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Snorkelling

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Australian

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Adventure Activity

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Good Practice Guide

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Guidance for snorkel swimming and snorkel diving.

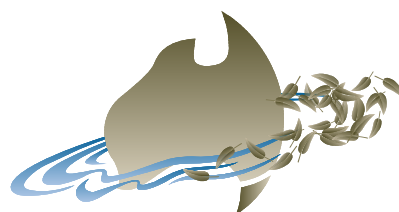
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**Outdoor Council
of Australia**

Representing the
Outdoor Sector Nationally

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Traditional Owner Acknowledgement

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

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Version details

Version	Date	Details
1.0	23 Sept 2019	Version one release.

Foreword

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

Dr Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann AM

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

Best wishes for all your adventures.

**The Australian Adventure Activity Standard Steering Committee
Outdoor Council of Australia**

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.

112	Table of Contents	
113	Preface.....	4
114	1 Introduction.....	9
115	2 Management of Risk.....	10
116	3 Planning.....	11
117	4 Diversity, equity and inclusion.....	12
118	5 Participants.....	13
119	6 Environment.....	20
120	7 Equipment and logistics.....	27
121	8 Responsibilities and roles.....	30
122	Glossary.....	32
123	Appendices.....	35
124	Detailed Contents.....	48
125		

126	List of Figures	
127	Figure 1.1: Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides.....	7
128		

129	List of Tables	
130	Table N.1: Activity variants and operating settings — snorkelling.....	36
131	Table U.2: Weather warnings.....	42
132	Table X.3: Terminology used by jurisdiction.....	46
133		

134 Preface

135 About these documents

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

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

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

144 Dependent Participants

145 A *dependent participant* is a person who is owed a *duty of care* by the *activity provider* and who wholly or
146 partially on the provider's systems, processes and operational practices for the support, supervision,

147 guidance or instruction needed to take part in an activity. In most cases this means a participant who
148 reasonably relies on the provider for their safety. The degree of dependence may vary over the course of
149 an activity.

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

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

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

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

165 Does the Standard and Good Practice Guides apply to 166 me?

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

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

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

182 Some providers may have their own standards or guidelines appropriate to their *duty of care*. These should
183 be reviewed periodically to ensure current *duty of care* expectations are met, and "the Standard" and the
184 GPGs may assist with such reviews.

185 Are they legally binding?

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

190 Under Australian common law and relevant legislation, *providers* have a legal *duty of care* towards
191 *dependent participants* in some circumstances. In broad terms, the legal duty requires *providers* to take

192 reasonable care that their actions and omissions do not cause reasonably foreseeable injury to *dependent*
 193 *participants*.

