

Bush 1



Photo: Andy Thompson

Scope and Syllabus

With the support of:



NZOIA™ Bush 1

Scope

Bush 1 Profile

The NZOIA Bush 1 is able to:

- Plan and prepare for a multi-day tramping trip
- Instruct clients in the skills required for positive experiences in the bush environment
- Lead and manage groups on and off track in a bush environment
- Apply weather interpretation and forecasting skills
- Provide interpretive cultural and environmental information
- Role model and promote accepted environmental practices
- Connect concepts of Te Ao Māori to the bush environment
- Prepare and apply effective safety management
- Prepare and deliver teaching sessions

Scope

The holder of this qualification can organise, instruct and guide multi-day tramping trips on and away from tracks, in easy and moderate bush terrain. Trips can extend above the bushline (in easy and moderate terrain and in summer conditions - without snow and no snow forecast. Patches of old snow may exist and can be crossed where no sliding potential exists).

Prerequisites

Be a current Full Member of NZOIA

Be 20 years old or over

Hold a current First Aid Certificate (minimum of 12 hours or 2 day course including some direct contact with course tutors)

Have the following experience as evidence in a logbook:

Total experience – at least 40 days tramping experience (a tramping day is considered to be at least 6 hours) including at least 20 days experience on multi-day trips and 10 days of navigating off-track. These 40 days must include:

Personal experience - at least 20 days personal tramping experience

Instructional experience - at least 10 days instructing, leading or guiding groups in a bush environment of which 3 must be navigating off-track

Overnight trips must include both staying in huts and camping in established and improvised campsites.

The prerequisite experience requirements are minimums, extra days are recommended so that a broad range of experience is gained. Experience will include co-instructing/guiding or working as an assistant instructor/guide.

Registration and Revalidation

Registration and revalidation with NZOIA provide proof of currency for NZOIA qualification holders.

Progressing to NZOIA Bush 2

As the NZOIA Bush 1 gains more experience, they can progress to gaining the NZOIA Bush 2 qualification. The steps they can follow include:

- Gaining the experience outlined in the NZOIA Bush 2 prerequisites
- Attending an NZOIA Bush 2 training course
- Working with an NZOIA Bush 2 holder

Syllabus

Assessment Notes

The syllabus outlines what the content of the assessment will include and gives an idea of what assessment tasks the candidate will be asked to complete. All judgements on how the candidate meets the syllabus must be based on current good practice and industry standards.

Assessors use three types of direct evidence to judge a candidate's competency:

- Written questions/assignment
- Questioning and discussion
- Observation of practical tasks

Depending on location and conditions Assessors may use scenarios for candidates to demonstrate knowledge and skills.

The NZOIA Bush 1 candidate is expected to demonstrate any of the competencies outlined in the NZOIA Bush Leader syllabus as well as the following competencies:

Technical Competence

1. Demonstrate navigation and location awareness skills

The candidate will lead a group for at least three navigation legs. Each leg will normally be no greater than 1km.

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 1.1** Knowledge and use of maps commonly used for tramping in Aotearoa New Zealand, including use of scale, symbols, gridlines, contours and features
- 1.2** Locating a specified point on the map using a 6-figure grid reference
- 1.3** Orientating a map using features only and using a compass only
- 1.4** Calculating and following a compass bearing to a feature

- 1.5 Estimating distance and time and describing the route for a navigation leg
- 1.6 Navigating efficiently and safely through bush and open terrain to a clearly defined feature E.g. bush clearing, stream junction, end of spur
- 1.7 Navigating and determining present position on a map using natural features only and using resection
- 1.8 Demonstrate and/or describe use and limitations of contemporary technology e.g. Altimeter, GPS, Navigation apps

2. Demonstrate efficient movement in bush terrain

The candidate will:

- 2.1 Travel as part of a group off track and maintain contact with the group
- 2.2 Identify any potential hazards and disclose these effectively to other group members. Demonstrate travel which considers the risks of these hazards

3. Demonstrate campcraft skills

The candidate will:

- 3.1 Demonstrate selecting a campsite and identifying and managing any natural hazards present
- 3.2 Describe the advantages and disadvantages of different camping shelters e.g. tent, fly, bivvy bag
- 3.3 Describe the advantages, disadvantages and safe use of different stove types e.g. solid fuel, gas, methylated spirits and white-spirits
- 3.4 Demonstrate and/or describe appropriate hut etiquette
- 3.5 Describe appropriate toileting practices for use at bush campsites
- 3.6 Demonstrate an awareness of safe knife use, and its various applications in New Zealand bush e.g. cooking, fire-lighting, campcraft
- 3.7 Demonstrate the skills required to light a fire and demonstrate and/or describe fire safety precautions, and minimal impact fires
- 3.8 Demonstrate and describe principles of fire-lighting in adverse conditions

4. Demonstrate safe practices for river and waterway travel

The candidate will:

