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Angling

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Australian

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Adventure Activity

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Good Practice Guide

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Guidance for terrestrial angling including wading and

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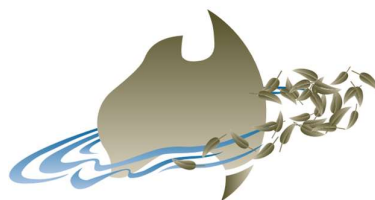
ocean facing rock fishing.

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17 Traditional Owner Acknowledgement

18 We acknowledge the *Traditional Owners* of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection
19 to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past and
20 present.

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24

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29 Australian Adventure Activity Standard and the Good Practice Guides are a guide only. *Activity providers*
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31 professional advice relevant to their own circumstances, including the specific adventure activities and
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42 Australian Adventure Activity Standard Steering Committee members who assisted in compiling, drafting
43 and ratifying the documents:

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 - are not liable for any loss resulting from an action taken or reliance made on any information or
- 45 material contained within the Australian Adventure Activity Standard, Good Practice Guides and
- 46 associated documents.
- 47

48 Version details

Version	Date	Details
1.0	23 Sept 2019	Version one release.
2.0	2026	

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52 Foreword

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54 "When I experience dadirri, I am made whole again. I can sit on the riverbank or walk through the trees;
55 even if someone close to me has passed away, I can find my peace in this silent awareness. There is no
56 need of words. A big part of dadirri is listening."

57 **Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann AM**

58

59 The Australian Adventure Activity Standard and Good Practice Guides are designed to ensure effective,
60 responsible, sustainable and safe delivery of adventure activities to *dependent participants*. They can help
61 people across the outdoor sector to develop appropriately managed adventure activities which enhance
62 individuals and our communities, while protecting the environment and culturally significant places. In
63 doing this, these documents can help ensure that people will continue to enjoy the benefits of adventure
64 activities well into the future.

65 Best wishes for all your adventures.

66 **The Australian Adventure Activity Standard Steering Committee.**

67 **Outdoor Council of Australia**

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Creation

The Australian Adventure Activity Standards (AAAS) and accompanying Good Practice Guides (GPGs) were developed through a national project and launched in 2019. They drew together, and built upon, the various state and territory-specific adventure activity standards that had previously operated across Australia, replacing a fragmented set of arrangements with a single, nationally consistent voluntary framework. The original development drew on the input of a wide range of outdoor and adventure activity experts with extensive experience, supported by expert advisory groups and informed by open consultation across *activity providers*, education authorities and other stakeholders.

The Steering Committee gratefully acknowledges the members of the various focus groups, industry consultation, working groups and expert advisors for their work and contributions, and thanks the State and Territory Governments for funding the original development.

The AAAS and GPGs are now maintained by the Outdoor Council of Australia (OCA). They are subject to comprehensive review at least every five years, with targeted reviews undertaken in response to serious incidents, fatalities, relevant court decisions, or material changes in regulation or practice. Reviews are overseen by the Steering Committee and conducted in accordance with the AAAS Review and Update Methodology — a pragmatic, mixed-methods process combining legislative and regulatory analysis, currency checking of cited standards and instruments, stakeholder consultation, data-informed *risk assessment*, and structured expert input through the Expert Advisory Group, followed by open public consultation before endorsement.

The first comprehensive review under this methodology was undertaken in 2025–26. The review was facilitated, and the Standard and Good Practice Guides drafted, by The OREAS Group Dr David Marsden for and on behalf of the Outdoor Council of Australia. The Outdoor Council of Australia gratefully acknowledges the contributions of all who took part in the review:

- Dr David Marsden (PhD), Lead Consultant (The OREAS GROUP)
- Lori Modde, Project Sponsor (OCA Chair)
- the members of the AAAS Steering Committee, who provided governance, direction and endorsement of the reviewed documents;

Lori Modde, OCA Chair, Outdoors NSW, ACT

David Marsden, Lead Consultant, The OREAS Group

Andrew Atfield, Tasmania Government

Andrew Knight, Outdoors Victoria

Dom Courtney, Outdoors Queensland

Jodie Freund, South Australian Government

Katie Brown, Outdoors WA

Mitchell Hardy, NT Government

Neil Le Febvre, Outdoors WA

- the members of the Expert Advisory Groups, who contributed specialist knowledge and reviewed drafts across the Core and activity Good Practice Guides; and
- the *activity providers*, education authorities, peak bodies and individuals who contributed through public consultation, focus groups, and submissions.

Further details of the creation and review of the AAAS and GPGs can be found at www.australianaas.org.au, where updates are also published.

Funders

The Steering Committee gratefully acknowledges and thanks the State and Territory Governments for funding the original development and 2026 review.

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Preface

About these documents

The Australian Adventure Activity Standard (AAAS) and related Good Practice Guides (GPGs) are an industry good-practice framework for safe and responsible planning and delivery of outdoor adventure activities with *dependent participants*.

The AAAS and related GPGs provide guidance on responsible activity delivery, including safety and respect for the environment, cultural heritage and other users. They are not a full legal compliance framework.

Activity *providers* are encouraged to obtain independent professional and legal advice in relation to their obligations and duties in delivering adventure activities and should reference the relevant laws to the area in which they intend to undertake the adventure activity.

Dependent Participants

A *dependent participant* is a person who is owed a *duty of care* by the *activity provider* and who wholly or partially on the provider's systems, processes and operational practices for the support, supervision, guidance or instruction needed to take part in an activity. In most cases this means a participant who reasonably relies on the provider for their safety. The degree of dependence may vary over the course of an activity.

Considerations for determining whether a person is a *dependent participant* may include, but are not limited to:

- whether the organisation is providing a service or product to the person
- whether the organisation owes the person a *duty of care* in the circumstances
- whether the person reasonably relies on the provider for the support, supervision, guidance or instruction needed to participate safely.

Considerations for determining the **level of dependence** may include, but are not limited to:

- the foreseeable level of competence of the participant in the activity, and the degree of reliance this creates on the provider's work system, including reliance on *activity leaders*
- the foreseeable level of self-reliance of the participant to reasonably manage their own safety
- the variation, or possible variation, in the degree of dependence or self-reliance throughout the activity
- the individual context, nature and circumstances of the activity
- the relevant circumstances and particular facts relating to the responsibilities assumed by the provider.

Does the Standard and Good Practice Guides apply to me?

The Australian Adventure Activity Standards (AAAS) and associated Good Practice Guides (GPGs) are primarily designed to support activity *providers* conducting lead or supported adventure activities involving *dependent participants* with the aim of delivering safe, responsible and well-managed experiences. Each *provider* must determine, based on their specific circumstances, whether the participants they work with are dependent and/or their level of dependency on the provider's systems and operations. Providers should use the AAAS and relevant GPGs to ensure that the activities they lead are planned and delivered in accordance with the Standard.

Australian *providers* operating internationally can use the AAAS and GPGs as a benchmark for safe practice, while complying with the laws and relevant standards of the jurisdiction in which the activity is conducted. Legal advice should be obtained where activities cross jurisdictions.

184 *Activity providers* include outdoor education and adventure businesses, schools, universities, TAFEs, camps,
185 clubs and organised “meet-up” groups, youth organisations, not-for-profits, and community-based
186 organisations that deliver adventure activities to *dependent participants*. An individual may also be an
187 *activity provider* where they hold the ultimate legal *duty of care* to participants. “The Standard” and the
188 GPGs apply to a provider as a “whole organisation” rather than to “specific roles” within it.

189 Some providers may have their own standards or guidelines appropriate to their *duty of care*. These should
190 be reviewed periodically to ensure current *duty of care* expectations are met, and “the Standard” and the
191 GPGs may assist with such reviews.

192 Are they legally binding?

193 The AAAS and GPGs are not legal requirements. However, they may refer to specific laws and regulations
194 which may be legally binding on *activity providers*. Some *land managers* and other organisations may
195 require compliance. This may be as a condition of obtaining a licence, permit or other permission, or some
196 other condition (e.g. a contract).

197 Under Australian common law and relevant legislation, *providers* have a legal *duty of care* towards
198 *dependent participants* in some circumstances. In broad terms, the legal duty requires *providers* to take
199 reasonable care that their actions and omissions do not cause reasonably foreseeable injury to *dependent*
200 *participants*.

201 It is important to be aware that adventure activities in Australia operate within a complex legal landscape.
202 *Activity providers* must understand the obligations that apply to them and seek independent professional
203 and legal advice where any obligation is unclear.

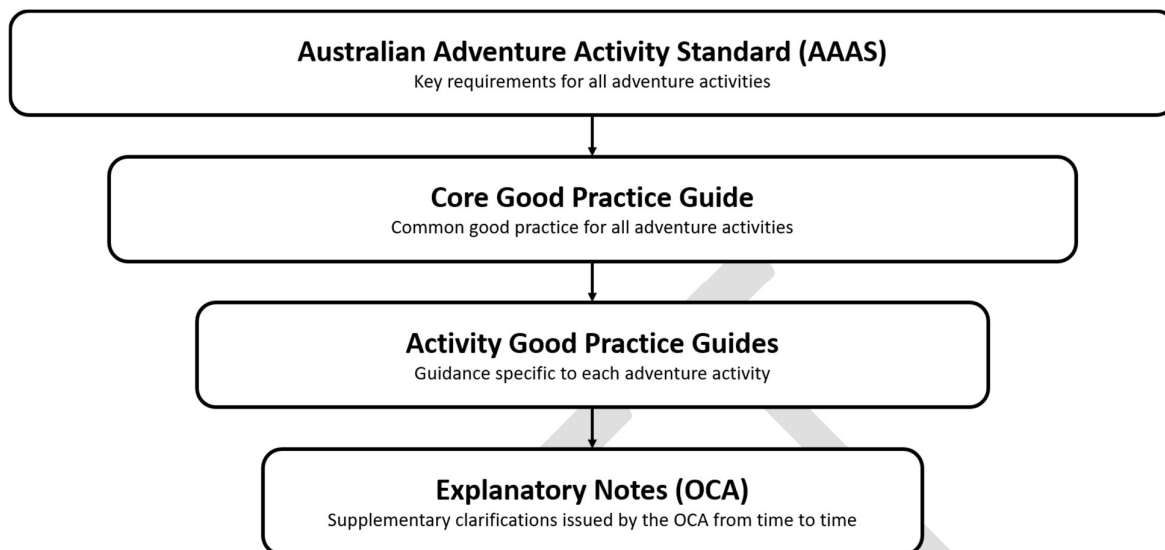
204 The following obligations include, but are not limited to, those set out in detail in Appendix A — Principal
205 legal obligations, grouped by the function each obligation performs:

- 206 • Work health and safety — the foundational legal duty for the majority of providers, including the
207 primary *duty of care*, officers' due-diligence duty, consultation, safe systems of work, and
208 notifiable-incident reporting.
- 209 • *Duty of care*, negligence and consumer protection — the common law *duty of care*, the Civil
210 Liability Act (or equivalent) of each state and territory, and the Australian Consumer Law.
- 211 • Protection of children and vulnerable persons — Working with Children and Working with
212 Vulnerable People schemes, Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Schemes.
- 213 • Transport of participants — land, water and air — heavy vehicle, road transport, domestic
214 commercial vessel, recreational marine and civil aviation obligations.
- 215 • Land access, environment and cultural heritage — park, Crown land and reserve licensing, the
216 EPBC Act, Aboriginal cultural heritage law(s) and/or regulation(s), and biosecurity duties.
- 217 • Information privacy, equity and employment — the Privacy Act and Australian Privacy Principles,
218 anti-discrimination law(s) and/or regulation(s), and the Fair Work Act and relevant award.
- 219 • Substances, food and licensed items — medicines and poisons, food safety, liquor and tobacco,
220 and firearms obligations.
- 221 • Activity-specific licensing — fisheries and recreational fishing licensing, and animal welfare duties.

222 Appendix A is an orientation only and is not exhaustive. It does not constitute legal advice, and the relevant
223 law(s) and/or regulation(s) of the jurisdiction(s) of operation must in each case be determined and
224 complied with.

225 Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

226 The guidance for adventure activities comprises several related documents. For any activity, the AAAS (the
227 Standard), the Core GPG, the relevant activity GPG, and any applicable Explanatory Notes issued by the
228 Outdoor Council of Australia, from time to time, should be consulted.



229

230 *Figure 1.1: Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides*

231 The documents present cumulatively more specific information. Providers should determine how they use
232 the AAAS and GPGs based on their context and need, and are encouraged to draw on them when
233 developing and reviewing their standard operating procedures. Activity providers are encouraged to obtain
234 independent professional and legal advice on their obligations and to reference the laws relevant to the
235 area in which they operate.

236 Interpretation of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

237 The following words and phrases are used in all documents and have specific meanings:

- 238 • **Must:** used where a provision is mandatory, if the provider is to operate fully in accordance with
239 AAAS or GPGs. (This is equivalent to the keyword “shall” used in other voluntary standards e.g.
240 Standards Australia, other International Standards Organisations (ISOs) etc.)
- 241 • **Should:** used where a provision is recommended, not mandatory. It indicates that the provider
242 needs to consider their specific situation and decide for themselves whether it applies or is
243 relevant. A “should” statement describes good practice. Departure from a “should” statement
244 does not of itself establish a breach of duty — a provider may meet its obligations by other means
245 appropriate to its context — but providers should be able to explain the basis for a different
246 approach.
- 247 • **Can/cannot:** indicates a possibility and capability.
- 248 • **May/need not:** indicates a permission or existence of an option.
- 249 • **But are/is not limited to:** used to indicate that a list is not definitive and additional items may need
250 to be considered depending on the context.
- 251 • The following formatting is used throughout:
- 252 • Defined words are in *italics*. They are defined in the Glossary.
- 253 • Examples are in smaller *italic 9-point font*.
- 254 • In document references are underlined. References are to section heading titles.
- 255 • External web or Australian AAS & GPG document links are dotted underline *italic*.

1 Introduction

1.1 Angling

Angling is a method of fishing using a *hook*. There are many angling methods and types of equipment which may be used in association with hooks and line. It may be undertaken in fresh or saltwater. Freshwater angling environments may include dams, lakes, rivers, billabongs, waterholes and streams. Saltwater angling environments may include bays, estuaries, inlets, beaches and the ocean.