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

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

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

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

Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

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

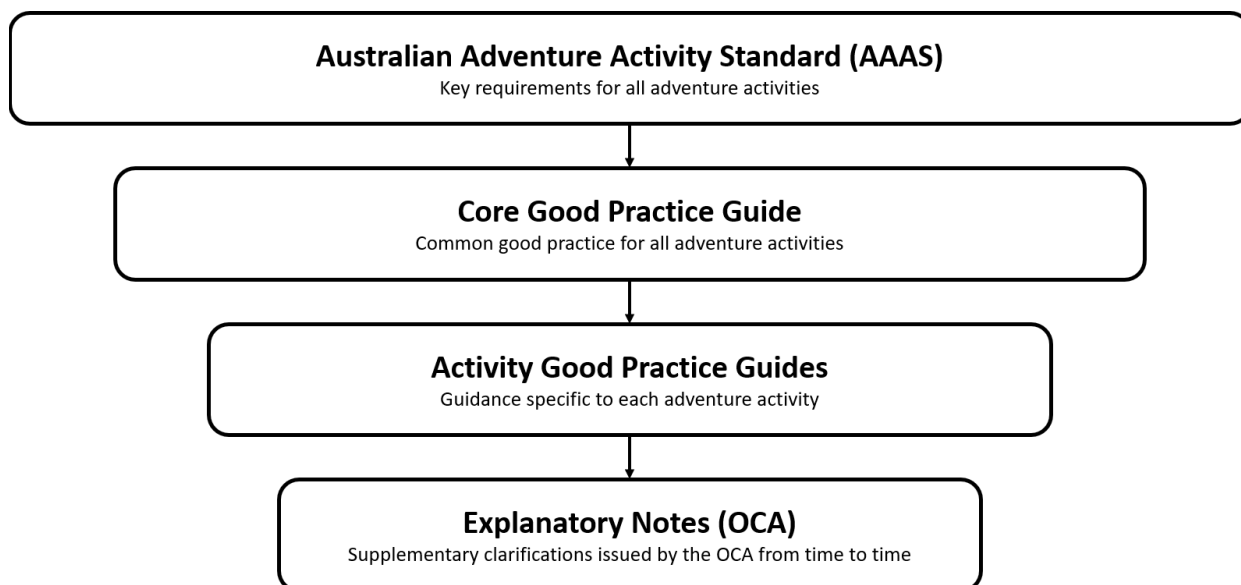


Figure 1.1: Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

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

Interpretation of the Standard and Good Practice Guides

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

Must: used where a provision is mandatory, if the provider is to operate fully in accordance with AAAS or GPGs. (This is equivalent to the keyword “shall” used in other voluntary standards e.g. Standards Australia, other International Standards Organisations (ISOs) etc.)

Should: used where a provision is recommended, not mandatory. It indicates that the provider needs to consider their specific situation and decide for themselves whether it applies or is relevant. A “should” statement describes good practice. Departure from a “should” statement does not of itself establish a breach of duty — a provider may meet its obligations by other means appropriate to its context — but providers should be able to explain the basis for a different approach.

Can/cannot: indicates a possibility and capability.

May/need not: indicates a permission or existence of an option.

But are/is not limited to: used to indicate that a list is not definitive and additional items may need to be considered depending on the context.

The following formatting is used throughout:

Defined words are in *italics*. They are defined in the Glossary.

Examples are in smaller italic 9-point font.

247 In document references are underlined. References are to section heading titles.

248 External web or Australian AAS & GPG document links are dotted underline italic.

249 1 Introduction

250 1.1 Snorkelling

251 *Snorkelling* involves swimming using a mask and *snorkel*, and usually also with fins. A *snorkel* is a short tube
252 through which a person swimming just under the water surface can breathe through. It is mainly associated
253 with viewing what is under the water. This may include reef formations, plant life and wildlife.

254 There are two distinct types of *snorkelling* activities:

- 255 • *snorkel swimming*, where snorkellers primarily swim on the surface of the water using *snorkelling*
256 equipment
- 257 • *snorkel diving*, where snorkellers are diving and swimming below the water surface while holding
258 their breath.

259 A snorkellers buoyancy has risk and safety management implications. *Snorkel swimming* activities generally
260 have the snorkellers positively buoyant so that they float on the surface. *Snorkel diving* is more difficult
261 while positively buoyant. When *snorkel diving* is a feature of the activity, snorkellers may use equipment to
262 become close to *neutral buoyancy* with the potential to become negatively buoyant.

263 *Snorkelling* activities may be shore or boat based. It may occur in a range of environments and types of
264 water bodies. Water bodies are classified for *snorkelling* as either:

- 265 • *confined water*: a *swimming pool* or a naturally formed water site no larger in area than
266 approximately an Olympic size *swimming pool* with a depth of less than 5 metres, and which offers
267 *swimming pool* like conditions with respect to water clarity and calmness
- 268 • *open water*: any body of water that is not *confined water*.

269 The different type of water bodies can have different associated environmental hazards and risks.

270 *Snorkelling* does not involve *SCUBA diving* or surface-supplied air system diving. The reverse however can
271 occur with those *SCUBA diving* or using a surface supplied air system diving also *snorkelling*.

