

Title	Demonstrate riverboard guiding skills and techniques for Grade 3 river trips		
Level	5	Credits	12

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate riverboard guiding techniques for Grade 3 river trips; demonstrate riverboard guiding skills for Grade 3 river trips.
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Classification	Outdoor Recreation > Rafting
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 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, Human Rights Act 1993, Children’s Act 2014, Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2016;
 - industry Codes of Conduct, such as the Mountain Safety Council Land Safety Code available from [NZ Land Safety Code — NZMSC \(mountainsafety.org.nz\)](https://mountainsafety.org.nz) and ‘Leave No Trace’ principles available from <https://leavenotrace.org.nz>;
 - a recognised and approved Safety Management System (SMS) including organisational policies and procedures, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), incident response management plans and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
 - current industry good practice.
- 2 Classification of river grading systems as stated in the WorkSafe NZ June 2020, Good Practice Guideline, *White Water Rafting: Guidance for Commercial Rafting Operators*, available from <https://worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/adventure-activities/white-water-rafting> Section 3.0. Managing risk: the river environment.

Grade 3 rapids

Characteristics

- have fairly high waves of 1 to 2 metres,
- broken water, stoppers and strong eddies, exposed rocks and small falls,
- a passage that may be difficult to recognise from the river, and
- require manoeuvring to negotiate the rapids.

3 Definitions

Current industry good practice means the range of actions currently accepted within the adventure and outdoor sector (which includes the raft and riverboard industries) to manage the risk of harm to staff, participants, and visitors.

Pod is the term used for one group of riverboarders.

- 4 Evidence towards performance criterion 2.6 can be collected under simulated conditions.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate riverboard guiding techniques for Grade 3 river trips.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Demonstrate manoeuvring a riverboard for Grade 3 rapids using river features to assist.
- Range techniques to maintain upstream position, catching eddies, obstacle avoidance.
- 1.2 Scout rapids to identify hazards and select appropriate line choice.
- 1.3 Use riverboard lines through rapids based on assessment of participant's ability, group dynamics, the hazards and river conditions.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate riverboard guiding skills for Grade 3 river trips.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Give safety instructions to participants that are relevant to the riverboard and trip.
- Range includes but is not limited to – river signals and commands; main flow; in and out of eddies using angles; hazards and how to manage them including foot entrapment, rocks (walls and/or boulder), each other; other users.
- 2.2 Use effective communication to train participants in riverboarding skills for Grade 3 rivers.
- Range riverboarding skills include but not are limited to – board holds, effective positioning on board, turns, turn in deep water, turn in shallow water, kicking, duck diving, barrel rolls, board recovery, entering and exiting eddies; effective communication includes – clear instructions and demonstrations, checking for understanding, checking competence and providing feedback.

- 2.3 Apply guiding skills to provide participants with an experience that aligns with their needs, expectations and abilities.

Range guiding skills may include but are not limited to – technical, dynamic risk management, interpersonal, communications, assessing participant needs and abilities throughout trip.

- 2.4 Communicate with participants and other guide(s) using appropriate river signals.

Range demonstration of situational awareness when giving river signals.

- 2.5 Demonstrate control of the pod throughout the river trip.

Range working with other guide(s).

- 2.6 Demonstrate control of pod in emergency situations for Grade 3 rapids.

- 2.7 Demonstrate river etiquette with other users and provide information to the participants.

Range other users may include but are not limited to – anglers, landowners, kayakers, powered craft, swimmers, rafters, riverboarders.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 26516.
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Planned review date	31 December 2029
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	24 September 2020	31 December 2026
Review	2	27 March 2025	N/A

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>.

Comments on this unit standard

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