



# Support **Adventure News**

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SAFETY SYSTEMS DRIVEN BY SAFETY CULTURE  
The site for adventure operators



*SupportAdventure News brings you information on safety initiatives across the commercial adventure tourism and outdoors sectors.*

## Pre summer safety checks

Summer is nearly here and it looks like it's going to be another very busy season for adventure tourism operators, with annual international visitor arrivals recently passing the 3 million milestone.

Plan your pre-season safety checks now before the pressures of managing bookings and recruiting staff kick in. Schedule checks so that you're confident everything is ready to go when you need it. There's a lot to consider including equipment, induction systems, incident logs, currency checks for returning staff, environmental hazard checks, and assessing if your operating procedures are still aligned with industry good practice and with what you actually do.



Photo: River Valley

Visit the [SupportAdventure website](#) for tips.

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## Surveillance audits

Surveillance audits are now underway for operators covered by the [Adventure Activities Regulations](#). This audit is very important as it sets the scene for what next year's surveillance will involve. You should be aiming to give your auditor enough confidence that your next check is an annual declaration of conformity rather than an on-site visit.

To make sure it goes well:

- Ensure you are clear on what topics your auditor wants to cover and what evidence they will expect to see.
- Make sure you are meeting all the requirements of your safety management plan including record keeping and continual improvement.
- Treat it with the same importance that you treated your full audit.
- For more tips visit the [SupportAdventure website](#).

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## New recreational dive industry group

Some members of the Dive Activity Safety Guidelines working group want to develop an industry representative group for the recreational dive sector. An effective industry group provides cohesion, a way to share safety information and to discuss other concerns that affect your sector. It also provides a place for external stakeholders to communicate with your sector.



Photo: Dive! Tutukaka

Nominations for the group close on 1 November. For more information email TIA Industry Advocate [Rachael Moore](#).

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## NZRA steps up advocacy

The New Zealand Recreation Association recently launched an [advocacy campaign](#) to proactively tackle issues that affect the outdoor recreation sector, including the impact of recent [health and safety reforms](#). NZRA is also working closely with TIA to advocate for the industry on matters around the Adventure Activity Regulations.



Photo: NZRA

NZRA now provides a [recreation manifesto](#), an [advocacy website](#) providing links to relevant media coverage, and an [advocacy 'cheat sheet'](#) to help operators and others working in the industry get their messages across.

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## NZRA Health and Safety Webinar

NZRA will run a Health and Safety Webinar on 30 October, addressing [recent reforms](#) and covering the implications for businesses operating in the outdoor recreation sector.

The webinar will include a representative from WorkSafe and a legal expert, and there will be opportunities to submit questions as part of the registration process.

To register your interest email NZRA Outdoor Recreation Project Manager [Kim Willemse](#).

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## Qualifications review update

Read the Skills Active September [TRoQ Update](#) to keep up to date with the development of adventure activity qualifications on the NZQA framework.

This update includes a useful flow diagram of the stages of the qualification development process.

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## Mountain Safety Council - hot spot safety solutions

Over the last month the [Mountain Safety Council](#) started partnership work, focusing on the Central North Island, a popular part of the country (100,000 people visited the Tongariro Alpine Crossing last year). MSC staff met with the Department of Conservation to get a better understanding of what's happening on the ground and started to collect and analyse a range of data about injuries, search and rescues and fatalities in the area.

We will work with a range of partners to further understand the issues in the area and establish appropriate safety initiatives and targeted messaging.

### Partner workshop

In early September, MSC held a partner workshop with some 20 partner organisations, including DOC, NZRA, ACC and NZ Search and Rescue.

We presented insight into participation rates/trends and outdoor injuries, search and rescue operations, and fatalities in the Central North Island and Southern Lakes/South Westland hotspot areas, collaboratively exploring possible solutions to these outdoor safety issues.



Photo: DOC

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## Collaborating on safety – there's a lot happening!

The high number of operator and activity groups getting together and talking safety or practicing skills is an indication of our sector's strong safety culture. Contact Rachael or Kim to let us know what you've got happening. It might inspire others to do the same.

### Coming up...

- [NZRA Outdoors forum](#) - Wellington, 22 and 23 October. This is a forum for the outdoor recreation sector to come together and have a say on the direction of the sector. Late registrations are still accepted, email [nicole.ramage@nzrecreation.org.nz](mailto:nicole.ramage@nzrecreation.org.nz)

- New Zealand Canyoning Festival - the NZ Canyoning Association is holding a canyoning festival in Wanaka in January 2016. The festival will include workshops on canyoning techniques and safety. [Click here](#) for more information
- River rescue workshops - NZ Rivers association for professional guides annual river rescue workshops are on in Turangi 9-13 November and Murchison 16-20 November. There is also a grade 2 river rescue workshop in Mangaweka 19-21 October 2015. For more information email [nzrivers@nzrivers.co.nz](mailto:nzrivers@nzrivers.co.nz)

### Happened recently...

- A Quad bike hui was held in September, attended by operators and WorkSafe Registrar Paul Mitchell. It included a morning meeting followed by a practical afternoon which included trialling different machines. Next year's hui will be in Queenstown hosted by Nomad Safaris. Email TIA Industry Advocate [Rachael Moore](#) for more information.
- Heliski operators group held a post season meeting in Wanaka on 6 September.
- New Zealand Outdoor Instructors Association (NZOIA) held their annual symposium. Highlights included an assessor moderation day and training workshops on technical rescue, avalanche hazards and sea kayaking. Discussions were held on Maori and Pacific Island instructors in New Zealand, and pathways from NZOIA alpine awards to mountain guiding qualifications.
- Tongariro Alpine Crossing tourism action group met last Friday. For more information on this group email DOC Partnership Ranger Kaitiaki Manutaki [Amy Satterfield](#).

Remember to make time now to get those safety pre-summer safety checks underway. The [SupportAdventure website](#) and your TIA and NZRA contacts Rachael and Kim are here to help.

*Rachael & Kim*

#### Contact:

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Rachael Moore



Photo: Kim Willemse

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