272 1.2 Exclusions

273 Activities that are not covered by this Good Practice Guide (GPG) are:

- 274 • *SCUBA diving*
- 275 • diving using a surface-supplied air system (e.g. hookah's etc.)
- 276 • *snorkelling* as a part of *SCUBA diving* or surface-supplied air system diving
- 277 • *snorkel diving* in underwater caves or wrecks
- 278 • *free diving* (holding ones breath for as long as possible and/or diving to the greatest depth
279 possible)
- 280 • activities involving competitive events (e.g. underwater hockey etc.) or adventure races
- 281 • spear fishing
- 282 • swimming instruction (e.g. freestyle) programs in *swimming pools*, where masks and *snorkels* are
283 used as a teaching aid or incidentally as part of the swimming program
- 284 • swimming where a *snorkel* is not used
- 285 • associated watercraft activities including operating watercraft as the platform from which the
286 *snorkelling* occurs (for example: sea kayaking, inland waters paddle-craft, sailing watercraft and motor
287 propelled watercraft activities)
- 288 • activities that are "surf" related (e.g. surfing, surf skiing, boogie boarding, body surfing etc.).

289

1.3 Related activities information

Related activities which have their own good practice information available include:

- SCUBA or surface-supplied air system diving – possible appropriate guidance may include but is not limited to:
 - o appropriate *marine safety agency* requirements or recommendations
 - o appropriate diver training agency standards and/or an accreditation organisation training, requirements, standards or recommendations
 - o AS/NZS 2299.3:2003 Occupational diving operations – Recreational industry diving and snorkelling operations
 - o Worksafe codes of practice.
- *snorkelling* while also SCUBA or surface-supplied air system diving – *SCUBA diving* requirements should be considered instead
- associated kayaking and paddling activities on waters that are not *inland waters* – refer the [Enclosed and coastal waters paddle-craft GPG](#)
- associated paddling activities on *inland waters* – refer the [Inland water paddle-craft GPG](#)
- associated sailing watercraft activities – refer to the appropriate *marine safety agency* requirements and sail practice guides
- associated motor propelled watercraft activities (e.g. motorboats, personal watercraft like jet ski, etc.) – refer to the appropriate *marine safety agency* and *land manager* requirements.

2 Management of Risk

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

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

2.1 Management of Risk

See Core GPG (2 Management of Risk).

2.2 Context Matters

See Core GPG (Management of Risk).

2.3 Risk management framework and process

See Core GPG (Management of Risk).

2.4 Risk management plan

See Core GPG (Management of Risk).

2.5 Dynamic risk assessment

See Core GPG (Management of Risk).

2.6 Incident reporting

See Core GPG (Management of Risk).

3 Planning

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

Here the guidance helps a provider translate intent into a repeatable, defensible process. Approval roles can be scaled to context — a single coordinator in a small operation, or a tiered sign-off structure in a larger one. The material can shape activity-plan templates, prompt early engagement with *Traditional Owners* and *land managers*, and ensure emergency planning and field documentation are in place and reviewed before participants arrive.

3.1 Management and approval of activities

See Core GPG (Planning).

3.2 Activity plans

The *marine safety agency*, *land owner* and/or *land manager* law(s), regulation(s) and/or requirements must be determined and complied with.

Snorkelling activity planning considerations may include but are not limited to:

- hazards and risks at the site
- water body conditions
- weather
- means of accessing and exiting the *snorkelling* site (e.g. watercraft requirements)
- the suitability of site(s) for the participants likely to be involved
- the supervision required
- personal thermal protection* necessary
- possible interactions with marine wildlife
- land manager* and *marine safety agency* regulation and requirements
- any other relevant considerations listed in this document and in the Core GPG.

Snorkelling activity plans should include:

- appropriately detailed location maps
- preferred sites and access routes
- locations, sites and routes to avoid
- references to standard operating procedures for managing hazards and risks
- environmental *trigger points* for reassessment of plans (See 5.6 Weather and water condition trigger points).

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

3.3 Group size

See Core GPG (Planning).

3.4 Cultural, environmental and historical values

See Core GPG (Planning).

3.5 Emergency management planning

3.5.1 Emergency management plan

The emergency management plan must be based on the outcome of the *risk management plan*.

