

Title	Apply river crossing safety with clients		
Level	5	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to explain factors to be considered when considering crossing rivers, and safely manage clients crossing a river.
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Classification	Outdoor Recreation > Tramping
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 *Industry guidelines for river crossing* as used in this unit standard refer to guidelines available from sources including but not limited to: *River Safety – Do you need to cross?*, video produced by New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, 1996; *Bushcraft Manual: Outdoor Skills for the NZ Bush*, Manual 39, New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, 2006.
- 2 All activities must comply with any relevant environmental, legislative and/or regulatory requirements set out in the *New Zealand Environmental Care Code*, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation, and Compensation Act 2001, and their subsequent amendments. The *New Zealand Environmental Care Code* is available from the Department of Conservation, Head Office, PO Box 10420, Wellington, <http://www.doc.govt.nz>.
- 3 There are minimum assessor requirements for the assessment of this unit. The details of these requirements are available on the Skills Active Aotearoa Limited website <http://www.skillsactive.org.nz/>.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Explain factors to be considered when considering crossing rivers.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Explanation identifies a minimum of 10 river characteristics, environment and/or weather factors that should be considered when making a decision regards river crossing.

1.2 Explanation is in line with industry guidelines and identifies the characteristics of river, weather and/or group that would stop them crossing a river.

Range factors may include but are not limited to – water depth, speed of water, water volume, water temperature, entry and exit points, run out, characteristics of river bed, bends and curves in river, weather and rainfall, catchment size, snags, group size, group experience.

1.3 Explanation identifies the easiest and safest river crossing techniques for a given river.

Range techniques must include but are not limited to – individual with and without a prop, mutual support – with and without a prop, pack floating;
rivers may include but are not limited to – braided river, small bush stream, fast flowing river, deep sluggish river.

1.4 Explanation identifies advantages and limitations of river crossing techniques.

Range must include but is not limited to – individual with and without a prop, mutual support with and without a prop, pack floating.

1.5 Explanation identifies risk management strategies that will minimise the impact of mishaps during crossing.

Range must include but is not limited to – foot entrapment, group member being swept away, group breaking up, group member and/or group being unable to complete crossing.

Outcome 2

Safely manage clients crossing a river.

Range demonstrated in at least two different locations and using at least one mutual support.

Performance criteria

2.1 Safety of crossing point can be justified with regards to group and river characteristics.

Range justification must include but is not limited to – water depth, speed of water, water volume, water temperature, entry and exit points, run out, characteristics of river bed, bends and curves in river, weather and rainfall, catchment size, snags, group size, group experience.

2.2 Choice of river crossing method can be justified with regard to group and river.

Range justification must include but is not limited to – safety, site, ease of crossing, confidence, experience and size of group, characteristics of river.

2.3 Briefing, demonstrations and practice inform the group of correct technique for river crossing before they enter the river.

Range techniques may include but are not limited to – body position in relation to river current and other members of party, position of party in relation to the current, attachment to prop and/or other party members, timing of movement, movement of feet.

2.4 Composition and position of group members are arranged to minimise impact of river hydraulics on small and/or unconfident people when mutual support techniques are utilised.

2.5 Clothing and equipment is adjusted to ensure maximum comfort and safety for group members during the river crossing.

2.6 Crisis management strategies are established and clearly communicated to group before anyone enters the river.

Range must include but are not limited to – spotters placed in strategic place, alternative exit point is identified, retreat methods are described and demonstrated, combat swimming and pack floating are described.

2.7 Progress of clients is monitored during entire crossing and appropriate action taken to ensure crossing is completed safely.

Range appropriate action may include but is not limited to – further coaching, vocal support, spotting, being actively involved in crossing, organising people on the bank providing safety backup.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 November 1999	31 December 2020
Revision	2	22 October 2004	31 December 2020
Rollover and Revision	3	23 February 2007	31 December 2020
Review	4	25 January 2018	31 December 2020

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0102
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.