

Title	Instruct in vertical caving		
Level	6	Credits	20

Purpose	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: prepare for instructing in vertical caving trips; teach skills for vertical caving trips; teach vertical rope rescue technique and single vertical rope rigging systems; demonstrate instruction techniques; provide leadership for vertical caving trips; and evaluate the effectiveness of the instruction and leadership provided.</p>
----------------	---

Classification	Outdoor Recreation > Caving
-----------------------	-----------------------------

Available grade	Achieved
------------------------	----------

Prerequisites	<p>Unit 5489, <i>Rig single vertical rope systems for caving</i>; Unit 20131, <i>Instruct in horizontal caving</i>; Unit 20145, <i>Demonstrate knowledge of theories and processes associated with instructing in the outdoors</i>; Unit 20148, <i>Instruct in skills for risk management for outdoor recreation</i>; or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.</p>
----------------------	---

Guidance Information

- 1 For assessment purposes 20 caving trips, each caving trip taking a minimum of four hours, are required.
- 2 Instruction in vertical caving will take place in a caving environment; however, performance criterion 2.1 can be assessed against at instructional facilities.
- 3 *Vertical caving* trips are those requiring the use of the single rope technique (SRT) to ascend and descend pitches.
- 4 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.
- 5 Before a candidate can be assessed against this unit standard they need to have logged a minimum of 40 days of personal experience and in addition a minimum of 20 days of instructional experience, including a minimum of 10 days where SRT is instructed. When gaining instructional experience, the candidate is engaged in the role of instructor but has no responsibility for clients although is responsible for self.

- 6 There are minimum assessor requirements for assessment against this unit standard. The details of these requirements are available on the Skills Active Aotearoa website www.skillsactive.org.nz.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Prepare for instructing in vertical caving trips.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The instructional objectives and requirements are identified.
- 1.2 Trips are selected and their selection justified based on the objectives to be achieved and the make up of each group.
- Range group make up may include but is not limited to – age, culture, gender, health, ability, confidence, experience, emotional and intellectual needs, group size, skills to be taught.
- 1.3 Trips are selected and their selection justified based on conserving the environment.
- Range choice of cave, vulnerability of the cave, route selection, depth, wetness, time of year, remoteness, group size, group experience, light sources.
- 1.4 Trip plans are prepared.
- Range plans may include but are not limited to – accommodation, cost, access, weather, risk management, transport, equipment, food, contingencies, cooking fuel, communication, personal details, intentions, resources.
- 1.5 Pre-trip briefs for participants, staff, and other interested parties are prepared.
- Range briefs may include but are not limited to – responsibilities, expectations, personal requirements, logistics.
- 1.6 Instruction plans are prepared to meet the learning objectives, taking into consideration the needs of the group, and people, equipment, and environment issues.
- Range plans may include but are not limited to – content, progressions, resources, environmental factors, contingencies, current professional technical information, balance of theory and practical components, retaining a positive learning experience.
- 1.7 Evaluation methods and requirements are identified.

Outcome 2

Teach skills for vertical caving trips.

Performance criteria

2.1 Instruction in cave trip management is provided.

Range conservation plan, intentions, respect for cave access, hazard identification and management, group and personal equipment, emergencies.

2.2 Instruction on personal equipment for SRT is given.

2.3 Instruction on personal safety is given.

Range may include but is not limited to – at all times, dangers of rigged pitches, regard for others.

2.4 Instruction on descending techniques is given.

Range controlled, locking off, passing re-belays, passing redirectors, passing knots, self-protection, unjamming of personal abseil device.

2.5 Instruction on ascending techniques is given.

Range passing re-belays, passing redirectors, passing knots.

2.6 Instruction on changeovers is given.

Range ascent to descent, descent to ascent, changing ropes.

2.7 Instruction on improvised SRT is given.

Range Italian hitch descent, improvised ascent, descent using ascenders.

2.8 Instruction on the care and maintenance of SRT equipment is given.

Range manufacturer's recommendations, deterioration, retirement, maintenance, storage.

Outcome 3

Teach vertical rope rescue techniques.

Performance criteria

3.1 Instruction on mid rope rescue techniques is given.

Range associated risks, accessing stranded person, safety, efficiency, controlled descent.

3.2 Instruction on other vertical rope rescue techniques is given.

Range may include but is not limited to – improvised harness, jammed abseil device, operating lowerable systems, raising stranded caver, braking and belaying haul systems, conversion of non-lowerable systems, selecting appropriate rescue systems, magnification of loads.

3.3 Instruction on the care of rescue rigging equipment is given.

Range manufacturer's recommendations, deterioration, retirement, maintenance, storage.

Outcome 4

Teach single vertical rope rigging systems.

Performance criteria

4.1 Instruction on natural anchor selection is given.

Range selection, safety, environmental impact.

4.2 Instruction on artificial anchor selection is given.

Range permanent, non-permanent, limitations, environmental impact, placement.

4.3 Instruction on rigging single vertical ropes systems is given.

Range knots, personal safety, loading and linking of anchor system, re-belays, redirectors.

4.4 Instruction on the care of rigging equipment is given.

Range manufacturer's recommendations, deterioration, retirement, keeping log-book, maintenance, storage.

Outcome 5

Demonstrate instruction techniques.

Performance criteria

5.1 Instruction skills and techniques are demonstrated that are relevant to the needs of the group and enable them to achieve the skills.

Range skills and techniques may include but are not limited to – different teaching styles, teaching progressions, checking for individual understanding after presenting skill progressions, adapting plans to suit needs, responsive to group dynamics, maintaining a positive environment;
needs may include but are not limited to – individual's initial skill and understanding, different learning speeds, different learning styles, different communication styles.

5.2 The instructor is able to effectively establish rapport and/or a learning partnership with the cavers.

5.3 Progress of each caver is evaluated and accurate feedback is delivered in a manner that matches the needs and learning styles of each caver.

Range may include but is not limited to – constructive, timely, oral, visual.

Outcome 6

Provide leadership for vertical caving trips.

Performance criteria

6.1 Leadership is demonstrated that ensures the needs of the group are met in a safe and positive environment throughout the caving trips.

Range may include but is not limited to – navigation, weather interpretation, river crossings, first aid, environmental care, group processes, communication, motivation, enthusiasm, role modelling.

6.2 Risk management is demonstrated.

Range may include but is not limited to – water hazards, cold, fatigue, loose terrain, restricted spaces, slippery surfaces, group and leader positioning, instructor awareness, safe zones, communication, harness induced pathology/toxic shock, leaving rope ready for next caver.

6.3 Emergency management is explained.

Range lost party member, hypothermia, injured caver, overdue party, flooding, entrapment, harness induced pathology/toxic shock.

6.4 Cave search rescue is explained.

Range initiating a call out, field/underground controller, timeframes (delays in rescue), personnel, communication.

Outcome 7

Evaluate the effectiveness of the instruction and leadership provided.

Performance criteria

7.1 The plans and objectives are evaluated against actual outcomes and reasons for changes are provided and justified.

7.2 The instructional and leadership components of the caving trip are evaluated for strengths and areas for improvement.

Replacement information	This unit standard and unit standard 20131 replaced unit standard 14218.
--------------------------------	--

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	29 October 2004	31 December 2021
Review	2	23 November 2017	31 December 2021

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0102
--	------

This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

