



Adventure & Outdoor Update



Outdoors New Zealand
Mahi Ngahau ā-Waho Aotearoa



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Audit providers

The Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment* (MBIE) says it is planning to publish its list of audit providers very soon. We will let you know via a news flash when the list is released. All adventure activity operators covered by the adventure activities regulations will be required to undergo periodic audits by an approved auditor. For more information about the process, see the government adventure regulations [guidance document](#) and the [SupportAdventure.co.nz](#) website.

MBIE boosts adventure resources

MBIE has also announced it is allocating additional resource to its Adventure Activity project team, advertising for a Principal Advisor Adventure Activities.

*The Department of Labour was merged into the new Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) on 1 July 2012.

TIA projects

New on SupportAdventure website

Read how AJ Hackett Bungy manages safety in the SupportAdventure [operator forum](#).

This is the section where operators write about their safety systems, particularly what is working well for them and why. Contributors have included their phone and email and are happy to be contacted by other operators.

Send us your comments and photos for the website and play your part in creating a culture of safety and positioning your operation as a leader in this space. A couple of operator comments that have got people talking:

"As with all our systems, the challenge has been more about keeping it working than building it..."

"Hazard management may be everyone's responsibility, but we've found it needs to be driven by one committed person, constantly..."

Mixed abilities guidance

The [SupportAdventure](#) website has practical tips and guidance on managing adventure activities with clients who have mixed ability due to such things as spinal injuries and visual impairments. It includes tips on working with these clients in the water and at heights. [Read more](#). Thanks to Toni (Antnz) Burgess, Vertx Manager, YMCA central who supplied the information.



Photo: AJ Hackett Bungy

Hazard identification and management system review

Hazard management in your business is critical to good safety and is a legal requirement. SupportAdventure has guidance on what your safety management system should cover. [Read more](#).



Photo: Mark Inglis

Importance of formal risk assessments - Aussie coroner

A coroner's report into the deaths of five travellers while white water rafting in north Queensland has stressed the need for safety management systems with a structured risk management approach. [Read more](#) in this article, including a link to the coroner's report. Visit the [SupportAdventure](#) website for guidance on formal risk assessments.

Activity Safety Guidelines

Final drafts of the Activity Safety Guidelines description document and development process are with MBIE, and will be released soon for a month-long sector-wide consultation period. The drafts were completed after being trialled and refined during a pilot programme lasting several months. Information will be provided on the SupportAdventure website.

Outdoors NZ Projects

Incident Reporting System

Outdoors NZ has presented the Incident Reporting System draft report and findings to MBIE. "There was widespread sector support for a National Incident Reporting System – a one-stop-shop web solution that will both simplify serious incident reporting and collect more meaningful incident data from across the sector," says Outdoors NZ Project Leader Sue Gemmell.

Outdoors NZ is partnering with Sport NZ, Mountain Safety Council and Education Outside NZ to incorporate



Photo: Sharon Nicolas

upgrades to the current National Incident Database into this wider project.

Competency measures and levels

Outdoors NZ has presented its draft report and recommendations on the scoping investigation into competencies and qualifications to MBIE and is discussing the 'next steps' with the Ministry. The scoping investigation report is still open to comment and feedback on the [SupportAdventure website](#).

Please email thoughts and questions to sue@outdoorsnz.org.nz.

Qualifications review

Over the next three years the NZ Qualifications Authority is reviewing qualifications on its framework. The 'Targeted Review of Qualifications' (TROQ) aims to reduce the number of its qualifications and make the New Zealand qualification system simpler for employers, learners and training providers.

Industry Training Organisation [Skills Active](#) is managing the TROQ process for the outdoor sector. Sue Gemmell is a member of its outdoor recreation working group which recently held its first meeting. Progress on the review can be followed on the Skills Active [website](#).

TIA and Outdoors NZ are also following and contributing to TROQ reviews by other ITOs such as [ATTTO](#) which impact on the adventure and outdoor sector.

The NZ Outdoors Instructor Association is also reviewing its qualifications. An Education Advisory Group recently met in Christchurch and the convening of technical committees in each pursuit is underway. [Read more](#) about this project.



Photo: Evan Freshwater, TIA

Drugs and alcohol

TIA is continuing its discussions with government agencies about managing drugs and alcohol in the adventure and outdoor sector following two accident reports which showed the presence of cannabis in staff in safety-critical roles. We are planning to have a comprehensive package of information on the [SupportAdventure](#) website in the next few months to help employers manage this hazard.

In the meantime, talk with staff and reinforce your zero tolerance for impairment from drugs and alcohol in the workplace. Check out these MBIE documents:

- [Laws on drug testing in the workplace](#)
- [Information on the effects of drugs in the workplace](#)

Collaborating on safety

This section is your opportunity to promote upcoming safety training, events or forums and invite others to attend. There are numerous benefits from collaborating on training, including reducing costs, sharing ideas and techniques and extending networks.

TIA initiated a quad bike sector national safety meeting in Wellington last month. TIA, MBIE, OutdoorsMark and Qualmark all had representatives at the meeting.

If you have any upcoming training or workshops to share email [Sue](#) or [Rachael](#) and we'll help spread the word.



Photo: Evan Freshwater

Wishing you a safe and successful winter season.

Sue and Rachael

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(Main photo: Arthur's Pass by Sebastian Reznick)

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