessionaires group is working with the Department of Conservation, local Regional Tourism Organisations, TIA and other stake-holders post eruption. For more information on establishing user groups to help manage safety in your area contact TIA Advocacy Manager [Geoff Ensor](#).
- [NZOIA symposium](#) on 5 October
- Outdoors NZ recently facilitated a meeting with a group of adventure course operators to discuss standards, staff competence and future technological innovations. For more information on this meeting email [Sue Gemmell](#)
- OutdoorsNZ will be running safety management system workshops soon. For more information contact [Sue Gemmell](#)
- Whanganui river users hui, Raetehi 25 September. For more information email [Connie Norgate](#)



Whangarei
Photo: Destination Northland



Mt Tongariro

Two recently formed associations working on developing safety guidance for their sectors:

- Off road vehicles: Automotive Training & Events Association Inc, contact Shane Cameron, emailshane@offroadnz.co.nz
- Riders Division NZ : Focused on trial bike safety, particularly event management. Contact David Yardley yardmarm@xtra.co.nz 021 023 24901

It was with great sadness that we heard of the tragic accident at Paritutu Rock in Taranaki. Our thoughts and sympathy are with the families, friends and colleagues of those who were lost.

Sue & Rachael

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