The type of location in which angling can be undertaken include:

- terrestrial angling (e.g. angling from land, beach, bank or land structure such as a jetty)
- angling while partly immersed in the water (e.g. wading)
- angling from a watercraft (e.g. paddle-craft, motorboat, floating aid or device etc.)
- angling on ocean facing environments (e.g. rocks) – see discussion below.

This Good Practice Guide (GPG) does cover hand gathering (including bait), scoop/dip netting and *ocean facing rock fishing*.

1.2 Ocean facing rock fishing

Ocean facing rock fishing is angling from rock ledges, submerged rocks, rock faces and rocks, or gaining access via sandbars or mudflats that interface the water and are subject to wave action, tide variation and/or inundation. '*Rock fishing*' is the common term for *ocean facing rock fishing*. As 'fishing from rocks' can also occur in a range of environments with different hazards and risks, '*ocean facing rock fishing*' is used to distinguish the particular type of environment involved.

Ocean facing rock fishing is potentially dangerous with several deaths occurring every year due to slipping or being swept into the ocean. It can be extremely difficult to mitigate the possibility of and offer a suitable immediate emergency rescue response if anyone or a group of people slip, fall or are washed into the ocean while *ocean facing rock fishing*.

Ocean facing rock fishing must only be conducted with *dependent groups* where thorough and proper *risk management plan* are implemented and maintained.

1.3 Exclusions and related activities

1.3.1 Exclusions

Activities that are not covered by this GPG are:

- competition or championship angling events
- fishing tackle hire and boat hire
- use of watercraft while angling (see discussion below in [1.3.2 Angling and watercraft](#))
- transport used to the site (e.g. using 4-wheel drives)
- swimming
- net fishing (except landing nets which may be used to assist anglers land fish caught by line and hand scoop nets for prawning)
- spear fishing and hand gathering by snorkelling or diving
- use of traps and pots for fishing except where it is in "inland waters" (e.g. yabbies)
- artificial bait and *berley* making
- forms of fishing deemed illegal by state regulatory authorities
- angling activities at sites that require a fall from height safety system (e.g. fall from height harness and anchoring system)
- making sinkers
- activities associated with camping while on overnight or extended activities (see [Camping GPG](#))

299 • *bushwalking* to a site (see [Bushwalking GPG](#)).

300 1.3.2 Angling and watercraft

301 This GPG does not cover the hazards and risks associated with use of watercraft (e.g. paddle-craft, motorboat,
302 sailing boat, etc.) while *angling*.

303 Refer [Appendix V Watercraft use information sources](#) for further information.

304 2 Management of Risk

305 *Risk management* in outdoor and adventure settings is highly context-specific. In natural environments
306 there is an almost infinite range of combinations of participants, purpose, weather and local conditions,
307 and every provider differs in structure, size, philosophy and operating environment. *Risk management*
308 therefore cannot be a 'tick-the-box' exercise or a 'one size fits all' approach; risk systems should be flexible,
309 adaptive and highly responsive to the circumstances of each activity, drawing on recognised frameworks
310 such as AS ISO 31000:2018 and AS ISO 4980:2023.

311 The section guides providers to build a risk system that fits their own structure and operating environment
312 rather than copying another organisation's. A volunteer-led club might apply it as a lightweight but
313 documented plan with strong dynamic assessment in the field; a commercial operator might use it to
314 underpin a formal, audited *risk management* system. In every case it directs the provider to make risk
315 thinking flexible, adaptive and responsive to the actual circumstances of each activity.

316

317 2.1 Context Matters

318 See *Core GPG (Management of Risk)*.

319 2.2 Risk management framework and process

320 See *Core GPG (Management of Risk)*.

321 2.3 Risk management plan

322 See *Core GPG (Management of Risk)*.

323 2.4 Dynamic risk assessment

324 See *Core GPG (Management of Risk)*.

325 2.5 Incident reporting

326 See *Core GPG (Management of Risk)*.

327 3 Planning

328

329 Sound planning is what turns intent into safe and consistent delivery. Clear management and approval
330 processes help a provider manage risk, with the people responsible for approving processes, plans and
331 procedures varying according to the organisation's context. Good planning considers the purpose of the
332 activity, the people involved, group size, the cultural and environmental values of the place, and what to do
333 when conditions change or things go wrong.

334 Here the guidance helps a provider translate intent into a repeatable, defensible process. Approval roles
335 can be scaled to context — a single coordinator in a small operation, or a tiered sign-off structure in a larger

336 one. The material can shape activity-plan templates, prompt early engagement with *Traditional Owners*
337 and *land managers*, and ensure emergency planning and field documentation are in place and reviewed
338 before participants arrive.

339 3.1 Management and approval of activities

340 *See Core GPG (Planning).*

341 3.2 Activity plans

342 Angling planning considerations should include:

- 343 • items in the Core GPG – Activity plans
- 344 • the type of location(s) and remoteness
- 345 • location environment hazards and risks
- 346 • the weather and forecast weather
- 347 • the potential wildlife encountered
- 348 • environmental sustainability practice for the area and fish species involved
- 349 • supervision required
- 350 • *land manager* and/or *land owner* requirements
- 351 • activity purpose
- 352 • participant considerations including general ability as per the participant section and angling ability
- 353 • *activity leader* competencies
- 354 • location access requirements
- 355 • laws and regulation
- 356 • other potential visitors and users
- 357 • details of all the locations that may be used for the activity
- 358 • ways to provide a positive experience for participants
- 359 • food and water requirements
- 360 • toileting and hygiene
- 361 • possible extreme weather
- 362 • equipment requirements
- 363 • closed seasons and restrictions for species and locations
- 364 • clean-up and waste disposal
- 365 • navigation equipment required
- 366 • emergency management plan
- 367 • travel plans and managing fatigue.

368 Where targeted fish species are identified, then a plan and related procedure may be needed to enable it
369 to be caught in an effective and sustainable manner.

370 *See Core GPG (Planning) for the general requirements and further detail.*

371 3.3 Group size

372 *See Core GPG (Planning).*

373 3.4 Cultural, environmental and historical values

374 *See Core GPG (Planning).*

375 3.5 Emergency management planning

376 Considerations when developing emergency management plans should include but is not limited to:

- 377 • items in the Core GPG -Emergency management planning
- 378 • a *non-participating contact* being part of the emergency management plan

- 379 • types of emergencies the *risk assessment* plan identifies
- 380 • remoteness of the activity and access to communications
- 381 • treatment where impaled by a fishing hook
- 382 • treatment for injury from marine creatures
- 383 • context appropriate water rescues, how they will be performed and practiced periodically
- 384 • the need for activity intentions plan in accordance with any *land manager, marine safety agency*
- 385 or non- participant contact needs
- 386 • the likely response time of marine rescue, land rescue or surf lifesaving services at the time of the
- 387 activity
- 388 • escape if water levels change
- 389 • the need for an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

390 Where there is only one *activity leader*:

- 391 • the emergency management plan must have arrangements that allow participants an adequate
- 392 and appropriate communication system if the *activity leader* becomes incapacitated
- 393 • participants must be aware of the location and the detail of the emergency management plan if
- 394 the *activity leader* becomes incapacitated.

395 Also refer Core GPG – Emergency management planning.

396 See *Core GPG (Planning)* for the general requirements and further detail.

397 3.6 Modification or cancellation of activities

398 See *Core GPG (3 Management and approval)*.

399 3.7 Activity leader required documentation

400 See *Core GPG (Planning)*.

401 4 Diversity, equity and inclusion

402 Adventure *activities* are delivered by, and for, people of diverse identities, abilities, cultures, life

403 experiences and circumstances. Recognising that diversity, and providing equitable opportunities for safe

404 and meaningful participation, is fundamental to safe and effective practice.

405 In practice this section guides providers to design activities that include rather than exclude, applying

406 across interactions between leaders, participants and others encountered during an activity. A provider can

407 use it to review enrolment and communication practices for barriers, build cultural and psychological safety

408 into leader briefings, and ensure complaint and review mechanisms are visible and accessible. It is intended

409 to be read alongside the Participants and Responsibilities sections rather than in isolation.

410 The recommendations in this section apply alongside, and inform the application of, the subsequent

411 sections of the Core, including without limitation 5 Participants, 5.3 *Vulnerable participants*, 5.5 Privacy of

412 information, j2pqeh53snxp3zsexu8e3ee94.3 Cultural safety, 4.4 Psychological safety and dignity, and 8

413 Responsibilities and roles. Those sections continue to apply in their own terms; where requirements

414 overlap, the more onerous applies.

415 4.1 Diversity of participants and leaders

416 See *Core GPG (Diversity, equity and inclusion)*.

417 4.2 Inclusive practice

418 See *Core GPG (Diversity, equity and inclusion)*.

419 4.3 Cultural safety

420 See Core GPG (*Diversity, equity and inclusion*).

421 4.4 Psychological safety and dignity

422 See Core GPG (*Diversity, equity and inclusion*).

423 4.5 Information, communication and consent

424 See Core GPG (*Diversity, equity and inclusion*).

425 4.6 Leader competence

426 See Core GPG (*Diversity, equity and inclusion*).

427 4.7 Concerns, complaints and review

428 See Core GPG (*Diversity, equity and inclusion*).

429 5 Participants

430 Every activity depends on the people taking part, and on the information and support they receive before
431 and during it. Pre-activity information and communication help potential participants, parents or legal
432 guardians and client organisations make an informed decision about taking part, and continue through
433 consent, acknowledgement of risk, and the care of those who may be vulnerable. Supporting participants
434 well — from first enquiry to supervision in the field — is central to safe and respectful practice.

435 Its purpose is to help a provider ensure people know what they are signing up for and are appropriately
436 supported once they arrive. Pre-activity information can be adapted to the audience and activity,
437 participation restrictions set defensibly, and additional safeguards put in place for *vulnerable participants*
438 and minors. The supervision guidance lets a provider calibrate direct versus *indirect supervision* to the
439 activity, environment and group.

440 5.1 Information provided pre-activity to participants

441 Participant pre-activity communication considerations should include but are not limited to:

- 442 • those found in [Core GPG - Pre-activity communication](#)
- 443 • licencing and permit requirements
- 444 • allergy considerations (including allergies to marine life)
- 445 • clothing and equipment requirements that they need to provide and what is provided to them.

446

447 Additional participant pre-activity communication information for *ocean facing rock fishing* must include:

- 448 • hazards and risks, including risks of *waves*
- 449 • history of *ocean facing rock fishing* deaths
- 450 • requirement relating to safety equipment that is to be used
- 451 • swimming, fitness or other skill requirements.

452 Additional participant pre-activity communication information for angling that involves wading must
453 include:

- 454 • hazards and risks
- 455 • requirement relating to safety equipment that is to be used
- 456 • swimming, fitness or other skill requirements.

5.2 Participant considerations

Participant considerations should include:

- allergies considerations (including to marine life)
- provisions found in Core GPG - Participants section.

5.3 Participant restrictions

A participant may not be able to participate in an angling activity for regulatory or safety reasons.

Reasons a participant may not be able to participate may include, but are not limited to:

- not holding appropriate permits, licenses or relevant exemptions
- inability to meet client organisation or providers swimming, fitness or other skills requirements
- for high risk activities such as *ocean facing rock fishing*, the inability to meet any client organisation or providers age restrictions
- lack of previous experience using certain types of terminal tackle outfits
- lack of specific *casting* experience or knowledge
- other considerations listed in the Core GPG – Participant restrictions.

5.4 Supervision and management during the activity

Considerations when determining the *supervision ratio* and group size for angling must include:

- the type and location of the water body involved
- characteristics of the site used to fish from
- visibility (e.g. day, night, fog etc.)
- if the site is *ocean facing rock fishing*
- if wading or entry into water is involved or not
- fall from height risks and management systems
- the speed of the water flow
- the size and strength of any wave action
- weather and other environmental conditions
- type of angling and target species
- activity leaders* competencies and familiarity with location
- participants involved (see section 4 Participants)
- the amount of instruction each participant requires
- environmental impact
- considerations in the Core GPG – Group size and Activity leader to participant ratios.

Appropriate supervision must be provided at all times during the activity.

The recommended supervision requirements for angling should not exceed:

Table 5.1: *Supervision and management during the activity*

Hazards & risks	Additional activity profile	Minors & other vulnerable participants*	Adult participants#
Stable work area or barriers in place to prevent falls	Situations other than <i>fly fishing</i>	1 guide: 15* participants	1 guide: 15 participants
	<i>Fly fishing</i> [^]	1 guide: 8* participants	1 guide: 8 participants
Unstable work area and/or no barriers in place to prevent falls	Situations other than <i>fly fishing</i>	1 guide: 10* participants	1 guide: 10 participants
	<i>Fly fishing</i> [^]	1 guide: 5* participants	1 guide: 5 participants
Wading and entry into	Wading in shallow, still	1 guide: 5* participants	1 guide: 5 participants

water	and slow-moving water		
	Wading in deep, fast moving or cold water	1 guide: 4* participants	1 guide: 4 participants
Subject to wave action	Beach	1 guide: 8* participants	1 guide: 8 participants
	Beach with heavy wave action	1 guide: 4* participants	1 guide: 4 participants
	<i>Ocean facing rock fishing</i> ^{^^}	1 guide: 4* participants	1 guide: 4 participants

Notes:

- Refer [section 7.3](#) above for considerations that may indicate an adjustment to the above supervision recommendations.
- [^] Supervision for *fly fishing* is highly variable (e.g. casting clinics in controlled environments vs wading in moving water). An appropriate assessment needs to be undertaken to determine the appropriate level of supervision required for the specific activity context.
- * = individual assessment of *vulnerable participants* capabilities is required (Also refer [section 4 Participants](#) above and the [Core GPG - Vulnerable participants](#)):
 - Additional supervision needs to be considered, including when there is only 1 guide the need for a *responsible person* to also attend
 - The *supervision ratios* provided assume where there is only 1 guide, a *responsible person* also attends (i.e. any group of *minors* or *vulnerable participants* will have as a minimum of either 1 guide and 1 *responsible person* or alternatively 2 guides)
 - The *responsible person* while able to provide general behavioural supervision they are considered a participant for determining *supervision ratios* (e.g. 1 guide with 7 participants and 1 *responsible person* = 1 guide to 8 participants).
- # = for adults that are *vulnerable participants*, use the *minors/vulnerable participants* column and consider the * note above.
- ^{^^} Consider the need for having a minimum of 2 guides while *ocean facing rock fishing* where participants are likely to require continual guide assistance with fishing technique or the *risk assessment* plan indicates a suitable *competent* lookout is needed. Lookouts must be *competent* in assessing wave risks.
- The supervision of angling while using of watercraft is NOT covered in this GPG.