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

- types of emergencies the *risk assessment* plan identifies
- remoteness of the activity
- appropriate means of rescue
- when operating from watercraft having appropriate systems and equipment to handle and remove people from the water (e.g. where the person is unconscious, heavy)
- the need for an medical oxygen supply and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) based on the activity context and profile of likely participants
- the practicality of carrying the emergency management equipment (e.g. remote first aid supplies, medical oxygen supply, AEDs etc.).

A *non-participating contact* must be used as part of the emergency management plan.

An activity intentions plan must be:

- provided in accordance with any *land manager* or *marine safety agency* requirement
- provided to the *non-participating contact* along with any relevant information needed.

The use of relevant rescue systems and procedures must be practiced periodically.

Considerations for rescue scenario training may include:

- general rescue scenarios for the type of water body the activity is conducted in
- specific rescue scenarios where known hazards require specific rescue methods.

Where there is only one *activity leader*, the emergency management plan must have arrangements that allow participants an adequate and appropriate communication system if the leader becomes incapacitated. (See sections [7.3.2 Recommended supervision](#) and [7.3.3 Snorkelling lookouts](#))

Also refer to the [Core GPG – Emergency management planning](#).

3.5.2 Reporting notifiable incidents

A reportable incident must be reported to all relevant authorities in the jurisdiction it occurred, in accordance with the requirements for the jurisdiction.

The *land manager* or *marine safety agency* may have incident reporting requirements.

Also refer to the [Core GPG – Incident reporting](#).

3.6 Activity leader required documentation

See Core GPG (Planning).

4 Diversity, equity and inclusion

407 Adventure *activities* are delivered by, and for, people of diverse identities, abilities, cultures, life
408 experiences and circumstances. Recognising that diversity, and providing equitable opportunities for safe
409 and meaningful participation, is fundamental to safe and effective practice.

410 In practice this section guides providers to design activities that include rather than exclude, applying across
411 interactions between leaders, participants and others encountered during an activity. A provider can use it
412 to review enrolment and communication practices for barriers, build cultural and psychological safety into
413 leader briefings, and ensure complaint and review mechanisms are visible and accessible. It is intended to
414 be read alongside the Participants and Responsibilities sections rather than in isolation.

415 The recommendations in this section apply alongside, and inform the application of, the subsequent
416 sections of the Core, including without limitation 5 Participants, 5.3 *Vulnerable participants*, 5.5 Privacy of
417 information, 4.3 Cultural safety, 4.4 Psychological safety and dignity, and 8 Responsibilities and roles. Those
418 sections continue to apply in their own terms; where requirements overlap, the more onerous applies.

419 4.1 Diversity of participants and leaders

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

421 4.2 Inclusive practice

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

423 4.3 Cultural safety

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

425 4.4 Psychological safety and dignity

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

427 4.5 Information, communication and consent

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

429 4.6 Leader competence

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

431 4.7 Concerns, complaints and review

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

433 5 Participants

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

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

5.1 Participant considerations

Participant considerations should include:

- participant aims and objectives
- considerations listed in the Core GPG – Participants and Activity purpose sections
- the effect of the temperature of the environment on individual and groups of participants
- familiarity with and experience in water environment(s)
- fitness
- general health
- swimming ability
- age (e.g. older or very young people)
- if it likely they will undertake *snorkel diving*
- if they exhibit behaviour that indicates they are stressed (e.g. hesitant, appear to be jumpy, overly excited, fidgety or having shaking hands)
- if they are non-English speakers.

Higher risk participants should be identified so additional risk mitigation measures can be used. (Refer 7.4.5 Higher risk participants – risk mitigation.)

Higher risk participants include those who:

- are living with a disability
- have a medical alert for a condition (e.g. medical alert bracelet, pendant, necklace)
- are either an older or a very young person
- are overweight
- appear to be in bad health (e.g. respiratory problems, particularly unfit)
- exhibit stressed behaviour (e.g. appear to be jumpy, hesitant, overly excited, fidgety or have shaking hands)
- have mobility issues
- have difficulties in readily understanding instructions
- has a vision impairment that might affect them navigating the activity area
- has a hearing impairment that might affect following instructions
- are non-English speaking
- anyone undertaking extended breath holding or *snorkel diving* (i.e. at risk of *shallow water blackout*).

