

Title	Apply knowledge of weather to analyse and forecast conditions for an outdoor recreation activity		
Level	4	Credits	3

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: evaluate information from weather sources for a given location; interpret weather conditions and information during an outdoor recreation activity in a specific area; and demonstrate decision making in hazardous weather conditions in New Zealand.
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Classification	Outdoor Recreation > Weather Interpretation in the Outdoors
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Definitions**

The term *outdoor recreation activity* means any recreational activity planned to take place out of doors such as a sporting event, school field trip, bush-walk, snowsport, or mountain biking, for which a change in the weather may have an impact. The impact may include changes to equipment, clothing, timeframes, location, or cancellation in the event of a significant change in the forecasted weather. The term *hazardous weather* refers to the 'Severe Weather Warning' issued by the MetService.
- 2 All activities must comply with 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 6143, or at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/>.**
- 3 Recommended skills and knowledge:**

Unit 20160, *Demonstrate knowledge of weather processes and their effects in New Zealand*, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Evaluate information from weather sources for a given location.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 A weather forecast for the next 24-hour period for a given location is justified using information gained from weather maps and other sources.
- Range forecast for mountain region includes but is not limited to – description of present situation and expected changes, cloud cover, wind direction and speed, temperature, barometric pressure, precipitation (type and intensity);
forecast for marine region includes but is not limited to – wave direction and size, description of present situation and expected changes, cloud cover, wind direction and speed, barometric pressure, temperature, precipitation (type and intensity).
- 1.2 A decision to continue or cancel a hypothetical outdoor recreation activity in the given location is justified based on the weather forecast.

Outcome 2

Interpret weather conditions and information during an outdoor recreation activity in a specific area.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Major cloud types and altitudes are correctly identified in the field.
- 2.2 The effects of landforms on local weather conditions are identified for the specified area.
- 2.3 Current local weather conditions and a current weather forecast are compared, and differences are identified for a specified area.
- Range comparisons include but are not limited to – cloud cover, wind direction and speed, temperature, precipitation (type and intensity).
- 2.4 The suitability and limitations of a chosen outdoor recreation activity are justified in relation to current local weather conditions and the weather forecast.
- Range suitability and limitations include but are not limited to – duration of activity, intensity of activity, exposure to prevailing conditions, ability of individual/group;
may include but is not limited to – cloud cover, elevation.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate decision making in hazardous weather conditions in New Zealand.

- Range evidence is required for a minimum of three different hazardous weather conditions.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Explanation of weather changes correctly identifies the weather conditions commonly associated with the onset of weather hazards.
- 3.2 Characteristics of potentially life threatening weather hazards and their possible impact on outdoor recreational activities are identified.
- 3.3 The decision to make changes to equipment, clothing, timeframes, or location, or to cancel the outdoor recreation activity takes into consideration the abilities and experience of the group.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 436 and unit standard 437.
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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 2023
Revision	2	26 January 2007	31 December 2023
Review	3	20 August 2010	31 December 2023
Review	4	28 October 2021	31 December 2023

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0099
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.