See [Core GPG \(Participants\)](#) for the general requirements and further detail.

5.5 Activity briefings

5.5.1 Angling briefings

Before undertaking an activity, the information and requirements to be communicated may include but are not limited to:

- location hazards and risks
- level of difficulty
- leader and participants *casting*/angling skills, level of training and previous experience
- fitting clothing, equipment or personal protective equipment
- relevant fishing regulations
- group management procedures, etiquette, timing and outline of activity
- water safety procedures
- sun safety procedures
- appropriate safe use, handling and care of hooks, lures, knives, rods, reels, sinkers and line
- collection, care & presentation of bait
- pre-*casting* checks and safe working area requirements
- safe *casting* process and *casting* techniques
- information about the target species and tips for catching it

- 533 • features of the tackle to be used
- 534 • how to rig and tie knots
- 535 • techniques or procedures to reduce environmental impact
- 536 • any relevant emergency response procedures (e.g. if they or anyone else falls or is washed into the
- 537 water, if the sole *activity leader* is injured or incapacitate, etc.)
- 538 • desired action imparted on the lure, fly or bait
- 539 • how to approach fish/water to avoid spooking fish
- 540 • line management and snag avoidance
- 541 • what to do if snagged
- 542 • explaining relevant angling terminology
- 543 • feeling of bites, setting the hook and playing fish
- 544 • landing, fish handling and releasing fish
- 545 • fish species identification
- 546 • dangerous aquatic creatures to consider
- 547 • appropriate technique and rest breaks needed to reduce the risk of repetitive strain injury
- 548 • appropriate wading techniques and use of waders
- 549 • actions to take if washed or fall into the water, or someone else is washed or falls into the water
- 550 • communications techniques
- 551 • other angling and equipment use techniques to suit the location, type of fishing and associated
- 552 equipment
- 553 • any tetanus immunization requirements
- 554 • avoiding contact with any allergens.

555 5.5.2 Ocean facing rock fishing briefings

556 Before undertaking an *ocean facing rock fishing* activity, the information and requirements to be
557 communicated must include:

- 558 • use of any relevant safety equipment
- 559 • what to do if they are washed off the rock
- 560 • what to do if someone else is washed off the rock
- 561 • correct fitting and use of the lifejacket
- 562 • the need to monitor wave patterns
- 563 • other relevant items as listed in above section 7.5.1 Angling briefings above.

564 5.6 Activity site knowledge

565 The knowledge and experience of the activity site that *activity leaders* require before leading participants at
566 that site, should be considered when allocating *activity leader* roles.

567 5.7 Activity management

568 5.7.1 Safe working area

569 Safe working distances must be established to prevent and/or minimize the hazard posed from overhead
570 powerlines.

571 Safe working distances should be established to prevent and/or minimize accidental striking of anyone or
572 entanglement with any structures (e.g. pipes, trees, bridges, fencing materials, cars, livestock, etc.) while using
573 equipment.

574 Working areas should offer stable footing.

575 Moving about by running or jumping should be discouraged.

576 Working areas must have a suitable access and egress.

577 Procedures must manage any interaction with pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles and/or vessels to prevent
578 injury to either party.

579 *Land owner and/or land manager* signage or instructions must be followed.

580 **5.7.2 Falls from height**

581 Working areas must be assessed for fall from height risks.

582 Working areas selected should minimise the risk from a fall from height.

583 **5.7.3 Steep inclines**

584 Steep inclines with slippery surfaces must be avoided or have procedures to help mitigate a potential fall.

585 Steep inclines should be avoided.

586 **5.7.4 Slippery surfaces**

587 Suitable non slip footwear must be worn if moving on slippery surfaces.

588 Slippery surfaces should be avoided or have procedures to help mitigate a potential fall.

589 Slippery surfaces exposed by recent drops in water levels (e.g. exposure of clay, mud or slippery rocks) should
590 be avoided.

591 **5.7.5 Water level changes and movements**

592 **5.7.5.1 General considerations**

593 Locations with high banks that are undercut by water flow and/or wave action should be avoided.

594 Consideration should be given to the possible impact of boat wakes creating waves at the location.

595 Consideration should be given to the possible impact of waves at ocean facing locations.

596 **5.7.5.2 Tides and swell**

597 Tidal movements and water levels must be monitored.

598 The expected tide times and heights for the day of the activity should be known.

599 Locations where isolation or entrapment due to tides or other likely increases in water levels can occur
600 should be avoided.

601 **5.7.5.3 River level changes**

602 River water levels and rainfall in the catchment area must be monitored.

603 **5.7.5.4 Managed water releases**

604 Water levels and water release timing must be monitored in areas subject to intermittent water release
605 (e.g. dams, dam feed waterways, irrigation channels).

606 **5.7.5.5 Flooding**

607 Areas that are impacted by or in flood should be avoided.

608 **5.7.6 Catching dangerous marine life**

609 Monitoring must occur of catches as they are landed for dangerous marine life.

610 Creatures should be appropriately identified before handling.

611 Marine creature's identification references should be carried.

612 Instruction should be provided in recognition of the various marine creatures including any dangerous
613 characteristics and natural defence mechanisms.

614 5.7.7 Common injuries

615 Appropriate procedures must be in place:

- 616 • to provide first aid for fishhook injuries and hook removal
- 617 • regarding tetanus immunization requirements if fishhook injuries occur
- 618 • to monitor for appropriate technique and rest taking breaks to reduce the risk of repetitive strain
- 619 injury.

620 Also refer Core Good Practice Guide – First aid competencies.

621 5.7.8 Managing entry into water

622 Also see section 5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings.

623 5.7.8.1 Water entry general

624 Stability of the sites used to fish off must consider the potential for slipping or accidental falling into the
625 water.

626 Entry into water must not occur unless an appropriate *risk assessment* and *risk management plan* has been
627 implemented.

628 Considerations for the *risk assessment* for entry into water must include potential presence of dangerous
629 animals.

630 Monitoring must occur for hypothermia in cold conditions or when wading.

631 5.7.8.2 Wading

632 Entry into water should not occur in areas likely to be inhabited by saltwater crocodiles.

633 Entry into water above the knees may need to be avoided in deep, cold or moving water and near *river*
634 *hazards*.

635 Entry into water with strong tidal flow or tidal eddies must not occur.

636 Wading entry and exists must be planned to avoid hazards.

637 *River hazards* at the entry and exist site and downstream must be considered.

638 Correctly fitted and appropriate footwear should be worn when wading in water.

639 If worn, waders must be correctly fitted.

640 Wading activities should be reassessed in conditions with a low distance of visibility (e.g. fog, nights with no
641 moonlight, heavy rain).

642 Consideration of additional safety procedures should occur where:

- 643 • entry into the water is planned (e.g. rescue equipment, life jackets, swimming proficiency testing, etc.)
- 644 • dangerous water conditions are involved (e.g. deep water, swift flowing water, rough water)
- 645 • entering cold water
- 646 • steep banks, overhanging or submerged vegetation or other structure that may entangle or entrap
- 647 • submerged items (e.g. rocks, structures, damaged fencing and building materials).

648 5.7.8.3 Swimming

649 Swimming must not occur unless an appropriate *risk assessment* and *risk management plan* has been
650 implemented and suitably competent *activity leader(s)* with appropriate rescue equipment are leading the
651 swimming part of the activity.

652 Swimming should not be undertaken in angling locations where the angling activity is likely to attract
653 dangerous animals.

654 Angling should not be undertaken in swimming locations where the angling activity is likely to attract
655 dangerous animals.

656 5.7.9 Assessment of lifejacket and safety equipment requirements
657 A *risk assessment* must determine when a *lifejacket* needs to be worn.

658 5.7.10 Ocean facing rock fishing activity management

659 5.7.10.1 Conditions and working area
660 *Ocean facing rock fishing* must not occur in conditions with a low distance of visibility that limits monitoring
661 waves (e.g. fog, nights with no moonlight, heavy rain).

662 Movement routes and working area selection must consider the hazards and risks associated with steep or
663 slippery surfaces and associated vegetation.

664 Wave patterns must be observed prior to moving into the possible range of waves. Also see 5.1.6 Ocean
665 facing rock fishing considerations.

666 Ongoing monitoring of waves and water levels must occur.

667 A suitable working distance must be established from breaking waves.

668 A suitable working area must be used that:

- 669 • provides a view of the incoming waves
- 670 • provides a means of escaping the area if a larger wave is identified
- 671 • provides reasonable footing
- 672 • does not have a fall from height risk.

673 Where a lookout is used, they must be competent in assessing wave risks. See 5.1.6 Ocean facing rock
674 fishing considerations.

675 5.7.10.2 Safety harness and line and anchor systems
676 Refer 7.7.11.1 above requirements for *ocean facing rock fishing*.

677 Safety lines must be at a suitable length:

- 678 • to remove excess slack so that in the event of being washed in the person is not dragged too far
679 down the rock
- 680 • not allow the person to move or be dragged into a position that they are unable to readily climb
681 back to a safe position.

682 5.7.11 Fly fishing
683 Hats and glasses must be worn while *fly casting* with hooks.

684 Where there is entry into water also see: 5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings, 6.2.3 Waders and 7.7.8
685 Managing entry into water.

686 5.7.12 Beach and surf
687 Entry into water either above knee depth or where heavy surf or swell is apparent should not occur.

688 Entry into water where sharks may be attracted by the angling activity should not occur.

689 Long sleeve shirts and long pants should be worn when marine stingers are likely to be present.

690 Changes to sand banks and gutters during the activity should be monitored.

691 Where there is entry into water also see: 5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings, 6.2.3 Waders and 7.7.8
692 Managing entry into water.

693 5.7.13 Exposed and shallow reefs and sandbars
694 Working areas should provide stable footing.

695 Working areas and routes should not occur on fragile surfaces. (Also see [5.10.2 Travel and stop on durable](#)
696 [surfaces.](#))

697 Working areas and routes should consider wave, swell, tide and water movements to prevent being washed
698 off the reef or sand bar. (Also see [7.7.11 Ocean facing rock fishing activity management.](#))

699 Procedures must be used to avoid cuts from the reef.

700 5.7.14 Estuaries and mud flats
701 Footwear must be appropriately secured to prevent loss.

702 Locations where isolation or entrapment due to tides can occur should be avoided.

703 Suitable routes should be used to minimise the possibility of becoming stuck in deep mud or silt.

704 5.7.15 Wharfs, pontoons and jetties
705 Working areas must be within any safety barriers if installed.

706 Areas under where *casting* occurs or objects are being passed, thrown or dropped from height should be
707 avoided.

708 Disused or privately constructed pontoons and jetties should be assessed for structural safety before use.

709 5.7.16 Bridges
710 Working areas must be within any safety barriers if installed.

711 Areas under where *casting* occurs or objects are being passed, thrown or dropped from height should be
712 avoided.

713 Disused or privately constructed bridges should be assessed for structural safety before use.

714 5.7.17 Rivers and waterholes
715 Movement routes and working area selection must consider the hazards and risks associated with steep or
716 slippery surfaces and associated vegetation.

717 Procedures should be used to ensure participants do not becoming separated from the group.

718 Where there is entry into water also see: [5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings](#), [6.2.3 Waders](#) and [7.7.8](#)
719 [Managing entry into water.](#)

720 5.7.18 Dams and impoundments
721 Water levels and water release timing must be monitored in areas subject to intermittent water release
722 from dams.

723 Movement routes and working area selection must consider the hazards and risks associated with steep or
724 slippery surfaces and associated vegetation.

725 Where there is entry into water also see: [5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings](#), [6.2.3 Waders](#) and [7.7.8](#)
726 [Managing entry into water.](#)

727 5.7.19 Irrigation channels
728 Water levels and water release timing must be monitored in areas subject to intermittent water release.

729 Movement routes and working area selection must consider the hazards and risks associated with steep or
730 slippery surfaces and associated vegetation.

731 Irrigation channels should not be entered as water levels can change rapidly without warning.

732 5.7.20 Alpine waters/areas

733 Monitoring must occur for hypothermia in cold conditions or when wading in cold waters.

734 Appropriate thermal protection must be worn.

735 Where there is entry into water also see: 5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings, 6.2.3 Waders and 7.7.8
736 Managing entry into water.

737 5.8 Vulnerable participants

738 See Core GPG (Participants).

739 5.9 Health and wellbeing

740 See Core GPG (Participants).

741 5.10 Privacy of information

742 See Core GPG (Participants).

743 5.11 Activity leader to participants ratios

744 See Core GPG (Participants).

745 6 Environment

746 Environmental conditions can directly affect the safety of an activity, and everyone involved shares
747 responsibility for protecting the natural and cultural heritage of the places they visit. Weather, fire, water,
748 terrain, wildlife and the requirements of *land owners* and managers all shape what can be done safely and
749 respectfully. Providers must actively identify, reduce and manage both the risks the environment poses and
750 the impact an activity has upon it.

751 For providers, the guidance encourages planning around the localised, in-situ conditions at the specific time
752 and place of an activity, rather than relying on general assumptions. The trigger-point approach can set
753 clear go/no-go and modification thresholds, fire and severe-weather planning can be aligned with the
754 relevant guidance material, and *land manager* requirements confirmed. Activity-specific detail is expected
755 to come from the relevant activity GPG, with this section providing the common baseline.

756

757 6.1 Environment related planning

758 6.1.1 Environment considerations

759 Environmental considerations may include but are not limited to:

- 760 • the type and features of the waterbody used for the activity
- 761 • type of equipment needed for the type of activity and environment
- 762 • hazards present or likely to be present at the site
- 763 • the terrain at the site and access (e.g. steep slopes, uneven or unstable footing, cliff edges, undercut
- 764 banks etc.)
- 765 • *ocean facing rock fishing* environment considerations
- 766 • weather conditions and forecast conditions
- 767 • water conditions and forecast conditions
- 768 • if it is daytime or night-time
- 769 • other water users
- 770 • *land manager, traditional owner and/or land owner* requirements
- 771 • any *marine safety agency* laws or regulations

- 772 • the type of flora expected (e.g. impeding progress, ability to cut or scratch etc.)
- 773 • the fauna expected (see [section 5.9 Safety while interacting with wildlife](#) below)
- 774 • environmental sustainability procedures (see [section 5.10](#) below).

