

15 May 2025

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Tēnā koe Duncan

**Application reference: APP-00005122**

**Successful registration of Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust as an adventure activity operator**

I am writing to advise you of my decision to renew Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust's registration as an adventure activity operator under regulation 7 of the Health and Safety at Work (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2016 (the Regulations).

**Registration details**

Registration holder: Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust

Registration number: AAO-NWN8KK

Registration period: 15 May 2025 to 1 April 2028

Authorised to provide the following activities:

| Activity                             | Location                            |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Abseiling and Climbing               | Administration Bay, Motutapu Island |
| High Ropes Course                    | Administration Bay, Motutapu Island |
| Kayaking – Open water                | Administration Bay, Motutapu Island |
| Stand Up Paddleboarding – Open Water | Administration Bay, Motutapu Island |
| Snorkelling                          | Administration Bay, Motutapu Island |

Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust's registration details will be listed on a public register on WorkSafe New Zealand's website. See [Register of Adventure Activity Operators \(worksafe.govt.nz\)](https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/register-of-adventure-activity-operators).

To ensure Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust remains registered, they must:

- maintain a current safety audit certificate and apply for renewal of their registration before 1 April 2028
- comply with any conditions on their safety audit certificate and registration
- only provide adventure activities they are registered to provide
- ensure adventure activities are provided properly and safely.

Failure to undertake the requirements above could result in Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust's registration being cancelled or suspended and could affect Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust's ability to renew their registration in the future. It may also result in WorkSafe considering enforcement action.

Finally, we noted that the audit documents indicate Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust allows its kayaking activity to operate with a higher number of participants per worker than the normal industry good practice ratio. The auditor's kayaking Technical Expert (TE) considers that this could be justified by: the small operational area; the conservative approach to the risk of offshore wind in go/no-go decisions; and quality inductions of volunteer adult helpers.

I want to be clear that:

- We have accepted the safety auditor's rationale for considering that the activity SOP, as a whole, conforms to good practice in this specific instance.
- The Trust should continue to monitor the activity and adjust the ratio if it is considered necessary at any time for the ongoing safe operation of the activity.
- This should not be taken as an endorsement of the ratio, nor as a WorkSafe view that deviation from industry standards is "safe" in this (or any other) adventure activity.

If you have any questions about Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust's registration, please email WorkSafe at [aao@worksafe.govt.nz](mailto:aao@worksafe.govt.nz).

Nāku nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Thornborough', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris Thornborough  
Authorisations Manager  
WorkSafe New Zealand