

Title	Apply serious incident management skills as a senior riverboard guide for Grade 4 or 5 rivers		
Level	6	Credits	13

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: analyse organisational policies and procedures for the management of a serious incident on Grade 4 or 5 rivers; apply serious incident management skills as a senior riverboard guide leading trips for Grade 4 or 5 rivers.
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Classification	Outdoor Recreation > Rafting
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Available grade	Achieved
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Prerequisites	<p>Unit 31720, <i>Prepare, guide and evaluate a riverboard trip</i>; Unit 31721, <i>Demonstrate riverboard guiding skills and techniques for Grade 4 or 5 river trips</i>; Unit 31728, <i>Apply knowledge of river rescue skills and techniques for Grade 4 or 5 rivers</i>; or demonstrate equivalent skills and knowledge.</p> <p>The awarding of this standard requires successful completion of a New Zealand Rivers Association for Professional Guides (NZRA) River Rescue Workshop, Whitewater Rescue Technician (WRT2) or River Rescue Certification for Professionals (RRC-PRO) or NZRA recognised equivalents. This workshop must have been completed within the last 18 months.</p>
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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 4 rapids

Characteristics

- have high, powerful, irregular waves, broken water, often boiling eddies, strong stoppers, ledges, drops, and dangerous exposed rocks,
- a passage that is often difficult to recognise, and
- require precise and sequential manoeuvring to negotiate the rapids.

Grade 5 rapids

Characteristics

- have very confused and broken water, large drops, violent and fast currents, abrupt turns, difficult powerful stoppers, and fast boiling eddies,
- numerous obstacles in the main current,
- require complex, precise, powerful and sequential manoeuvring to negotiate the rapids, and
- pose a definite risk to personal safety.

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.

Serious incident refers to a serious on-river injury or incident.

- 4 Evidence towards Outcome 2 can be collected under simulated conditions.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Analyse organisational policies and procedures for the management of a serious incident on Grade 4 or 5 rivers.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Analyse organisational policies and procedures for the management of a serious incident on Grade 4 or 5 rivers in terms of industry good practice.

Range	may include but is not limited to – roles and responsibilities, on-river search, first aid considerations, evacuation from river; rescue authorities, fatality management, debrief considerations, reporting.
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Outcome 2

Apply serious incident management skills as a senior riverboard guide leading trips for Grade 4 or 5 rivers.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Role model skills for serious incident management expected of a senior riverboard guide leading trips for Grade 4 or 5 rivers.

Range technical guiding skills, effective manoeuvring of riverboard for rescue, personal swimming and throwing.

- 2.2 Manage a river rescue scenario as a senior riverboard guide for a Grade 4 or 5 rivers.

Range mechanical advantage system, participant and guide management, flexibility in managing a sudden environmental change.

- 2.3 Apply leadership skills in a riverboard emergency river rescue as a senior riverboard guide leading trips for Grade 4 or 5 rivers.

Range leadership skills may include but are not limited to – prioritising risk, clear communication, safety and management of participants and guides, delegation of role, responsibilities and tasks, maintaining an overview of the situation, being flexible when faced with sudden environmental change, ensuring the situation does not escalate, achieving a resolution.

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 January 2021
Revision	2	10 December 2020	31 December 2026
Review	3	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.