775 6.1.2 Water conditions

776 Water considerations may include but is not limited to:

- 777 • wave and swell conditions
- 778 • effects of tide, tide variances and currents
- 779 • water temperature
- 780 • water flow rate, levels and depth
- 781 • *river hazards* (see [Glossary](#))
- 782 • water quality
- 783 • wakes from boat users.

784 6.1.3 Water quality

785 Water quality may include visual clarity, floating debris, pollutants and water borne diseases.

786 Areas must be avoided, where visual indicators or a current warning notification or signage identifies the
787 water is polluted or contaminated and may pose a risk to human health via direct contact or eating the
788 catch.

789 Areas should be avoided, where the water is likely to be polluted or contaminated and may pose a risk to
790 human health via direct contact or eating the catch.

791 Polluted or contaminated water may include water impacted by:

- 792 • chemicals
- 793 • sewage
- 794 • upstream runoff (e.g. urban runoff such as oil from roads, industrial operations etc.)
- 795 • waterborne microorganisms:
 - 796 ○ microbial or bacteria (e.g. E.coli)
 - 797 ○ protozoa (e.g. Gardia)
 - 798 ○ cyanobacteria (e.g. blue-green algae)
 - 799 ○ viruses (e.g. hepatitis)
- 800 • animal waste or carcasses
- 801 • rubbish or floating debris.

802 6.1.4 Weather information

803 Appropriate sources must be used for:

- 804 • current and forecast weather and water conditions (refer [Appendix T Weather information](#))
- 805 • current and forecast weather warnings (refer [Appendix T Weather information](#)).

806 6.1.5 Water conditions information

807 Sources of water conditions information to assess the suitability of the water body for the activity should
808 include but is not limited to:

- 809 • the Bureau of Meteorology relevant information
- 810 • local information sources (e.g. water gauges, dam operators, marine safety agencies, local organisations
811 etc.)
- 812 • tide charts
- 813 • warning signs or information at the site
- 814 • inspection of the site.

815

816 6.1.6 Ocean facing rock fishing considerations

817 *Ocean facing rock fishing* considerations must include:

- 818 • local area signage and warnings in place
- 819 • the regular height waves & swell reach up onto the rocks
- 820 • how sloping and slippery the rock surface is
- 821 • if falls from height are possible (e.g. cliffs)
- 822 • safety equipment required for that environment (e.g. life jackets, anchor points, etc.)
- 823 • emergency management requirements for that environment.

824 The following information on assessing wave risks should be considered:

- 825 • Bureau of Meteorology wave information including the possibility for “King or rogue waves”: refer
- 826 <http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/knowledge-centre/reference/waves.shtml>
- 827 • The ‘freak wave’ myth in The Pursuit: refer [https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/the-freak-](https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/the-freak-wave-myth)
- 828 [wave-myth](https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/the-freak-wave-myth)
- 829 • *Expert perceptions of the ‘freak’ wave myth on Australia’s rocky coasts* (Kamstra, Cook, Kennedy,
- 830 McSeeney, Rijksen & Daw, 2019) in *Ocean & Coastal Management*:
- 831 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0964569118306586>.

832 6.2 Marine safety, landowner/manager and traditional owner 833 requirements

834 6.2.1.1 Marine safety and landowner/manager requirements

835 Procedures must be used to determine and comply with all relevant *marine safety agency* and *land*
836 *manager/land owner* requirements.

837 *Land managers or land owners* may include:

- 838 • a national *marine safety agency*
- 839 • marine safety agencies in the jurisdiction of operation
- 840 • harbour masters in port jurisdictions
- 841 • marine authorities
- 842 • marine national parks/national park authorities
- 843 • marine sanctuary authorities
- 844 • local waterway managers (e.g. water catchment authorities, local councils or shires)
- 845 • private land/water body owners (e.g. private dams).

846 Also refer to the Core GPG – Land owner and/or manager requirements.

847 6.2.1.2 Traditional owner requirements

848 Procedures should be used to determine and comply with any *traditional owner* and cultural heritage
849 requirements.

850 Also refer the Core GPG – Traditional owners and cultural heritage.

851 6.3 Weather & other trigger points

852 6.3.1 Weather trigger points

853 *Trigger points* must be based on the relevant Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and actual weather
854 conditions.

855 The *risk management plan* and emergency management plan should include guidance on relevant *trigger*
856 *points* and associated actions for:

- 857 • extreme cold temperature

- 858 • snow and ice
- 859 • extreme hot temperatures
- 860 • lightning
- 861 • heavy rain
- 862 • strong winds
- 863 • *severe weather* warnings
- 864 • thunderstorm warnings
- 865 • flood and/or *flash flood* warnings
- 866 • tropical cyclone advice: watch and warnings
- 867 • coastal situations:
 - 868 ○ hazardous surf warnings
 - 869 ○ tsunamis: watch and warnings
 - 870 ○ marine wind warnings.

871 6.3.2 Non weather trigger points

872 The *risk management plan* and emergency management plan may include guidance on relevant non-
 873 weather *trigger points* and associated actions for but not limited to:

- 874 • strong currents and water release rate from dams or industry
- 875 • presence of marine stingers, drifting objects and other water hazards
- 876 • presence of people hazards (e.g. other anglers, vessels, swimmer or other non-anglers)
- 877 • blue green algae or water pollution level
- 878 • poor air quality or visibility (e.g. reduced distance due to fog, low light levels, smoke or certain particulate
 879 levels)
- 880 • bushfires
- 881 • riverbed or sea floor (bathymetry) conditions or changes
- 882 • swell period, direction, consistency, size and intensity.

883 6.3.3 Response to trigger points

884 Actions for *trigger points* may include but are not limited to:

- 885 • cancellation of activity
- 886 • postponing the activity
- 887 • move to a safe location or alternate area
- 888 • avoid locations effected by tides or surf
- 889 • avoiding areas that have the potential for flooding or *flash flooding*
- 890 • preparations to avoid the risks associated with lightning
- 891 • preparations to avoid the risks associated with blizzards
- 892 • moving to areas that are protected from strong winds and/or hail
- 893 • managing risks of flying or falling items during strong winds.

894 6.4 Bushfire, prescribed fire and fire danger

895 See Core GPG (6 Bushfires/fire danger).

896 6.5 Lightning

897 When thunder is audible, a suitable location should be sort, to wait out the thunderstorm.

898 Considerations for locations to waiting out the thunderstorm should include but not limited to avoiding:

- 899 • being on or in the water (e.g. wading, etc.)
- 900 • using fishing equipment that may act like a lightning rod
- 901 • being on high structures
- 902 • touching metal structures, cable or equipment

- 903 • being on the highest ground in the area
- 904 • tall trees or structures that may act like a lightning rod
- 905 • water saturated ground near watercourses
- 906 • locations where group is unable to spread out
- 907 • caves.

908 6.6 Flooding

909 Procedures should address hazards and risks posed when angling in areas subject to:

- 910 • increases in water level caused by rainfall upstream
- 911 • tidal inundation
- 912 • intermittent water release from dams or industrial processes
- 913 • a flood warning.

914 The crossing of swollen creeks, rivers, flooded bridges or fords, or the entry of floodwaters should be
915 avoided.

916 Areas likely to experience *flash flooding* should be avoided during heavy rainfall, *severe weather* that could
917 lead to flooding or thunderstorms. (Also see [Appendix T.1 Warnings](#).)

918 6.7 Assessing water entry or crossings

919 When assessing the suitability of a potential water entry or crossing, consideration should be given but is
920 not limited to:

- 921 • type of water flow (e.g. river flow, estuary, tidal movement, wave action, etc.)
- 922 • if the water is still or moving
- 923 • how cold is the water and the risk of hypothermia
- 924 • if there is debris floating or flowing in the current
- 925 • how clear the water is and if the base can be seen
- 926 • the depth of moving water as this can indicate the amount of water and force needed to be
927 overcome to avoid being washed away
- 928 • the speed of the water as this can indicate the volume of water and force needed to be overcome
929 to avoid being washed away
- 930 • where the water flows to, as the flow may wash people into dangerous situations (e.g. washed out
931 to sea, *river hazards* like into trees in the water that act as strainers, into narrow rock crevices)
- 932 • the base of the crossing (e.g. pebbles, sand, small rocks or large rocks) as moving water can move the
933 base increasing the danger of foot entrapment and/or reducing the likelihood of maintaining
934 stable footing
- 935 • slippery surfaces that need to be crossed
- 936 • sinking into mud.

937 See [section 5.7.8 Managing entry into water](#) for management of water entry or crossings.

938 6.8 Overhead powerlines and submarine cables

939 Locations must be assessed, and safe working areas established when near overhead power lines and
940 submarine cables.

941 6.9 Safety while interacting with wildlife

942 6.9.1 Handling and interacting with wildlife

943 Procedures must be in place to minimise the risks associated with:

- 944 • handling fish caught
- 945 • possible dangerous aquatic creatures that are landed or encountered

- handling, storage and collection of bait species.

6.9.2 Fauna and flora

Procedures should be in place to minimise the risks associated with local fauna and flora that may be encountered, caught or consumed.

Local fauna and flora that may need to be considered includes but is not limited to:

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| • blue ring octopus | 965 | • livestock (e.g. cattle, buffalo, etc.) |
| • cone shells | 966 | • jellyfish (also known as marine stingers) |
| • crabs | 967 | • nesting birds |
| • crocodiles | 968 | • platypus |
| • dogs | 969 | • rats |
| • eels | 970 | • seals |
| • fish with dangerous body parts (e.g. spines, spikes, gill rakers, barbs, sharp teeth) | 971 | • sharks |
| • flora that stings (e.g. stinging nettle, etc.) | 972 | • snakes |
| • flora that cuts or punctures (e.g. thorns etc.) | 973 | • stingrays |
| • inedible and toxic fish | 974 | • stone fish. |
| • insects (e.g. bees, leeches, sand flies, mosquitoes, wasps) | 975 | |

6.10 Environmental sustainability procedures

See Core GPG (6 Env. sustainability (App L)).

6.10.1 Plan ahead and prepare

Planning ahead and preparing may include but is not limited to:

- determining and observing current licensing and any special concerns of the planned fishing area
- determining and observing species, size and possession limits or restrictions, tackle restrictions and local seasonal closures
- seeking permits and/or permission where necessary
- understanding life cycles and breeding seasons of relevant species
- having appropriate tackle for the species, size and type of fish being sought
- understand the participants objectives and abilities so activity planned protects the environment
- plan the angling method used so it limits the impact on the environment
- plan appropriate storage of bait and catch
- consider available research and fisheries department guidance when determining sustainable angling practices
- determining the presence and ways to reduce the impact on protected species
- procedures listed in Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures.

6.10.2 Travel and stop on durable surfaces

Travelling in an area on durable surfaces may include but is not limited to:

- using durable surfaces like rock, sand, gravel and manmade structures as angling sites
- avoiding damage to fragile environments such as ocean and streamside vegetation, estuaries, seagrass, mangroves, corals and reefs
- avoiding damage to agricultural land or assets
- avoiding disturbing livestock
- using established routes and paths
- avoiding vegetated, soft or steep banks
- using open grassed areas (e.g. sport fields), snag free water bodies and dummy plugs for skills assessments or *casting* practice

1004 • procedures listed in Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures.

1005 6.10.3 Dispose of waste properly

1006 Disposal of waste may include but is not limited to:

- 1007 • recover and dispose of tangled or snagged fishing line when safe to do so
- 1008 • removing any rubbish left behind by previous users where practicable
- 1009 • disposing of filleting waste appropriately in accordance with relevant area requirements
- 1010 • procedures listed in Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures.

1011 6.10.4 Leave what you find

1012 Leaving what you find may include but is not limited to:

- 1013 • washing down areas to clean them after they are used for filleting
- 1014 • considering the biodegradability of equipment used
- 1015 • using suitable locations and procedures to avoid getting snagged
- 1016 • unsnagging carefully to avoid breaking the line or damaging vegetation
- 1017 • using barbless hooks or circle hooks to improve fish release survival
- 1018 • using release weights for release of fish caught at depth to minimise barotrauma
- 1019 • consider the appropriateness of *berley* use, particularly in sensitive environments
- 1020 • avoiding damage to fisheries infrastructure in the water
- 1021 • avoiding damage to any infrastructure found
- 1022 • procedures listed in Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures.

1023 6.10.5 Minimise the impact of fires

1024 Minimise the impact of fires may include but is not limited to:

- 1025 • procedures listed in Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures.