Considerations relating to participants general health may include but is not limited to:

- if they smoke
- medical conditions that may be made worse by physical exertion (e.g. heart disease, asthma, lung complaints, etc.)
- medical conditions that can result in loss of consciousness (e.g. epilepsy, diabetic conditions, medication that makes a person drowsy, etc.)
- asthma triggered by conditions (e.g. cold water, saltwater mist, etc.)
- age (e.g. older people)
- if overweight
- vision impairment
- hearing impairment.

5.2 Information provided pre-activity

Pre-activity information provided to participants should clearly communicate:

- information as detailed in the Core GPG – Information provided pre-activity
- relevant aquatic hazards and risks
- clothing and footwear requirements
- when participants should advise they have a relevant medical condition.

492 See Core GPG (Participants) for the general requirements and further detail.

493 5.3 Activity briefing

494 See Core GPG (Participants).

495 5.4 Supervision and management during the activity

496 5.4.1 Supervision and group size considerations

497 The appropriateness of the *supervision ratio* and group size must be assessed throughout the activity based
498 on the current weather and/or water conditions. (For example, declining water quality during the activity may
499 require changes to the group size or *supervision ratio*.)

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

- 501 • the type of water body i.e. *open water* or *confined water*
- 502 • characteristics of the water body (e.g. location, size, etc.)
- 503 • water body conditions and changes in those conditions
- 504 • weather conditions and changes in those conditions
- 505 • water temperature
- 506 • the length and how committing the *snorkelling* activity will be to reach a suitable egress
- 507 • participant swimming ability and *snorkelling* experience
- 508 • participant age
- 509 • if *snorkel diving* will be involved
- 510 • the number of *higher risk participants* in the group
- 511 • considerations for determining supervision requirements in Core_GPG.

512 5.4.2 Recommended supervision

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

514 Supervision must be determined on a case by case basis taking into account the above-mentioned
515 considerations and the recommendations below.

516 The recommended *activity leader* supervision for:

- 517 • *snorkel swimming in confined waters* should be a maximum of 1 *activity leader* to 16 participants
518 *snorkelling*
- 519 • *snorkel swimming* should be a maximum of 1 *activity leader* to 10 participants *snorkelling*
- 520 • *snorkel diving* should be a maximum of 1 *activity leader* to 8 participants *snorkelling* where a
521 buddy system is used
- 522 • *snorkel diving* should be a maximum of 1 *activity leader* to 4 participants *snorkelling* where no
523 buddy system is used.

524 The recommended total group size should be 30 participants snorkellers (not including *activity leaders*).

525 Where groups exceed 20 participants *snorkelling*, separate groups should be formed so each *activity leader*
526 can supervise their own group.

527 A *risk assessment* must be completed to determine if the use of *lookouts* is appropriate and/or required.

528 5.4.3 Snorkelling lookouts

529 5.4.3.1 Using lookouts

530 A *lookout*:

- 531 • is not *snorkelling*
- 532 • assists the *activity leader(s)* in monitoring the participants
- 533 • may be a suitably briefed *responsible person* who monitors the participants during the activity
- 534 • may be an *activity leader*

535 • is able to take steps quickly to either address issues as briefed (e.g. requesting a participant to stay or
536 move to within an area) or inform *activity leaders* of issues for them to action.

537 Lookouts when used must be appropriately briefed regarding how undertake the role including hazards to
538 monitor and indicators of increased participant risk.

539 A lookout who is not an *activity leader* (i.e. is a suitably briefed *responsible person*) should not take on
540 *activity leader* roles or be used in place an *activity leader* for the *supervision ratio* requirements.

541 (For example, having 20 participants and only 1 *activity leader* along with 1 lookout who is a suitably briefed
542 *responsible person* should not occur but having 1 *activity leader* along with 1 *activity leader* acting as a lookout
543 may be appropriate depending on the risk management plan, site and circumstances.)

