



Support Adventure News

SupportAdventure.co.nz
SAFETY SYSTEMS DRIVEN BY SAFETY CULTURE



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Updated SupportAdventure website

The [SupportAdventure website](#) has been updated! The website now includes the latest thinking on risk management processes, good practice guidance that has been developed through the [Activity Safety Guidelines](#) but which applies to all activities, and the learning we've had as a sector since the [Adventure Activity Regulations](#) were introduced. Thank you to everyone who has contributed their knowledge to these documents and processes over the last seven years!

The website will continue to be updated. We hope to have information for you

soon on regulator incident investigation processes.

Thank you to WorkSafe for funding the shift of the website to a much needed new platform, and to TIA for providing staff resourcing to update it. The website is live and open for your feedback. Please contact us if you have any suggestions.

Website use

The old website was well used by the sector and we hope that will continue.

In the last calendar year, SupportAdventure had 8800 users who visited 13,000 times! Not surprisingly, the website sees the most use during the pre-season months (spring and autumn), and after each SupportAdventure newsletter.

The most used information is on the [Adventure Activity Regulations](#), the [Health and Safety at Work Act](#), how to write your [Safety Management Plan](#) and associated templates, and [Activity Safety Guidelines](#).

Background

The [SupportAdventure website](#) and guidance material were developed following the government's 2009/2010 review into safety in the commercial outdoor and adventure tourism sectors. That review led to the introduction of the [Adventure Activities Regulations 2011](#) (updated in 2016).

During the review, operators said they wanted a central, credible source of safety guidance to support them during start-up, and ongoing reviews of their safety management systems. The review recommendations supported this approach.

Activity Safety Guidelines reviews

- [Abseiling](#)
- [Canyoning](#)
- [Caving](#)
- [Coasteering](#)

These ASGs are being reviewed as part of the ongoing process that ensures they reflect current good practice.

There are two key elements to the ASGs – they're developed by the sector, and they're regularly reviewed by the sector. These elements are the strength of the ASGs.

Their primary audience is operators and their secondary audience is auditors. The operators can check their safety practices against what the sector decides is good practice; the auditors have agreed benchmarks, which minimises subjectivity in their audit decisions (and also, you might expect, in any legal process).

Stu Allan stu@activevoice.co.nz is contracted by WorkSafe to facilitate these reviews. The critical word is *facilitate*. He's contacted as many stakeholders as he can find and encouraged feedback to ensure that there is continued sector ownership of these important documents. If you haven't been contacted, please add your tuppence worth – they're your guidelines, and your feedback is not only welcomed, but critical.

The reviews should be complete by October.

You can see the ASG review schedule [here](#).

Recreational access to private and public land – H&S responsibilities

Recreation Aotearoa and the New Zealand Alpine Club have worked with WorkSafe to clarify understanding on who is responsible for managing health and safety when people use public or private land for recreational purposes. The [resulting document](#) should go a long way towards maintaining recreational access!

Mountain biking news

Lots happening for mountain bike operators!

- The Mountain Bike ASG is in final draft and will be published on SupportAdventure soon. Congratulations to all those who have contributed to this document.
- New qualifications – both NZOIA and Skills Active have released new mountain biking qualifications:

NZOIA [Syllabus and Assessment Guide](#)

Skills Active: [New Zealand Certificate in Outdoor Leadership pathway: Mountain Biking](#)

- Trail building guide – Recreation Aotearoa has released [New Zealand Mountain Bike Trail Design and Construction Guidelines](#)

Rafting regulation

The regulation of rafting will likely move from Maritime New Zealand to WorkSafe. The [New Zealand Rivers Association](#), with support from TIA, is working with both agencies to ensure that [Rule 81](#), the rafting qualifications and the importance of working with industry, all transition effectively to WorkSafe. Clear information on what will be required of operators and suitable lead-in times to adjust to the change are also being discussed.

The timeframes for the changeover have not been determined, but operators will be updated as soon as more information is available. In the meantime, it's business as usual with MNZ remaining the regulatory body.

New qualifications

Skills Active has launched [new qualifications](#) in its outdoor leadership qualification suite.

Qualifications are at level 4 and 5, and are available for High Ropes, Mountain Biking, Bush Walking, Caving, Rock Climbing and Abseiling, and High Wire.

AdventureMark: new Audit Manager

AdventureMark has appointed [Mike Pennefather](#) as Audit Manager, following the resignation of Stu Allan. Mike has been working in the adventure industry since 2003 in rafting, kayaking and mountain biking.

Stu is continuing as an auditor and TE. Stu has done much to develop AdventureMark's processes, systems and relationships during his time in the role, and the organisation thanks him.

Since taking over on 1 July, Mike has been working closely with Stu to make the transition as seamless as possible. You can contact Mike at mike@adventuremark.co.nz or 021 292 9090 or 0800 394 436.

Outdoor Activity Fund

Applications for [Round 3 of the Outdoor Activity Fund](#) are now open. The purpose of the fund is to enhance diversity and inclusion in outdoor recreation, and to connect people with their culture through the outdoors. 2019-20 is the third round of the fund and will support projects that grow the engagement of Maori and non-Maori who are underrepresented in participation in outdoor activities.

DOC update

DOC has created a Principle Advisor Visitor Risk role and appointed Don Bogie.

The Cape Kidnappers rock fall incident has also led to [several other changes for DOC](#), including the establishment of a new governance structure to oversee visitor safety and introduce regular reporting.

NZOIA Training Symposium

The [NZOIA National Training Symposium](#), 17-20 October 2019 hosted by Outward Bound Anakiwa, is full. A waiting list is in place for this popular event.

Please feel free to contact TIA or Recreation Aotearoa at any time. We look forward to hearing your feedback on the [new SupportAdventure website!](#)

Pai hiahia me noho haumaruru (*best wishes and stay safe*),

Rachael & Sam

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