1026 6.10.6 Respect wildlife

1027 Respecting wildlife may include but not limited to:

- 1028 • taking no more fish than for your immediate needs
- 1029 • following licensing and all species size and volume restrictions
- 1030 • using the appropriate tackle
- 1031 • targeting known sustainable fish species
- 1032 • planning for target species
- 1033 • using equipment appropriate to the target species
- 1034 • avoiding known spawning aggregations or protected species habitats
- 1035 • paying regular attention to gear and retrieving fish as quickly as possible
- 1036 • paying regular attention to the amount of the catch taken
- 1037 • paying regular attention to live bait
- 1038 • using appropriate style landing nets to minimise harm to fish while in the nets
- 1039 • once landed, fish are attended to immediately and not left to flop and flail around
- 1040 • removing hooks while the fish is in the water where possible and safe to do so
- 1041 • supporting the fish's body while out of the water
- 1042 • avoiding holding a fish by the gills or eyes
- 1043 • avoiding placing live fish on extremely hot or cold surfaces
- 1044 • avoiding dropping fish on hard surfaces
- 1045 • covering the fish's eyes with a soaking wet cloth
- 1046 • quickly and correctly return to the water unwanted, restricted, endangered or threatened species
- 1047 • catch records being based on measure, weight or photo with the aim of returning fish alive
- 1048 • carefully return unwanted live bait to the waters from where they were taken
- 1049 • when releasing fish using wet hands and keeping handling to a minimum

- 1050 • when releasing fish reviving tired or semi-conscious fish
- 1051 • limiting any disturbance to terrestrial or aquatic species that inhabit areas including:
 - 1052 ○ avoiding bird nesting sites
 - 1053 ○ avoiding seal and penguin colonies
 - 1054 ○ avoiding turtle nesting sites
 - 1055 ○ minimising artificial lighting on beaches where turtles are hatching
- 1056 • reporting all distressed, stranded or dead aquatic animals and protected species
- 1057 • using alternatives to live bait where possible
- 1058 • selecting sustainable sourced or manufactured baits, lures, *berley* and flies
- 1059 • ensuring suitable biosecurity measures are used to prevent cross contamination via bait and equipment
- 1060
- 1061 • using of appropriate hooks for the target species to reduce bycatch, including catching undersize or protected fish
- 1062
- 1063 • using of appropriate hooks which suit effective catch and release of the target species and/or likely bycatch species (e.g. barbless hooks or circle hooks)
- 1064
- 1065 • taking steps to prevent birds and other terrestrial animals seeking fish, lures, flies or bait as food
- 1066 • limiting collection of bait species to prevent over collection
- 1067 • appropriately collecting, handling and storing bait species
- 1068 • taking steps to avoid deep hooking and/or cutting off the line when fish are deep hooked
- 1069 • using hooks which will rust out (i.e. avoid stainless hooks)
- 1070 • storing fish in 'live wells' or buckets for as short a time as possible
- 1071 • encouraging participants to follow more conservative species size and catch limits than the regulations
- 1072
- 1073 • encouraging participants to be more conservative in their use of tackle and equipment than regulations
- 1074
- 1075 • selecting appropriate locations and conditions when catch and releasing to improve the fish's survival chances
- 1076
- 1077 • restricting participant numbers to reduce overall catch in the area
- 1078 • minimising posed fish photography or being prepared to take photos of fish under the water
- 1079 • returning fish as close as possible to where they were caught and avoid translocating fish
- 1080 • ensuring any fish stocking undertaken complies with regulations
- 1081 • where possible, not feeding wildlife with bycatch
- 1082 • procedures listed in [Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures](#).

1083 6.10.7 Be considerate of your hosts and other visitors

1084 Be considerate of your hosts and other visitors may include but is not limited to:

- 1085 • having a suitable distance from others to enable everyone a safe work area
- 1086 • seeking permission and confirming conditions or restrictions on tasks (e.g. rod holders, cutting, filleting etc.)
- 1087
- 1088 • avoiding spooking fish being targeted by others
- 1089 • locating and using equipment so as not to block others access or create a hazard
- 1090 • avoiding locations while in frequent use by ferries and other commuter vessels
- 1091 • avoiding keeping large amounts of fish or using all of a limited bait resource
- 1092 • encouraging respectful behaviour towards others and the environment
- 1093 • procedures listed in [Core GPG – Environmental sustainability procedures](#).

1094 6.11 Environmental conditions, safety and impact management

1095 See *Core GPG (Environment)*.

1096 6.12 Tree safety

1097 See *Core GPG (Environment)*.

1098 6.13 Drinking water safety

1099 See Core GPG (Environment).

1100 6.14 Food safety

1101 See Core GPG (Environment).

1102 6.15 Water environments

1103 See Core GPG (Environment).

1104 7 Equipment and logistics

1105 The right equipment, well chosen and well maintained, is fundamental to safe delivery. Equipment
1106 requirements differ from one activity and context to another, spanning personal and group gear, first aid
1107 and medication, communications and transport. Deciding what is genuinely needed, keeping it fit for
1108 purpose, and organising the logistics around it are everyday responsibilities for any provider.

1109 It helps a provider decide what equipment is genuinely needed, who is responsible for it, and how it is kept
1110 fit for purpose. The framework can drive equipment checklists matched to each activity, inspection and
1111 maintenance schedules appropriate to scale, and communications and first aid provisions matched to the
1112 remoteness and risk of the activity. It supports consistent logistics decisions without imposing a single
1113 equipment list on every provider.

1114 7.1 Framework for equipment requirements

1115 See Core GPG (Equipment and logistics).

1116 7.2 Equipment requirements

1117 7.2.1 General equipment

1118 Angling equipment should be appropriate for the activity and in an appropriate condition.

1119 Tackle should be appropriate for the type of species being sought and type of angling being undertaken.

1120 Appropriate footwear should be worn.

1121 Appropriate clothing and equipment should be worn that offers protection from:

- 1122 • the sun
- 1123 • bites and stings
- 1124 • environmental conditions.

1125 Refer [Appendix U Equipment](#) for possible equipment to consider.

1126 7.2.2 Lifejackets

1127 This GPG does not cover angling from a watercraft (e.g. paddle-craft, motorboat, floating aid or device etc.).

1128 Follow *marine safety agency* requirements and guidance as well as an appropriate *risk assessment* for the
1129 use of *lifejackets* while angling on watercraft.

1130 For *lifejacket* considerations while *ocean facing rock fishing*

1131 *Lifejackets* used must meet Australian marine safety requirements in the jurisdiction of operation.

1132 The *risk assessment* must consider the use of *lifejackets* for situations where there is potential to fall into:

- 1133 • extremely cold water (e.g. alpine areas, etc.)
- 1134 • deep water

- 1135 • fast moving water
- 1136 • water from heights
- 1137 • water from an unstable or slippery surface.

1138 Considerations for the use of *lifejackets* must include:

- 1139 • hazards and risks present
- 1140 • the likelihood of being in the water
- 1141 • the depth of the water
- 1142 • the difficulty in exiting the water
- 1143 • the water temperature
- 1144 • if wading is required and the types of obstacles to be overcome
- 1145 • the abilities of the participants
- 1146 • any clothing that might reduce buoyancy
- 1147 • the buoyancy provided by any personal thermal protection
- 1148 • the other buoyancy aids available
- 1149 • the rescue equipment available
- 1150 • the impact of fatigue over the length of the activity
- 1151 • the possibility of rapid water level rises or flooding.

1152 7.2.3 Rescue equipment

1153 Buoyancy aids and rescue equipment must be suitable for the task and activity.

1154 The *risk assessment* must consider the need for buoyancy aids and rescue equipment.

1155 Considerations for having buoyancy aids and rescue equipment available must include:

- 1156 • hazards and risks present
- 1157 • the likelihood of being in the water
- 1158 • the depth of the water
- 1159 • the difficulty in exiting the water
- 1160 • the water temperature
- 1161 • if wading is required and the types of obstacles to be overcome
- 1162 • the abilities of the participants
- 1163 • the possibility of rapid water level rises or flooding.

1164 7.2.4 Ocean facing rock fishing equipment

1165 7.2.4.1 Lifejackets for ocean facing rock fishing

1166 While at an *ocean facing rock fishing* location, an appropriate lifejacket must be worn and correctly fitted.

1167 Considerations relating to the type of lifejacket used while *ocean facing rock fishing* must include:

- 1168 • the design meets Australian marine safety requirements in the jurisdiction of operation
- 1169 • the design provides suitable buoyancy when in the water
- 1170 • if the design needs to allow the person in the water to be able to swim to avoid hazards (e.g. swim away from breaking waves or rocks)
- 1171
- 1172 • if an inflatable design is suitable for the conditions and participants involved
- 1173 • if an inflatable design is used then whether it needs to automatically activate or can be manually activated (e.g. can swim away from breaking waves or rocks before inflating)
- 1174
- 1175 • if a lifejacket is used as a direct part of an anchoring system to prevent being washed out to sea,
- 1176 that the design of the tether system includes a quick release harness system.

1177 7.2.4.2 Other personal equipment for ocean facing rock fishing

1178 While *ocean facing rock fishing*:

- 1179 • appropriate footwear must be worn that is suitable for maintaining grip on wet, sharp and/or
1180 slippery surfaces.
1181 • appropriate clothing must be worn as to not impede swimming ability if washed into water
1182 • clothing that should NOT be worn includes but is not limited to gumboots, waders and heavy
1183 jackets.

1184 Consideration should be given as to if a helmet needs to be worn while *ocean facing rock fishing*.

1185 Also refer [Appendix U Equipment](#).

1186 7.2.4.3 Fishing equipment for ocean facing rock fishing

1187 Fishing systems and equipment must be suitable to ensure retrieval of fish is done safely. (For example,
1188 equipment is a suitable strength to lift fish outside of the *wash zone* or over lower ledges.)

1189 7.2.4.4 Rescue equipment for ocean facing rock fishing

1190 Rescue equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* must include:

- 1191 • appropriate equipment for completing a throw rescue
1192 • communication equipment appropriate for the type of venue to contact rescue authorities

1193 Rescue equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* should include:

- 1194 • an additional buoyancy aid that can be thrown to the person in the water.

1195 7.2.4.5 Safety harness, line and anchor systems for ocean facing rock fishing

1196 The *risk assessment* for each location used for *ocean facing rock fishing* must consider if a safety harness
1197 (e.g. a lifejacket with tether and quick release harness system), line and anchor system to prevent being washed
1198 out to sea should be used.

1199 Considerations if a safety harness, line and anchor system is used to prevent being washed out to sea must
1200 include:

- 1201 • the safety harness is suitable for the purpose
1202 • the safety harness is correctly fitted
1203 • the anchor rope is capable of being adjusted to a suitable length
1204 • the anchor rope used is a suitable design and construction for the purpose
1205 • the connectors and knots used are suitable for the purpose
1206 • the anchor or anchors used are suitable to hold the expected force
1207 • having a suitable system ready to complete a rescue.

1208 Also refer [Appendix A2.4](#).

1209 7.3 First aid equipment and medication

1210 See *Core GPG (Equipment and logistics)*.

1211 7.4 Communications equipment

1212 See *Core GPG (Equipment and logistics)*.

1213 7.5 Use of equipment

1214 7.5.1 General equipment use

1215 All equipment should be used with reference to the manufacturers instructions.

1216 All equipment should be appropriate for the task and correctly fitting.

1217 Rigs should be appropriate to suit the target species and environment.

1218 7.5.2 Lifejacket use

1219 Procedures must ensure wearing an appropriate *lifejacket* occurs where it is required.

1220 When used, *lifejackets* must be correctly sized and fitted.

1221 7.5.3 Waders

1222 Waders must be correctly fitted and enable appropriate freedom of movement.

1223 Waders must not be used where there is a risk of the waders filling with water and impacting the wearers
1224 ability to move or keep their head above water.

1225 Those using waders must be briefed on their use and any relevant emergency procedures.

1226 Considerations while wearing waders should include:

- 1227 • additional thermal protection needed in cold environments
- 1228 • wearing a wading belt
- 1229 • using staffs or walking sticks while wading
- 1230 • wading boots
- 1231 • use of a *lifejacket* or other buoyancy aids
- 1232 • using polarised glasses to assist see the bottom.

1233 Also refer considerations listed in section 5.7 Assessing water entry or crossings.

1234 7.5.4 Hooks, flies and lures

1235 Procedures to prevent injuries from *hooks*, flies and lures should include:

- 1236 • appropriate training on use, rigging and storage
- 1237 • not completing the rigging with hooks or lures until at the fishing location
- 1238 • rigged hooks or lures placed under the reel seat where the hook point is fully covered while carried
- 1239 • hook point placed into a cover (e.g. cork, hook cover, hook keeper) when rigged hooks or lures are
1240 carried
- 1241 • appropriate technique, location and spacing used while *casting*
- 1242 • considering flattened barbs wherever possible to permit easier extraction from the catch
- 1243 • appropriate training on landing and handling fish with exposed hooks
- 1244 • considering use of protective eyewear while fishing or working with hooks and lures
- 1245 • while baiting, *casting* and retrieving, the spacing and rod movement is away from other persons or
1246 animals
- 1247 • safe working areas being established during *casting* or landing fish
- 1248 • limiting or avoiding snags
- 1249 • appropriate training on detaching from snags and/or using lure retrievers.

1250 7.5.5 Knives

1251 Procedures to prevent injuries from knives should include:

- 1252 • assessment of the appropriateness of participants using a knife
- 1253 • appropriate training on use
- 1254 • considering using cut resistant safety gloves while using a knife during bait preparation and
1255 filleting fish
- 1256 • returning knives to a scabbard after each use
- 1257 • using an appropriate cutting surface while using a knife
- 1258 • knife movement while cutting is away from the body of the knife holder
- 1259 • knife movement while cutting is away from other persons
- 1260 • other persons remaining an appropriate distance from the knife and knife user while being use
- 1261 • establish a safe working area when knives are used
- 1262 • requiring no throwing of knives even when in a scabbard

- 1263 • limiting the movement of those carrying a knife that is not in a scabbard.
- 1264 Procedures to prevent injuries from knives may include:
- 1265 • using scissors or similar for rigging preparation, cutting line or free release of un-landed fish
- 1266 • using knives only for bait preparation and filleting.

1267 7.5.6 Sinkers and shot

1268 Procedures to prevent injuries from sinkers or shot should include:

- 1269 • appropriate training on use and *casting* techniques
- 1270 • appropriate location and spacing while *casting*
- 1271 • safe working areas being established during *casting* or landing fish
- 1272 • using a sinker size in balance with the overall rig and tackle outfit
- 1273 • using suitable knots when attaching to the line
- 1274 • considering use of protective eyewear
- 1275 • not placing sinkers or shot in the mouth
- 1276 • using pliers to crimp split shot.

1277 7.5.7 Line

1278 Procedures to prevent injuries from fishing line should include:

- 1279 • appropriate training on use
- 1280 • not wrap line around any part of the body (e.g. arm, hand, fingers, leg, foot, toes)
- 1281 • considering use of gloves or mittens while using hand reels
- 1282 • considering use of gloves or mittens while handling line under tension
- 1283 • using a suitable line and leader
- 1284 • safe working areas being established during *casting* or landing fish.

1285 7.5.8 Rods and reels

1286 Procedures to prevent injuries from rods and reels should include:

- 1287 • safe working areas being established during *casting* or landing fish
- 1288 • using suitable knots and terminal tackle to match the line, rod and reel
- 1289 • using suitable and correctly adjusted equipment for the target species
- 1290 • periodically checking during use the condition and adjustment of the line, reel, rod and rig.