- 4.1 Identify the hazards, methods and best crossing points for a given river or waterway e.g. braided, boulder garden, bedrock
- 4.2 Describe their decision-making process prior to crossing a river or travelling in a river or streamway
- 4.3 Demonstrate good practice and describe the principles of an individual, a mutual support and retreating method, for a given river or stream crossing

5. Demonstrate the care and correct use of equipment and clothing

The candidate will:

- 5.1** Have knowledge about clothing, footwear and equipment commonly used for tramping in New Zealand including the types, characteristics, advantages, limitations, cost, care, maintenance and storage of a range of tramping equipment e.g. clothing fabrics, boots, tents, packs, sleeping bags
- 5.2** Demonstrate how to pack personal and group equipment for an overnight tramping trip
- 5.3** Be able to impart basic knowledge about appropriate clothing and equipment to clients and improvise clothing and equipment if required

The Environment

6. Apply weather interpretation and forecasting skills

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 6.1** An understanding of general weather patterns affecting New Zealand
- 6.2** Knowledge and use of synoptic weather maps and from a synoptic map make a general forecast about future weather; wind direction and speed, temperature and precipitation
- 6.3** Knowledge and use of current technology to forecast and predict weather e.g. Barometer, Apps, Websites
- 6.4** Observing any changes, or potential changes, in clouds, temperature, barometric pressure, and wind direction and anticipate weather conditions from these changes

7. Role model and promote accepted environmental practices

The candidate will:

- 7.1** Role model and promote the principles of Leave No Trace
- 7.2** Demonstrate and/or describe the responsibilities to land owners, Mana Whenua, and other users e.g. protocols around access, rāhui, seasonal farming practices

8. Demonstrate and/or describe cultural and environmental knowledge and interpretation

The candidate will understand, and provide interpretive information about:

- 8.1** Historic and contemporary culture of the area and New Zealand's bush areas
- 8.2** Flora, fauna, and geology of the area and of New Zealand's bush areas
- 8.3** Common organisations which are involved in New Zealand's bush areas e.g. DoC/Te Papa Atawhai, LandSAR, MSC, NZAC

9. Understand connections between Te Ao Māori and the bush environment

The candidate will engage in discussion around Te Ao Māori connections with the Bush environment.

Examples of concepts candidates might discuss may include but are not limited to:

- Sites of cultural significance likely to be encountered in the bush e.g. Urupā, Pā, Middens, Kumara pits
- Creation stories, or pūrākau of the area e.g. Ranginui, Papatūānuku, Tāne Mahuta
- Relationships with the environment e.g. Whakapapa, Kaitiakitanga, Mauri, Wairua, Ahikā, Rāhui

Group Management and Leadership

10. Plan and prepare to lead a multi-day tramping trip

The candidate will prepare a written plan for a multi-day tramping trip, camping and staying at huts, which outlines:

- 10.1** The aims, objectives and purpose of the trip
- 10.2** Route information including; estimated distances and times, emergency and alternative routes, risk and hazard identification and management
- 10.3** Any consent or access issues
- 10.4** How to get weather information
- 10.5** Clothing and equipment list for both individuals and the group
- 10.6** A menu plan which includes balanced, nutritious and varied food, fuel requirements, emergency food and identifies safe methods for organising group cooking
- 10.7** Intentions information, communications and emergency contacts

11. Demonstrate and apply effective safety management

The candidate will:

- 11.1** Demonstrate the principles of a shelter suitable for surviving a night in adverse weather conditions, integrating natural features and materials
- 11.2** Demonstrate familiarity with personal and group emergency equipment carried e.g. first aid kit, shelter, food, communications
- 11.3** Describe the use of, and advantages and limitations of different methods of communication in the bush e.g. mountain radio, VHF, cell phone, GPS tracker, satellite messenger, PLB
- 11.4** Demonstrate awareness of the risks and appropriate risk management strategies during a given bush trip and the ability to adjust plans when required
- 11.5** Describe procedures used in the event of; an accident or illness in the party, party member being missing, party becoming lost
- 11.6** Never compromise their personal safety or the safety of their clients
- 11.7** Demonstrate safe practices and good judgement and decision making within the scope of this qualification

12. Lead and manage a group in a bush environment

The candidate will demonstrate:

- 12.1** Establishing rapport and using a leadership style appropriate to the group
- 12.2** Organising and motivating a group/individual in a bush environment
- 12.3** Effective management of a group in off track terrain which includes; pacing, rest stops, keeping the group together and a system for accounting for everyone
- 12.4** Managing client's common medical issues relevant to tramping e.g. dehydration, hypothermia, hyperthermia, sunburn, allergic reaction, blisters

Instruction

13. Prepare and deliver teaching sessions

The candidate will:

- 13.1** Develop aims based on knowledge of clients
- 13.2** Identify elements of Te Ao Māori in your professional practice
- 13.3** Plan a logical sequence of teaching progressions
- 13.4** Select and prepare a suitable location for client success
- 13.5** Use clear demonstrations and explanations
- 13.6** Use a range of teaching skills and methods
- 13.7** Provide opportunities for clients to practice
- 13.8** Deliver feedback that is timely and specific
- 13.9** Maintain a positive learning environment