544 Lookouts should have:

- 545 • no other task than to monitor snorkelers in the water, except where they are also responsible for
546 rescues and/or first aid
- 547 • a location out of the water
- 548 • a location that allows visibility of their designated area and where possible the whole activity area
- 549 • a location that enables them to take action quickly to address issues or inform *activity leaders* of
550 issues (e.g. a lookout located on a beach that cannot effectively communicate with participants or *activity*
551 *leaders* to intervene in a reasonable time is not likely to be a suitable supervision option)
- 552 • binoculars and polarised sunglasses to improve visibility across and into the water
- 553 • breaks after every 60 minutes.

554 5.4.3.2 Effective lookouts – considerations

555 Considerations to improving the effectiveness of lookouts includes:

- 556 • having an elevated location
- 557 • the location being distraction free (both visual and/or audible)
- 558 • having binoculars and polarised sunglasses
- 559 • being aware of the system used to identify *higher risk participants* (e.g. vests, *buoyancy aids*, colour
560 coding of equipment etc.)
- 561 • moving the head while scanning, not just the eyes
- 562 • scanning using patterns and zones to cover the whole area at least once every 60 seconds
- 563 • changing scanning patterns periodically
- 564 • looking into the water, as well as on the surface
- 565 • focusing on each snorkeller and checking them for movement or signs of distress
- 566 • giving greater attention to higher risk snorkellers
- 567 • giving greater attention to those in higher risk environment situations, especially those that are
568 down current or at the limits of the *snorkelling* area
- 569 • being aware of conditions that affect visibility such as glare, shadows and poor in-water visibility
- 570 • changing position to see into areas if needed
- 571 • using a mixture of sit, stand and walking while scanning
- 572 • taking breaks and rotating duties
- 573 • passing on relevant information to the new *lookout* when handing over *lookout* duties
- 574 • having enough sleep and being well rested
- 575 • avoiding overheating and dehydration in hot conditions
- 576 • staying warm and comfortable in cold conditions
- 577 • having effective sun and UV protection.

578 5.4.4 Activity briefing

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

- 581 • entry and exit points from the water
- 582 • explanation of the *snorkelling* area and boundaries (e.g. landmarks, flags, banners, buoys etc.)

- 583 • location of and ways to avoid potential environmental hazards
- 584 • correct fitting and use of equipment
- 585 • an explanation of signals (e.g. calls, hand signals and whistle)
- 586 • recall procedures
- 587 • where used how the buddy system operates including the lost buddy procedure
- 588 • emergency responses
- 589 • *buoyancy aids* available
- 590 • hazards relating to *shallow water blackout*
- 591 • restrictions and procedures related to *snorkel diving*
- 592 • other relevant *risk management* procedures
- 593 • requirements relating to completing head counts (e.g. sign in procedures)
- 594 • the location of *lookouts*
- 595 • requirements relating to wildlife
- 596 • strategies for environmental conservation.

597 5.4.5 Knowledge of the site

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

600 5.4.6 Buoyancy of participants

601 Participants undertaking *snorkel swimming* should be positively buoyant.

602 *Higher risk participants* must be positively buoyant, except where they are a higher risk due to undertaking
 603 *snorkel diving*

604 5.4.7 Higher risk participants considerations

605 *Activity leaders* and *lookouts* should monitor all snorkellers, with greater attention given to *higher risk*
 606 *participants* (refer [4.1 Participant considerations](#) section for details of who are *higher risk participants*).

607 *Activity leaders* and *lookouts* should monitor any snorkellers with greater attention who:

- 608 • are *snorkelling* down current
- 609 • are at the limits of the *snorkelling* area.

610 5.4.8 Higher risk participants – risk mitigation

611 5.4.8.1 Risk mitigation measures

612 Risk mitigation measure for *higher risk participants* may include but is not limited to:

- 613 • given appropriate information and instruction
- 614 • using a system to easily identify those participants at higher risk while *snorkelling*
- 615 • providing them with additional *buoyancy aids*
- 616 • using a *buddy pair system*
- 617 • provide guided activities and encourage them to take part
- 618 • request they stay within areas close to *activity leaders* or *lookouts*
- 619 • provided additional assistance, where applicable, when they are entering and exiting the water to
 620 reduce their physical exertion
- 621 • changing to a site that is more appropriate
- 622 • requesting that they avoid *snorkelling* on this current occasion and/or in a particular site.