1291

1292 7.5.9 Checking safety and rescue equipment

1293 Prior to the activity, where relevant the following equipment must be checked that it is suitable and ready
1294 for use:

- 1295 • lifejackets
- 1296 • rescue equipment
- 1297 • any *ocean facing rock fishing* safety and rescue equipment that will be relied upon
- 1298 • where used all *ocean facing rock fishing* safety harness and line and anchor systems equipment
- 1299 • where applicable the EPIRB or *Personal Locator Beacon* (PLB)
- 1300 • first aid kit contents
- 1301 • where applicable the Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

1302 7.6 Transport

1303 *See Core GPG (Equipment and logistics).*

1304 7.7 Maintenance of equipment

1305 Safety and rescue equipment must be appropriately maintained.

1306 Angling equipment should be appropriately maintained.

1307 Hooks that are rusty should not be used.

1308 Equipment which is corroded or has exceeded its safe working life must be retired, marked and disposed of
1309 appropriately.

1310 All equipment must be checked that it is serviceable before each activity or before being used including:

- 1311 • safety and rescue equipment
- 1312 • checking reel and drag mechanism operation
- 1313 • checking runners of rods for damage that may damage line.

1314 Appropriate maintenance of relevant equipment to prevent corrosion should be undertaken before it is
1315 stored.

1316 Equipment and inspection records must conform with any required law or regulation.

1317 *See Core GPG (Equipment and logistics) for the general requirements and further detail.*

1318 7.8 Storage of equipment

1319 Activity equipment should be stored with reference to the manufacturers recommendations or
1320 instructions.

1321 Considerations for storage of equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1322 • equipment is clean and dry
- 1323 • the storage is free from harmful chemicals
- 1324 • the storage is free from damp conditions
- 1325 • the storage is free from environmental exposure including ultraviolet (UV) light and avoids
1326 extremes of temperature
- 1327 • where appropriate the storage is in an appropriate liquid solution (e.g. soft plastic lures).

1328 *See Core GPG (Equipment and logistics) for the general requirements and further detail.*

1329 8 Responsibilities and roles

1330 This section sets out the responsibilities and roles of persons involved in the planning and delivery of
1331 angling activities under this guide. It must be read in conjunction with Core GPG Section 8, which contains
1332 the generic responsibilities and roles framework applicable to all outdoor activities. Where a sub-section
1333 below states 'See Core GPG', the full requirements for that sub-section are set out in the Core GPG and
1334 apply without modification to angling.

1335 8.1 Responsibilities and roles framework

1336 See Core GPG Section 8.1 — the responsibilities and roles framework, including the three operational
1337 leadership roles of *Leader*, *Assistant Leader* and *Support person*, applies without modification to angling
1338 activities delivered under this guide.

1339 8.2 Naming conventions

1340 See Core GPG Section 8.2. This guide uses the standard Core GPG role terms — *Leader*, *Assistant Leader*
1341 and *Support person* — throughout. Where a provider uses activity-specific titles, they map as follows:

1342 Fishing guide — equivalent to *Leader* in the Core GPG.
1343 Assistant fishing guide — equivalent to *Assistant Leader* in the Core GPG.
1344 *Support person* — the Core GPG term is used unchanged (see Core GPG Section 8.4.3).

1345 In *ocean facing rock fishing*, a lookout (wave spotter) may be deployed to monitor wave patterns and water
1346 levels. A lookout must be competent in assessing wave risks and is in addition to, not a substitute for, the
1347 *activity leaders* required for the activity (see Appendix M, domains M.1 and M.3).

1348 8.3 Provider responsibilities to prepare and support leaders

1349 See Core GPG Section 8.3 — the provider responsibilities to prepare and support leaders apply without
1350 modification to angling activities delivered under this guide.

1351 8.4 Leader responsibilities and role descriptions

1352 See Core GPG Section 8.4 — the leader responsibilities and role descriptions, including the role descriptions
1353 for *Leader* (8.4.1), *Assistant Leader* (8.4.2) and *Support person* (8.4.3), and the leader fitness for work
1354 requirements (8.4.4), apply to angling activities delivered under this guide.

1355 8.4.1 Leader — operational responsibility in the field

1356 The *Leader* carries operational responsibility in the field for the activity and all participants, working within
1357 the provider's systems and direction; see Core GPG Section 8.4.1 for the full role description.

1358 8.4.2 Assistant Leader — delegated responsibility

1359 The *Assistant Leader* supports the *Leader* and carries delegated operational responsibility for defined
1360 elements or participant groups, operating under the *Leader's* direction; see Core GPG Section 8.4.2.

1361 8.4.3 Support person

1362 The *Support person* is a non-technical role that assists *activity leaders* in managing participants and fulfilling
1363 general supervisory and organisational duties, and does not carry the technical responsibilities of a *Leader*
1364 or *Assistant Leader*. The key responsibilities of this role, and its important limitations — including that a
1365 *support person* must not be treated as an *activity leader* for the purpose of calculating *activity leader* to
1366 participant ratios unless they also hold the relevant angling knowledge and skill — are as set out in Core
1367 GPG Section 8.4.3.

1368 8.4.4 Leader fitness for work

1369 Leaders and *assistant leaders* must be physically and psychosocially fit for the demands of the role;
1370 providers must take reasonable steps to manage risks arising from factors including physical and
1371 psychosocial fitness, alcohol, medication, other substances and fatigue; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.

1372 8.4.4.1 Physical and psychosocial fitness

1373 The provider must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that each person assigned to a Leader or
1374 *Assistant Leader* role is physically and psychosocially capable of the demands of angling — which vary with
1375 the location type, the terrain (including rock platforms and wading), the environment and the duration of
1376 the activity. Leaders must self-assess their fitness before accepting a role; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.1.

1377 8.4.4.2 Alcohol, medication and other substances

1378 Alcohol and other substance consumption should be discouraged during or immediately before an activity
1379 where it could impair a leader's performance. Leaders must carry sufficient medication for the full duration
1380 of the angling activity and have a contingency if it is lost, damaged or unavailable in the field; see Core GPG
1381 Section 8.4.4.2.

1382 8.4.4.3 Fatigue

1383 Physical and mental fatigue creates significant risk, particularly on extended, remote and night angling
1384 sessions and at locations requiring continuous wave or water monitoring; providers must implement
1385 reasonable controls including appropriate scheduling, role allocation, travel arrangements and self-
1386 assessment procedures; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.3.

1387 8.5 Leader readiness and capability

1388 See Core GPG Section 8.5 — the leader readiness and capability requirements, including leadership
1389 knowledge, skill and experience (8.5.1), provider responsibilities under the Outdoor Leader KSE Framework
1390 (8.5.2), first aid (8.5.3), knowledge and skill acquisition (8.5.4), verification (8.5.5), currency (8.5.6) and
1391 verification and currency records (8.5.7), apply to angling activities delivered under this guide.

1392 The detailed knowledge, skill and experience required of a Leader (fishing guide) is set out in Appendix M of
1393 this guide, and of an *Assistant Leader* (assistant fishing guide) in Appendix N. The program planning matrix
1394 (leader-matching tool) is set out in Core GPG Appendix O, the recognition-of-competence pathways in Core
1395 GPG Appendix P, and the indicative experience bands in Core GPG Appendix Q.

1396 8.5.1 Leadership knowledge, skill and experience

1397 The provider must ensure each person in a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role holds integrated knowledge, skill
1398 and experience appropriate to the responsibilities of the role and the specific angling context. This is a non-
1399 delegable provider obligation that cannot be satisfied by a qualification alone — it requires active,
1400 documented verification against the role's responsibilities; see Core GPG Section 8.5.1.

1401 8.5.2 Provider responsibilities under the Outdoor Leader KSE Framework

1402 Providers must verify the capability of every person assigned to a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role across the
1403 nine domains of the AAAS Outdoor Leader KSE Framework, scaled to the angling location, environment and
1404 participant group; see Core GPG Section 8.5.2. The angling activity scope, and the leader requirements that
1405 flow from the location type and environment, are set out at the head of Appendix M.

1406 8.5.3 First aid

1407 Leaders must hold a current first-aid qualification appropriate to the activity, environment and applicable
1408 work health and safety law(s) and/or regulation(s); for remote, isolated and extended-range angling a
1409 remote or wilderness first-aid qualification should be considered. First-aid capability must include the
1410 management of fishhook injuries and associated tetanus risk. See Core GPG Section 8.5.3 and Core GPG
1411 Appendix L (first aid and medication considerations).

1412 8.5.4 Knowledge and skill acquisition

1413 Knowledge, skill and experience may be developed through, but is not limited to, formal qualifications,
1414 industry training, provider-based programs, structured participation or a combination; no single method
1415 has primacy; see Core GPG Section 8.5.4.

1416 8.5.5 Verification

1417 For each person in a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role, the provider must verify knowledge, skill, experience
1418 and currency in context before the person carries the role. The detailed angling knowledge, skill and
1419 experience against which verification is made is set out in Appendix M (Leader) and Appendix N (*Assistant*
1420 *Leader*), and pathway guidance is in Core GPG Appendix P; see Core GPG Section 8.5.5.

1421 8.5.6 Currency

1422 Knowledge, skill and experience must be current. The provider must determine the minimum currency and
1423 recency requirements appropriate to the context — having regard to the activity, the location type and
1424 environment, the role, the frequency of practice, and the consequences of a lapse in capability — and verify
1425 currency for each person in a leadership role before they carry the role. The means by which currency may
1426 be established are set out in Core GPG Section 8.5.6.

1427 8.5.7 Verification and Currency Records

1428 Providers must maintain records of how verification was conducted — including the basis, method, date
1429 and person responsible — for each person in a leadership role, retained consistent with the provider's
1430 record-keeping obligations; see Core GPG Section 8.5.7.

1431

1432 Glossary

- 1433 **AAAS:** Australian Adventure Activity Standard – See Introduction for details.
- 1434 *Alpine waters:* bodies of water in an areas where snow falls in winter and may settle on the ground for
1435 periods of time. Some states (or territories) may have a state-based definition or lists of what constitutes
1436 *alpine waters* under local jurisdiction. *Alpine waters* may be subject to special water safety regulations. The
1437 temperature of water and air in alpine locations can be extremely cold at any time of year.
- 1438 *Angling:* a method of fishing using a hook and line.
- 1439 *Berley:* fish bait scattered on the water. (Also spelt burley).
- 1440 *Burley:* See *berley*.
- 1441 *Bushwalking:* walking in natural areas.
- 1442 *Camping:* the use of a temporary site for overnight camping.
- 1443 *Casting:* The action of propelling an object attached to a line or rod for fishing. For example a hook, lure or fly
1444 being propelled out into the water.
- 1445 *Competence:* ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve expected results.
- 1446 *Competent person:* someone who has the *competence* to perform specific functions.
- 1447 *Flash Flooding:* is flooding in a localised area with a rapid onset, usually as the result of relatively short
1448 intense bursts of rainfall.
- 1449 *Fly fishing:* a method of angling which uses a rod and weighted line to cast an unweighted or lightly
1450 weighted hook which has been dressed so it look similar to a water creature or insect in/on the water.
- 1451 *Hook:* an objected attached to a fishing line used to catch fish. A hook may be part of a fly or lure.
- 1452 **GPGs:** Good Practice Guide(s) – See Introduction for details.
- 1453 *Land manager:* the party that has legal responsibility for managing a particular environment. This may
1454 include the power to restrict access or place conditions and/or requirements on anyone accessing that
1455 particular environment. Includes managers of rivers, waterways and other bodies of water (also see *land*
1456 *owner*).
- 1457 *Land owner:* the party that owns and has legal responsibility for managing a particular environment (also
1458 see *land manager*).
- 1459 *Lifejacket:* a worn device that provides the wearer with additional buoyancy in water. (Also known as
1460 Personal floatation device (PFD))
- 1461 *Marine safety agency:* the statutory organisation that regulates the safety of watercraft and their
1462 operations, in the jurisdiction the activity is conducted.
- 1463 *Minor:* someone under the age of 18 years.
- 1464 *Ocean facing rock fishing:* (also known as *rock fishing*) angling from rock ledges, submerged rocks, rock
1465 faces and rocks that go into the water and may be subject to wave action and/or inundation.
- 1466 *Responsible person:* a *competent person* who is able to complete delegated elements or tasks during an
1467 activity that does not require the activity-specific competence of a leader or *assistant leader*.
- 1468 *River hazard(s):* a hazard created by a watercourse's geology and flora, the water within it or a combination
1469 of both. Common *river hazards* include but is not limited to: level of aeration of the water, drops,

1470 entrapment points, fast flowing water, floating objects, undercut rocks, re-circulations, rapids, sieves,
1471 strainers, submerged objects etc.

1472 *Rock fishing*: common term for *ocean facing rock fishing*. As 'fishing from rocks' can also occur in a range of
1473 environments with different hazards and risks, *ocean facing rock fishing* is used in this GPG to distinguish
1474 the different environments.

1475 *Supervision ratio*: the number of *participants* that an *activity leader* may supervision, expressed as a ratio.
1476 For example, the ratio 10:1 means 10 participants to 1 *activity leader*.

1477 *Throw-bag*: a rescue device with a length of rope in a bag, designed so the rope can pay out when the bag
1478 is thrown to a swimmer. A throw-bag is standard rescue equipment for many aquatic activities e.g.
1479 kayaking, river recreational activities & pool life guarding.

1480 *Trigger point*: a particular circumstance or situation that causes an action to occur.

1481 *Wash zone*: The area in which wave action may impact.

