

<b>Title</b>	<b>Plan, prepare, organise, lead and evaluate introductory cave trips in low flow streamway caves</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>20</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>This unit standard is intended for people who will lead introductory cave trips in low flow streamway caves.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: plan and prepare an introductory cave experience in a low flow streamway cave; demonstrate group and safety management while leading for introductory caving experiences; lead a group for an introductory caving experience; apply knowledge of the cave environment, environmental practices and cultural awareness; and evaluate own performance as a cave leader.</p>
----------------	---

<b>Classification</b>	Outdoor Recreation > Caving
-----------------------	-----------------------------

<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
------------------------	----------

## Guidance Information

- All learning and assessment against this standard must be carried out in accordance with the following:
  - relevant legislation including Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and Human Rights Act 1993, Vulnerable Children Act 2014 and The Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2016;
  - Caving Activity Safety Guideline published by WorkSafe New Zealand <https://www.supportadventure.co.nz/advice-resources/general-2/activity-safety-guidelines/>;
  - industry Codes including the *Caving Code of Ethics* <https://www.caves.org.nz/code-of-ethics>, the *Land Safety Code* <https://www.adventuresmart.nz/land/the-land-safety-code>, and *Leave No Trace* principles <https://leavenotrace.org.nz>;
  - a recognised and approved safety management system including organisational policies and procedures including Emergency Action Plans (EAPs), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), incident response management plans and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE);
  - relevant industry publications and current industry good practice.
- Definition  
*Current industry good practice* means the range of actions currently accepted within the adventure and outdoor sector to manage the risk of harm to staff, participants, and visitors.

---

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Plan and prepare an introductory cave experience in a low-flow streamway cave.

#### Performance criteria

1.1 Create an introductory caving experience plan.

Range a defined purpose, logical sequence of progressions, any consent or access requirements, individual and group gear and equipment needs.

1.2 Select suitable cave route for the group identifying hazards and risk management strategies.

1.3 Create a pre-trip emergency plan for a caving experience.

Range emergency planning includes but is not limited to – emergency equipment, internal and external communication, first aid kit contents, knowledge of group's skill-set and health issues.

1.4 Obtain a weather forecast and current streamway flow level and describe how they could affect the planned trip.

1.5 Perform pre-activity tasks including logging intentions, gathering medical information, and completing gear and equipment checks.

### Outcome 2

Demonstrate group and safety management while leading introductory caving experiences.

#### Performance criteria

2.1 Use a range of leadership strategies to engage, encourage and motivate participants.

2.2 Explain emergency and first aid procedures for introductory caving experiences.

2.3 Demonstrate group management and safety techniques and strategies.

Range monitoring pace, individual participant behaviour, providing rest stops, positioning, communication, keeping the group together and accounting for all group members.

### Outcome 3

Lead a group for an introductory caving experience.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Prepare and brief the group in terms of trip requirements, participant gear and equipment, nutrition, hydration, personal medication and emergency and first aid procedures.
- 3.2 Instruct introductory caving skills in a logical sequence with progressions.

**Outcome 4**

Apply knowledge of the cave environment, environmental practices and cultural awareness.

**Performance criteria**

- 4.1 Apply the principles in the New Zealand Speleological Society (NZSS) cave ethics.
- 4.2 Demonstrate respect for the environment through the personal application of environmentally sustainable principles.
- Range includes respect for the tikanga and kawa of local iwi and/or hapū.
- 4.3 Demonstrate awareness of the physical, emotional and cultural needs of the group.
- 4.4 Provide interpretation about the natural environment and cultural history of the local area to the group.
- 4.5 Identify cave fauna to the group.
- Range may include cave wetas and glow worms.
- 4.6 Identify basic cave features to the group.
- Range may include stalactites, stalagmites, and flow stone.

**Outcome 5**

Evaluate own performance as a cave leader.

**Performance criteria**

- 5.1 Reflect on planning and own leadership practice to identify areas of success and areas for improvement.
- 5.2 Collect feedback from a variety of sources on the planning and leadership of a caving trip.
- Range sources may include but are not limited to – supervisor, peers, participants.

5.3 Evaluate feedback and self-reflect on performance to identify actions for improvement as a cave leader.

---

Planned review date	31 December 2029
---------------------	------------------

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	23 November 2017	31 December 2026
Review	2	12 December 2024	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0099
---	------

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

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Toi Mai Workforce Development Council [qualifications@toimai.nz](mailto:qualifications@toimai.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.