

Demonstrate technical raft guiding skills on Grade III or above whitewater

Level 4

Credits 10

Purpose People credited with this unit standards are able to: demonstrate the ability to move quickly and confidently in Grade III whitewater and accurately communicate with other guides in the river environment; demonstrate knowledge of rescue equipment and its application in a range of raft/river rescue situations; demonstrate technical raft guiding skills on Grade III whitewater; and utilise weather and flow information sources in trip planning.

This unit standard is part of the National Raft Guide Award Grade III and Grade IV/V.

Subfield Outdoor Recreation

Domain Rafting

Status Registered

Status date 21 March 2005

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Entry information Prerequisite: Units 6401, *Provide first aid*, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.

Standard setting body (SSB) Sport, Fitness and Recreation Industry Training Organisation – Outdoor Recreation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0102

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

Special notes

- 1 *Maritime NZ* is the governing body for NZ Rafting; *NZRA* is the New Zealand Rafting Association and is the industry voice organisation; *Sfrito* is the Sport, Fitness, and Recreation Industry Training Organisation.

- 2 All activities must comply with the policies and requirements of the enterprise involved and any relevant legislative and/or regulatory requirements which include but are not limited to: *New Zealand Environmental Care Code*, *New Zealand Water Care Code*, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation, and Compensation Act 2001, Maritime NZ Rule Part 80B; and their subsequent amendments. The *New Zealand Environmental Care Code* and *New Zealand Water Care Code* are available from the Department of Conservation, Head Office, PO Box 10420, Wellington, <http://www.doc.govt.nz/>.
- 3 All guiding activities must be logged. Logged information must include but is not limited to – dates, river, section, duration, water level, grade, rafts, trip leader, client and guide numbers, accidents and incidents.
- 4 There are minimum assessor requirements for assessment against this unit standard. The details of these requirements are available on the Sfrito website <http://www.sfrito.org.nz/>.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Demonstrate the ability to move quickly and confidently in Grade III whitewater and accurately communicate with other guides in the river environment.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 River features are identified and their dynamics and effects on craft and people are clearly explained.

Range flow type (laminar, helical) and volume, eddies, boils, seams, pillows (buffer or cushion), holes (reversal or hydraulic), standing waves, lateral waves, tongues, rapid grades.
- 1.2 On river communication with other guides is clear, concise and utilises recognised river signals.

Range stop/go, left/right, OK, swimmer numbers, eddy out, cover/safety, first aid, lost paddle, come to me, rope required, last boat, point positive, look, do not know, (unsure), whistle blast for attention, three short whistle blasts for emergency.
- 1.3 Confident movement in and around Grade III whitewater is demonstrated.

Range move quickly and confidently on the riverbank, access river from a height, enter eddies, use an aggressive head up swim technique, confident over strainers, access midstream boulders and small eddies, break through laterals, strong swimmer rescue (swim out to a person and tow them ashore).

Element 2

Demonstrate knowledge of rescue equipment and its application in a range of raft/river rescue situations.

Performance criteria

2.1 Personal equipment is carried by the guide.

Range Personal Floating Device with releasable tow line, appropriate clothing and footwear, helmet, throw bag, whistle, knife, flip line, Prussik (or ti block), pulley, two karabiners, personal first aid kit.

2.2 Rescue techniques are demonstrated.

Range 2:1 mechanical advantage system utilising a boatman's anchor; resettable 3:1 Z-drag utilising a figure-eight on a bight (anchor) and a Prussik brake; 4:1 Pig Rig utilising an Italian hitch (on a main line) tied off with a releasable half hitch and a three point self-equalising anchor on the load/raft.

2.3 Knots are tied under pressure.

Range knots must include – bowline (around an anchor), tension hitch with releasable half hitch, tape or water knot, figure-eight knots (in line, follow through, on a bight, directional, double loop), double fishermans, Prussik knots, (klemheist, classic), sheet bend, clove hitch (around a bar), Italian hitch, alpine butterfly; pressure may include – under water, tight time frame.

2.4 The qualities and limitations of the following rope types are described and compared.

Range static, dynamic, polypropylene, nylon, spectra.

2.5 Throw bag rescues are demonstrated.

Range access points are well selected, target hit (arms reach) at full bag length, recoil and throw coils to hit second target at half bag length in 20 seconds, effective belay technique (static/dynamic), prioritise in multiple swimmer situation, live bait rescue (swim to a victim with a throw bag attached to a releasable tow line).

2.6 Efficient flip recovery is demonstrated in Grade III whitewater conditions.

Range headcount, regain raft, prioritise actions for recovery in a variety of downstream situations (shallow rocky downstream, big volumes of water, fast/flooding), re-right raft.

2.7 An entrapment is accessed utilising both a rescue lower and tethered raft system.

Range effective anchors chosen, effective method chosen, accurate communication with other guides demonstrated, minimal time wasted.

2.8 The entrapment is resolved.

Range safety, airway priority, stabilisation, effective extraction method chosen, alternatives explained.

Element 3

Demonstrate technical raft guiding skills on Grade III whitewater.

Performance criteria

3.1 A series of eddies are caught in strong current and technical whitewater using forward and backward ferry techniques.

3.2 A raft is manoeuvred through Grade III current and into eddies solo (no crew used).

3.3 The effective use of crew is demonstrated in wrap avoidance/recovery, dislodging stuck rafts, and effective manoeuvring in tight situations.

3.4 Lines through Grade III rapids are selected and run.

Element 4

Utilise weather and flow information sources in trip planning.

Performance criteria

4.1 A range of weather and flow information sources are accessed.

Range mountain forecast, marine forecast, newspaper, internet, flowphone.

4.2 Features on situation map are interpreted.

Range isobars, wind direction and strength, likely precipitation, frontal activity.

4.3 Potentially dangerous weather patterns and their indicators are explained in terms of their effect on river conditions and local climate.

Range prevailing wind and familiarity with local conditions, rapid cloud build up, frontal cloud, wind changes.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Sport, Fitness and Recreation Industry Training Organisation info@sfrito.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.