623 5.4.8.2 Easy identification

624 A means of easily identifying *higher risk participants* from a distance should be used.

625 A means of easily identifying *activity leaders* from a distance should be used.

626 Ways to identify *higher risk participants* and *activity leaders* may include:

- 627 • providing different coloured equipment (e.g. snorkels, fins, wetsuits)

- 628 • providing a coloured vest
- 629 • attaching coloured ribbons
- 630 • wearing and/or use a *buoyancy aids* (e.g. noodles, or snorkelling vests).

631 **Equipment and clothing colour coding systems**

632 *Activity leaders* should have their own separate colour in any colour coding system.

633 Where a colour coding system to *identify higher risk* participants is used, activity equipment, clothing
634 and/or *personal thermal protection* provided should either:

- 635 • comply with the colour coding system
- 636 • or not cause a conflict with the colour coding system (i.e. incorrectly identify someone as not being
- 637 at higher risk when they are or as an *activity leader* when they are not).

638 **5.4.8.3 Buoyancy aids**

639 *Higher risk participants* should be encouraged to use a *buoyancy aid* to support them.

640 *Buoyancy aids* may include:

- 641 • snorkelling vests
- 642 • kick boards
- 643 • life rings
- 644 • tubes (e.g. noodles).

645 Some type of *buoyancy aid* should be readily available to give to any snorkeller who appears tired or
646 distressed.

647 **5.4.8.4 Buddy pair system**

648 A *buddy pair system* should include:

- 649 • *snorkelling* together for the duration of the activity
- 650 • if separated attempting to locate their buddy in the first instance
- 651 • advise an *activity leader* or *lookout* if they cannot locate their buddy
- 652 • where identified that a person in a buddy pair is *snorkelling* alone, they are directed to return to
- 653 the entry/exit location or to an *activity leader* until their buddy is located
- 654 • direct buddy pairs to snorkel in an area which allows the *activity leader* or *lookout* to offer closer
- 655 supervision
- 656 • encouraging *snorkel swimming* pairs to hold hands.

657 *Higher risk participants* should be encouraged to snorkel with a buddy pair.

658 **5.4.8.5 Snorkel diving**

659 A *risk assessment* must determine if participants are permitted to undertake *snorkel diving* and if they are
660 permitted to use of buoyancy altering equipment.

661 Additional *risk management* procedures should be implemented when *snorkel diving*.

662 *Risk management* procedures for *snorkel diving* should include:

- 663 • using a *buddy pair system* to monitor every dive
- 664 • each buddy pair operates on the basis of one on the surface while the other is diving
- 665 • briefing on hyperventilation and extended breath holding and the risk of *shallow water blackout*
- 666 • briefing on equalising ear pressure and mask squeeze
- 667 • using appropriate equipment to manage their required *buoyancy*
- 668 • confirming competence in using any *buoyancy* altering equipment if used (e.g. weight belts)
- 669 • remaining above an appropriate depth.

670 Where *snorkel diving* that is deeper than 1.5 metres each participants *buoyancy* should not become
671 negatively buoyant without a means of adjusting it to become positively buoyant in an emergency.

672 5.4.9 Head counts

673 Procedures for head counts must include:

- 674 • completing a head count before the activity commences to confirm the number of people to be
- 675 accounted for
- 676 • a means of adjusting the head count if anyone leaves the activity for any reason or by any means
- 677 • completing a head count after activity completion and before departing any *snorkelling* site.

678 5.4.9.1 Passive count systems

679 Head counts using a passive *count system* must be conducted twice each time a head count is required, to

680 confirm the correct number of people are present.

681 When a head count is required using a passive *count system* it should be conducted by two different

682 people.

683 5.4.9.2 Active count systems

684 Considerations for using an *active count system* includes:

- 685 • the number of participants involved in the activity (e.g. over 50 participants it may become less feasible)
- 686 • the time it takes to complete.