1482 Also refer terms and definitions from Core_GPG - Glossary.

1483

1484 Acronyms

1485 The following acronyms are used in this Good Practice Guide.

1486 AAAS: Australian Adventure Activity Standard

1487 AED: Automated External Defibrillator

1488 AMSA: Australian Maritime Safety Authority

1489 EPIRB: Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon

1490 GPG: Good Practice Guide

1491 ISO: International Organization for Standardization

1492 OCA: Outdoor Council of Australia

1493 PFD: Personal Floatation Device

1494 PLB: Personal Locator Beacon

1495 UV: Ultraviolet

1496

1497 Appendices

1498 Appendix A Principal legal obligations

1499 *See Core GPG (Appendix A).*

1500 Appendix B Management of Risk

1501 *See Core GPG (Appendix B).*

1502 Appendix C Summary of AS ISO 31000 – risk management

1503 *See Core GPG (Appendix C).*

1504 Appendix D Risk management process

1505 *See Core GPG (Appendix D).*

1506 Appendix E Risk analysis information

1507 *See Core GPG (Appendix E).*

1508 Appendix F Risk management plan template examples

1509 *See Core GPG (Appendix F).*

1510 Appendix G Dynamic risk assessment process

1511 *See Core GPG (Appendix G).*

1512 Appendix H Benefit–Risk Assessment

1513 *See Core GPG (Appendix H).*

1514 Appendix I Emergency management planning framework

1515 *See Core GPG (Appendix I).*

1516 Appendix J Health & wellbeing considerations for risk management

1517 *See Core GPG (Appendix J).*

1518 Appendix K Privacy of information

1519 *See Core GPG (Appendix K).*

1520 Appendix L Environmental sustainability procedures

1521 *See Core GPG (Appendix L).*

1522 Appendix M First aid and medication considerations

1523 *See Core GPG (Appendix M).*

1524 Appendix N Knowledge, skill and experience — Leader

1525 Each knowledge, skill and experience requirement in this appendix is to be applied by the provider within
1526 the context of the planned angling activity — including the location type, the water environment, whether
1527 water entry or wading is involved, whether the activity is ocean facing rock fishing, the participant group

and the provider's own program structure. The requirements are not a minimum checklist to be satisfied mechanically — they are a framework for the provider to assess and confirm the capability of each person in a leadership role against the demands of the specific activity. This appendix contains only the requirements specific to angling; the generic Leader knowledge, skill and experience is set out in Core GPG Appendix M.

Activity scope and leader requirements

This guide applies to the delivery of land-based and shore-based recreational angling activities across the range of locations and environments commonly encountered in Australia. It does not cover angling from or involving watercraft, which is outside the scope of this guide. The knowledge, skill and experience required of a fishing guide varies with the location type, the water environment and the presence of water entry, wave action or fall-from-height hazards.

Ocean facing rock fishing is the highest-risk variant within scope and imposes additional technical requirements on the Leader regardless of the participant group. A Leader must hold capability appropriate to the highest-risk location and environment in which they operate, and must not lead in a location or environment beyond their competence.

Table N.2: Angling location variants and leader requirements

Activity variant	Setting and characteristics
Bank, platform and built-structure fishing — jetties, wharves, pontoons and bridges	Fishing from stable banks or built platforms; primary hazards are casting entanglement, overhead powerlines and submarine cables, falls from height and falls into water; generally single-day; suitable for most participant groups.
Freshwater fishing — rivers, lakes, dams, impoundments and irrigation channels	Inland still and flowing water; hazards include unstable or undercut banks, changing water levels, managed water releases, flooding and cold-water immersion; may involve wading.
Estuary and mudflat fishing	Tidal water bodies; hazards include tidal isolation and entrapment, soft and unstable substrate, and rapidly changing water levels.
Beach and surf fishing	Open-coast beaches; hazards include wave action, rips, changing gutters and sandbars, and marine stingers; may involve entry into water.
Ocean facing rock fishing	Rock platforms exposed to ocean swell; the highest-risk variant; hazards include wash-off by waves, steep and slippery rock, and difficult rescue and egress; requires wave assessment, a competent lookout and, where used, harness, line and anchor systems.
Fly fishing	Conducted at freshwater or saltwater locations; casting with exposed hooks close to the body and to others requires specific casting-safety management and wider group spacing; frequently conducted while wading in moving water.
Wading and water entry	Any location where the Leader or participants enter the water to fish; hazards include footing on uneven or slippery substrate, river and tidal hazards, cold-water immersion and dangerous aquatic animals; requires water-entry risk assessment, appropriate footwear and waders, and rescue capability.

Several of these variants commonly occur in combination — for example, fly fishing while wading a freshwater river, or wading at an estuary location. Where variants combine, the Leader must hold the capability required for each. Where an activity involves entry into the water, the provider must determine

1547 the activity leader rescue competence and rescue equipment required for the site (see domain M.1 and
1548 Core GPG Appendix L). The program planning matrix (leader-matching tool), which scales leader
1549 requirements by the operational context, is set out in Core GPG Appendix O. The domains below contain
1550 only the requirements specific to angling; they do not repeat the generic content of Core GPG Appendix M.

1551 Safety and risk management

1552 The Leader identifies and manages hazards specific to angling locations and environments, including falls
1553 from height and into water, wave wash-off, water-level change, hook and equipment injuries, and
1554 dangerous aquatic animals. This domain covers activity-specific hazard assessment and management that
1555 adds to the generic safety framework in the Core.

1556 Knowledge

1557 The Leader understands the angling-specific hazards including fall-from-height and fall-into-water risks,
1558 wave and swell behaviour at ocean facing locations, tidal and river water-level change, cold-water
1559 immersion, hook and equipment injuries, and dangerous aquatic animals.

1560 This should include, but is not limited to: fall-from-height and slip hazards on banks, rock platforms, steep
1561 inclines and built structures; wave and swell behaviour at ocean facing locations including wash-off and the
1562 monitoring of wave patterns; tidal movement, isolation and entrapment, river-level change and managed
1563 water releases; flood indicators and the avoidance of locations in or affected by flood; cold-water
1564 immersion and hypothermia, including risks while wading; overhead powerlines and submarine cable
1565 hazards; hook, knife, sinker and line injuries including fishhook injuries and associated tetanus risk; and
1566 dangerous aquatic animals including identification of venomous and otherwise hazardous species at
1567 landing and the management of saltwater crocodile and shark risk.

1568 Skills

1569 The Leader applies angling-specific hazard identification, condition assessment and go/no-go decision skills
1570 to manage the primary risks of the location and environment.

1571 This should include, but is not limited to: establishing a safe working area with stable footing, suitable
1572 access and egress, and safe casting distances clear of people, powerlines and structures; observing and
1573 monitoring wave patterns before and during ocean facing rock fishing and establishing a safe working
1574 distance from breaking waves; monitoring tides, river levels and managed releases and withdrawing the
1575 group before isolation, entrapment or wash-off can occur; assessing and managing entry into water
1576 including wading decisions, footing and cold-water exposure; providing first aid for fishhook and related
1577 injuries; and identifying landed marine life and managing the handling of dangerous species.

1578 Experience recommended

1579 The Leader has managed angling groups across the location types and environments within their scope,
1580 including wave-affected and water-entry contexts.

1581 This should include but is not limited to: leading angling in the location types within scope across a range of
1582 conditions, water levels and seasons; and managing wave, tidal or water-entry hazards in conditions
1583 representative of the activity.

1584 Technical activity leadership

1585 This domain covers the technical knowledge, skill and experience specific to angling — the selection, rigging
1586 and safe use of tackle, casting, fish handling, and the location-specific techniques within scope. Capability
1587 must extend to the highest-risk location and the types of angling the guide leads.

1588 Knowledge

1589 The Leader understands the technical content of angling, including tackle selection and rigging, bait, casting
1590 technique, fish location and handling, and the equipment and techniques specific to the location types and
1591 types of fishing within scope.

1592 This should include, but is not limited to: selection, rigging and balancing of tackle outfits suited to the
1593 target species, location and habitat; selection, catching and use of bait; methods to locate, attract and
1594 catch fish suited to the target species; safe use, handling and care of hooks, flies, lures, knives, sinkers, line,
1595 rods and reels; casting technique and the recognition and correction of casting faults; fish landing, handling
1596 and release including identification of species and dangerous catches; and the equipment and techniques
1597 specific to the location types within scope, including ocean facing rock fishing harness, line and anchor
1598 systems, fly-casting safety, beach and surf technique, and lifejacket selection and fitting.

1599 Skills

1600 The Leader applies the practical technical skills required to lead and instruct angling across the locations
1601 and types of fishing within scope.

1602 This should include, but is not limited to: demonstrating and instructing tackle rigging, knot tying, bait
1603 presentation and casting technique; identifying casting faults and advising suitable corrections;
1604 demonstrating safe handling of hooks, knives, line and equipment; landing, handling and releasing fish and
1605 identifying dangerous catches; fitting lifejackets and, where used, harness, line and anchor systems for
1606 ocean facing rock fishing; and conducting pre-activity equipment and safety checks.

1607 Experience recommended

1608 The Leader has led and instructed angling groups across the locations and types of fishing within their
1609 scope.

1610 This should include but is not limited to: instructing fishing skills to participant groups across the location
1611 types within scope; and managing equipment, casting and fish-handling safety in field conditions
1612 representative of the activity.

1613 Leadership and group management

1614 This domain covers the group management challenges specific to angling, including the supervision of
1615 dispersed anglers, the management of casting safety within a group, and the positioning and supervision of
1616 groups in wave-affected and water-entry locations.

1617 Knowledge

1618 The Leader understands how to determine supervision ratios and group positioning for the location and
1619 conditions, manage casting safety within a group, and supervise groups in wave-affected, wading and
1620 ocean facing rock fishing contexts.

1621 This should include, but is not limited to: the factors that determine appropriate supervision ratios and
1622 group size for angling, including the location and water-body type, site characteristics, visibility, wave
1623 action, water flow, the type of angling and whether water entry is involved; group spacing and positioning
1624 to maintain safe casting distances; and the supervision and lookout arrangements for ocean facing rock
1625 fishing, including the role of a competent wave-spotting lookout and the consideration of a minimum of
1626 two guides where participants require continual assistance or the risk assessment indicates a lookout is
1627 needed.

1628 Skills

1629 The Leader applies supervision, positioning and group-coordination skills to manage angling groups safely
1630 across the locations and conditions within scope.

1631 This should include, but is not limited to: setting and adjusting group spacing and positioning to maintain
1632 safe casting distances and manage exposure to fall, wave and water hazards; determining and adjusting

1633 supervision ratios in response to the location, conditions and participant group; and coordinating an
1634 Assistant Leader, Support person or lookout in their assigned role.

1635 Experience recommended

1636 The Leader has supervised angling groups in the location types within their scope, including, where
1637 relevant, the deployment of a lookout in ocean facing rock fishing.

1638 This should include but is not limited to: supervising dispersed angling groups while maintaining casting and
1639 water safety; and coordinating a lookout or assistant in wave-affected contexts where relevant.

1640 Decision-making and judgement

1641 This domain covers decision-making requirements specific to angling, including go/no-go and withdrawal
1642 decisions based on wave, tide, water-level and weather conditions.

1643 Knowledge

1644 The Leader understands the go/no-go thresholds and withdrawal triggers applicable to the locations within
1645 scope, including wave and swell conditions for ocean facing rock fishing, tidal and river-level change,
1646 visibility, and weather and non-weather trigger points.

1647 This should include, but is not limited to: pre-determined go/no-go thresholds for wave and swell, tide,
1648 river level, visibility and weather for the locations used in the program; the conditions that require a
1649 location to be avoided, including flood, low visibility that prevents wave monitoring, and tidal isolation; and
1650 mid-activity triggers requiring relocation, withdrawal or cessation of the activity.

1651 Skills

1652 The Leader applies condition-assessment and decision-making skills to make and communicate go/no-go,
1653 relocation and withdrawal decisions.

1654 This should include, but is not limited to: assessing wave, tide, river-level and weather information against
1655 go/no-go thresholds for the planned location; and making and communicating mid-activity relocation or
1656 withdrawal decisions in response to changed conditions.

1657 Experience recommended

1658 The Leader has made go/no-go and withdrawal decisions in the location types and conditions relevant to
1659 the program.

1660 This should include but is not limited to: making go/no-go and withdrawal decisions based on wave, tide or
1661 water-level change in a field context.

1662 Planning and program management

1663 This domain covers planning requirements specific to angling that extend beyond the generic planning
1664 framework in the Core.

1665 Knowledge

1666 The Leader understands the access, permit, regulatory and emergency-communication planning
1667 requirements specific to angling activities in the locations used.

1668 This should include, but is not limited to: recreational fishing regulations, licences, bag and size limits and
1669 closures applicable to the location and target species; marine safety, land owner and land manager, and
1670 traditional owner access requirements; access and egress planning for banks, platforms, beaches and rock
1671 platforms, including tide-dependent access; and emergency communication and response planning,
1672 including arrangements for an incapacitated sole guide and for a person washed or fallen into the water.

1673 Skills

1674 The Leader applies regulatory, access and emergency-planning skills to angling activity preparation.

1675 This should include, but is not limited to: confirming fishing regulations, licences and access requirements
1676 and integrating these into the activity plan; planning tide-dependent and condition-dependent access and
1677 egress; and planning emergency communication and response for the location, including remote and low-
1678 coverage sites.

1679 Experience recommended

1680 No activity-specific additions are required; refer to the equivalent domain in Core GPG Appendix M.

1681 Environment and place-based knowledge

1682 This domain covers the environmental, water and place-based knowledge specific to angling environments,
1683 including the reading of water, weather and tide relevant to safety and to locating fish.

1684 Knowledge

1685 The Leader understands the water, weather, tide and place-based characteristics that affect safe angling
1686 and the location of fish in the environments within scope.

1687 This should include, but is not limited to: tidal patterns, swell and wave behaviour at coastal and ocean
1688 facing locations; river hydrology, catchment rainfall and managed-release behaviour for inland waters;
1689 water quality and conditions, including hazards from contaminated or blue-green algae affected water;
1690 weather and non-weather trigger points and the sources of weather, tide and water-condition information;
1691 seasonal and regional presence of dangerous aquatic animals; and the habits and habitat of target species
1692 relevant to the location.

1693 Skills

1694 The Leader applies water, weather and tide assessment skills to angling environments across the conditions
1695 within scope.

1696 This should include, but is not limited to: interpreting weather, tide and water-condition information and
1697 applying it to site selection and timing; reading water and conditions to identify hazards and locate fish; and
1698 recognising seasonal and regional hazards including dangerous aquatic animals for the relevant location.

1699 Experience recommended

1700 The Leader has angled across the location types, environments and conditions within their scope and is
1701 familiar with their seasonal and site-specific hazard patterns.

1702 This should include but is not limited to: angling the activity locations or equivalent environments across a
1703 range of conditions, tides and seasons; and familiarity with the site-specific hazard patterns for the relevant
1704 locations.

1705 Communication and interpersonal skills

1706 This domain covers communication requirements specific to angling, particularly where wave noise,
1707 dispersed group positioning or low visibility limit communication between leader and participants.

1708 Knowledge

1709 The Leader understands the briefing, signalling and emergency-communication requirements for angling
1710 locations, including ocean facing rock fishing and remote sites.

1711 This should include, but is not limited to: the content of pre-activity and ocean facing rock fishing briefings,
1712 including actions to take if a person is washed or falls into the water; signalling and communication
1713 methods where wave noise or distance limit voice communication; and emergency communication devices
1714 and arrangements for remote and low-coverage angling locations.

1715 Skills

1716 The Leader applies briefing, signalling and emergency-communication skills in program delivery.

1717 This should include, but is not limited to: delivering effective pre-activity and location-specific briefings,
1718 including the ocean facing rock fishing briefing; using agreed signals to manage a dispersed or wave-
1719 affected group; and operating emergency communication devices where required.

1720 Experience recommended

1721 No activity-specific additions are required; refer to the equivalent domain in Core GPG Appendix M.

1722 Self-management and professional practice

1723 Not modified for angling — the requirements of Core GPG Appendix M (domain M.8) apply in full.

1724 Outdoor living, activity and travel skills

1725 This domain covers the field and travel skills specific to angling, including minimum-impact practice and, for
1726 extended or remote sessions, the field-living requirements applied in Australian angling environments.

1727 Knowledge

1728 The Leader understands the environmental-sustainability and minimum-impact requirements for angling
1729 and the field-living requirements for extended or remote angling sessions.

1730 This should include, but is not limited to: environmental sustainability and Leave No Trace practice for
1731 angling, including disposal of line, hooks and bait, fish handling and release practice, and biosecurity
1732 between waterways; and food, hygiene and field-living requirements for extended, remote or overnight
1733 angling sessions where relevant.

1734 Skills

1735 The Leader applies minimum-impact and field-living skills across angling sessions.

1736 This should include, but is not limited to: applying Leave No Trace and biosecurity practice at angling
1737 locations; and managing field hygiene, waste and logistics for extended or remote sessions where relevant.

1738 Experience recommended

1739 No activity-specific additions are required; refer to the equivalent domain in Core GPG Appendix M.

1740 Appendix O Knowledge, skill and experience — Assistant Leader

1741 This appendix sets out the knowledge, skill and experience expected of an Assistant Leader (assistant
1742 fishing guide) for angling activities. The Assistant Leader operates under the direction of the Leader and
1743 carries delegated operational responsibility for defined tasks or participant subgroups. The requirements in
1744 this appendix are to be read in conjunction with Appendix M and the Core GPG.

1745 Safety and risk management

1746 As for Safety and risk management — applied at the level of the delegated tasks. The Assistant Leader must
1747 be able to identify the primary hazards for the location on which they are operating — including fall, wave,
1748 tidal, water-level and dangerous-animal hazards — and alert the Leader promptly to any developing hazard,
1749 changed condition or participant safety concern.

1750 Technical activity leadership

1751 As for Technical activity leadership — applied to the delegated tasks only. The Assistant Leader must hold
1752 angling and equipment-handling skills appropriate to the location and type of fishing on which they are
1753 operating and must be able to assist and instruct participants in their assigned area.

1754 Leadership and group management

1755 As for Leadership and group management — applied to the position or subgroup assigned by the Leader.
1756 The Assistant Leader maintains supervision and casting safety within their assigned area, relays
1757 communications and manages individual participant concerns; where assigned as a lookout in ocean facing
1758 rock fishing, the Assistant Leader must be competent in assessing wave risks.

1759 Decision-making and judgement

1760 As for Decision-making and judgement — limited to the scope of decisions delegated by the Leader. The
1761 Assistant Leader applies the go/no-go and withdrawal criteria established by the Leader, communicates
1762 changed conditions promptly and makes immediate safety decisions within the scope of their assigned role.

1763 Planning and program management

1764 As for Planning and program management — limited to supporting the Leader's plans. The Assistant Leader
1765 must be familiar with the activity plan, emergency response plan, communication protocols and their
1766 assigned role within those plans.

1767 Environment and place-based knowledge

1768 As for Environment and place-based knowledge — sufficient for the assigned role. The Assistant Leader
1769 must understand the water, weather, tidal and dangerous-animal hazards relevant to the specific location
1770 and season.

1771 Communication and interpersonal skills

1772 As for Communication and interpersonal skills — applied to the Assistant Leader role. The Assistant Leader
1773 uses the briefing and signalling protocols established for the activity, maintains communication with the
1774 Leader throughout and communicates promptly with participants in their assigned area.

1775 Self-management and professional practice

1776 As for Self-management and professional practice — applied to the Assistant Leader role. The Assistant
1777 Leader must self-assess fitness for work, maintain angling and, where relevant, rescue currency appropriate
1778 to the locations and types of fishing in which they operate, and perform within the boundaries of the
1779 delegated role.

1780 Outdoor living, activity and travel skills

1781 As for Outdoor living, activity and travel skills — applied to the delegated tasks. The Assistant Leader
1782 applies Leave No Trace and biosecurity practice and, for extended or remote sessions, supports field-living
1783 and logistics within the scope of the tasks delegated by the Leader.

1784 Appendix P Recognition of competence: pathways to verification

1785 See Core GPG Appendix P. The recognition-of-competence pathways — formal qualifications and training,
1786 provider-based assessment and prior learning — apply without modification to angling activities.

1787 Appendix Q Indicative experience bands and evidence expectations

1788 See Core GPG Appendix Q. The indicative experience bands and evidence expectations support the
1789 provider's verification of leader experience for angling activities.

1790 Appendix R Australian Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings 1791 and trigger points

1792 See Core GPG (Appendix R).

1793 Appendix S Program planning matrix: leader-matching tool

1794 See Core GPG Appendix O. The program planning matrix (leader-matching tool) applies without
1795 modification to angling activities.

1796 Appendix T Weather information

1797 See the Core GPG.

1798 Warnings

1799 The following table details the:

- 1800 • current Australian weather warnings
- 1801 • associated weather for each warning
- 1802 • mainland warning trigger points for issuing warnings for strong winds and hail.

1803 Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and associated weather table:

1804 *Table T.3: Warnings*

Severe Weather Warning	Severe Thunderstorm Warning	Marine Wind Warning	Tropical Cyclone Advice: Watch or Warning
High tides			
Large surf			
Blizzards			
Heavy rain/flash flooding	Heavy rain/flash flooding		
Strong winds Wind >63 km/h Gusts >90 km/h	Strong winds Gusts >90 km/h	Strong winds Wind >48 km/h or >26 knots	Strong winds Wind >62 km/h or >=34 knots
	Tornadoes		
	Hail (>=2cm)		
	Lightning		

1805

1806 The Bureau of Meteorology also issues a range of other potentially relevant warnings including:

- 1807 • bushwalkers weather alert (currently part of Tasmania only)
- 1808 • fire weather warning
- 1809 • flood watch and warning
- 1810 • tsunamis: watch and warning
- 1811 • tropical cyclone: watch and warning.

1812 Additional information

1813 The Bureau of Meteorology also provides a range of services – see the following for details:

1814 <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/WeatherGuideMarine.pdf>

1815 <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/WeatherGuideLand.pdf>

1816 Appendix U Equipment

1817 Angling equipment

1818 The equipment required and the appropriate “type” of equipment used is dependent on the specific
1819 context of the activity.

1820 Angling equipment

1821 Equipment used for angling may include but is not limited to:

- 1822 • rod
- 1823 • reel
- 1824 • appropriate fishing line and leader
- 1825 material/trace
- 1826 • appropriate tackle for the type of
- 1827 species
- 1828 • tackle box
- 1829 • container for caught fish (e.g. bucket,
- 1830 esky, live well)
- 1831 • landing net to assist in landing caught
- 1832 fish
- 1833 • scissors/clippers/nail cutters for
- 1834 completing rigging
- 1835 • forceps/fishhook remover
- 1836 • knot tying aids
- 1837 • stomach content scoop
- 1838 • priest
- 1839 • vest for carrying “everything”
- 1840 • dressings
- 1841 • knife in a scabbard or appropriate
- 1842 storage
- 1843 • cutting board
- 1844 • gauge or ruler to determine fish size
- 1845 • means of collecting rubbish for disposal
- 1846 • cut resistant safety glove(s) for cutting
- 1847 and filleting
- 1848 • protective gloves for handling line or
- 1849 fish
- 1850 • waders
- 1851 • wading boots/neoprene wading socks
- 1852 • wading stick
- 1853 • protective eyewear (e.g. polarised
- 1854 sunglasses)
- 1855 • cord or rope (e.g. to lower buckets into the
- 1856 water)
- 1857 • light or torch.

1858 **Repair equipment**

1859 Repair equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1860 • pliers or multi-tool
- 1861 • tape
- 1862 • wader repair kit
- 1863 • glue.

1864 **Communication equipment**

1865 Communications equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1866 • emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB)
- 1867 • mobile phone
- 1868 • personal locator beacon (PLB)
- 1869 • satellite phone/communicator
- 1870 • signalling mirror
- 1871 • two-way radio (marine or UHF as appropriate).

1872 **Rescue equipment**

1873 Rescue equipment may include:

- 1874 • life-ring buoyancy aid
- 1875 • buoyancy aid with rope attached
- 1876 • a *throw-bag*.

1877 **Ocean facing rock fishing equipment**

1878 **Safety equipment - ocean facing rock fishing**

1879 Safety equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* must include:

- 1880 • appropriate footwear suitable for walking on wet rock
- 1881 • appropriate *lifejacket* (refer Australian marine safety requirements in the jurisdiction of operation
- 1882 and consideration in the equipment section).

1883 Safety equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* may include:

- 1884 • an appropriate helmet.

1885 **Safety harness and line and anchor systems - ocean facing rock fishing**

1886 Safety equipment for safety harness and line and anchor systems while *ocean facing rock fishing* may
1887 include:

- 1888 • an appropriate harness or a lifejacket with tether and quick release harness system
- 1889 • appropriate designed and made rope
- 1890 • appropriate connectors (e.g. rock climbing screwgate carabiners)
- 1891 • appropriate anchors.

1892 For detailed information relating to rope safety systems and equipment (e.g. anchors, connectors, harnesses,
1893 rope etc.) can be found in the Abseiling and Climbing GPG.

1894 **Rescue equipment - ocean facing rock fishing**

1895 Rescue equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* must include:

- 1896 • appropriate equipment for completing a throw rescue
- 1897 • communication equipment appropriate for the type of venue to contact rescue authorities (see
1898 below).

1899 Rescue equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* should include:

- 1900 • an additional buoyancy aid that can be thrown to the person in the water.

1901 Additional rescue equipment for *ocean facing rock fishing* may include:

- 1902 • life-ring buoyancy aid
- 1903 • buoyancy aid with rope attached
- 1904 • a *throw-bag*.

1905 **Emergency equipment**

1906 Emergency equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1907 • a waterproof method of storing and carrying documentation and communications equipment
- 1908 • documentation (see Core GPG – Activity leader required documentation)
- 1909 • emergency communication equipment (see Core GPG – Emergency communication and section
1910 A2.2 above)
- 1911 • first aid kit in waterproof storage (see Core GPG – First aid equipment and medication)
- 1912 • specific activity context equipment required (refer 6.1.3 Rescue equipment and items listed in
1913 section A2.3 above).

1914 **Personal equipment**

1915 **Activity Leader**

1916 Activity leader equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1917 • communications equipment (standard communication rather than emergency communication
1918 where this differs) and spare batteries or backup “power banks”
- 1919 • relevant site maps and navigation information
- 1920 • pen/pencil and blank writing paper
- 1921 • watch or equipment suitable to tell and measure time for first aid purposes
- 1922 • a waterproof method of storing and carrying maps and navigation information
- 1923 • compass and/or other navigation aids (e.g. GPS)
- 1924 • head torch and spare batteries
- 1925 • polarised sunglasses
- 1926 • equipment as per for participant.

1927 **Participant**

1928 Participant equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1929
 - appropriate clothing for the conditions
- 1930
 - footwear suitable for the conditions
- 1931
 - personal medications (including for asthma and anaphylaxis)
- 1932
 - prescription glasses
- 1933
 - personal hygiene requirements
- 1934
 - sun hat
- 1935
 - sunglasses (e.g. polarise sunglasses)
- 1936
 - raincoat suitable for the environment
- 1937
 - head torch
- 1938
 - waders.

1939 **Group**

1940 Group equipment may include but is not limited to:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1941 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• hand sanitiser | 1944 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• appropriate toileting equipment |
| 1942 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• sunscreen | 1945 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• toilet paper. |
| 1943 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• insect repellent | |

1946

1947 **Other equipment**

1948 Where the activity involves watercraft, refer to the relevant watercraft or marine safety requirements for
1949 equipment. (Refer [Appendix V Watercraft use information sources](#) for additional information.)

1950 Where the activity involves *bushwalking* to get to the site, then refer to the [Bushwalking GPG](#) for
1951 equipment to consider.

1952 Where the activity involves *camping*, refer to the [Camping GPG](#) for equipment to consider.

1953 **Appendix V Watercraft use information sources**

1954 This good practice guide does not cover the hazards and risks associated with use of watercraft (e.g. paddle-
1955 craft, motorboat, sailing boat, etc.) while angling.

1956 When using watercraft as a part of angling, reference needs to occur to:

- 1957
 - the appropriate *marine safety agency* regulation and/or requirements and
- 1958
 - any relevant “standards”, “requirements” or “good practice guides” for using the type of
- 1959
 - watercraft involved.

1960 Relevant information may include:

- 1961
 - the appropriate *marine safety agency* regulation or requirements for ‘hire’, ‘charter’, ‘commercial’
- 1962
 - or ‘other general’ watercraft use (e.g. Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), local marine safety
- 1963
 - agencies)
- 1964
 - local *land managers* requirements (e.g. harbour masters in port jurisdictions, marine national parks
- 1965
 - authorities, marine sanctuary authorities, local waterway managers.)
- 1966
 - for inland water paddle-craft, the [Inland water paddle-craft GPG](#)
- 1967
 - for enclosed and coastal waters paddle-craft, the [Enclosed and coastal waters paddle-craft GPG](#)
- 1968
 - appropriate associations (e.g. charter operation, gaming fishing, fishing guide and instructors, boat
- 1969
 - operation).

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