687 5.4.10 Night snorkels

688 The appropriateness of undertaking night snorkels and the related *risk management* procedures must be

689 determined by the *risk management plan*.

690 The *risk management plan* considerations must include the:

- 691 • appropriateness of higher risk snorkellers undertaking the activity
- 692 • appropriateness of *snorkel diving* during activity
- 693 • appropriate *activity leader* to participant *supervision ratio*
- 694 • the suitability of the area used
- 695 • what conditions are suitable for night *snorkelling*
- 696 • any additional *risk management* procedures needed for *snorkelling* at night.

697 *Risk management* procedure for night *snorkels* must include:

- 698 • all snorkellers having a light-stick suitably attached to their person that can be seen while *snorkel*
- 699 *swimming* (e.g. attached to the wetsuit near the back of the neck, avoiding attaching to equipment items
- 700 that might become separated from the snorkeller such as the snorkel)
- 701 • all snorkellers having their own torch
- 702 • *activity leaders* are separately identifiable (e.g. different coloured light-stick)
- 703 • *activity leaders* having a backup torch
- 704 • marine navigation markers and/or light requirements for the jurisdiction of operation are followed
- 705 • a buddy pairs system is used.

706 5.4.11 Other activity management procedures

707 Procedures to continuously monitor weather and water conditions must be developed and implemented.

708 A system of clear & unambiguous verbal or non-verbal communications must be used to manage the

709 activity.

710 *Snorkelling* in areas where fishing and spear fishing is occurring should be avoided.

711 Where underwater horns are used, procedures for their use should be developed and implemented.

712 *Snorkelling* activities should be structured where possible to allow participants the ability to rest when

713 necessary.

714 Entry into the water must be feet first.

715 Procedures must address risks associated with entry into water (e.g. from rocks, jetties, etc.). Refer [Appendix Y](#)
716 [Water entry and exit](#) for activity management considerations.

717 5.5 Pre-activity communication

718 See Core GPG (Participants).

719 5.6 Participation restrictions

720 See Core GPG (Participants).

721 5.7 Vulnerable participants

722 See Core GPG (Participants).

723 5.8 Health and wellbeing

724 See Core GPG (Participants).

725 5.9 Privacy of information

726 See Core GPG (Participants).

727 5.10 Activity leader to participants ratios

728 See Core GPG (Participants).

729 6 Environment

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

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

740

741 6.1 Environment related planning

742 The *marine safety agency*, *land owner* and/or *land manager* law(s), regulation(s) and/or requirements must
743 be complied with.

744 Environment planning considerations must include:

- 745 • access and exit to the site including remoteness
- 746 • tides
- 747 • rips and currents
- 748 • wind direction and strength
- 749 • wave and swell height and direction
- 750 • water depth
- 751 • water temperature
- 752 • water quality
- 753 • water visibility

- 754 • surface visibility
- 755 • the other users including watercraft and fishing activities
- 756 • site features (e.g. reef formations, sand bars, bottom gradient, submerged rocks, underwater caves, wrecks,
- 757 etc.)
- 758 • local marine life
- 759 • entanglement hazards.

760 6.2 Weather and water conditions information

761 6.2.1 Weather information

762 Appropriate sources must be used for recent, current and forecast:

- 763 • weather
- 764 • weather warnings
- 765 • water conditions.

766 See *Beaufort Wind Force Scale* in [Appendix T Beaufort Wind Force Scale](#).

767 See Weather warnings information in [Appendix U Weather information](#).

768 6.2.2 Water conditions information

769 Sources of water conditions information must include:

- 770 • the Bureau of Meteorology relevant marine conditions information
- 771 • the Bureau of Meteorology relevant water level information and flood warning information
- 772 • relevant local information sources (e.g. *marine safety agency, land managers, volunteer rescue*
- 773 *organisations, river gauges, dam operators etc.*)
- 774 • inspection of the site.

775 6.3 Snorkelling conditions

776 6.3.1 Weather

777 Weather conditions must be assessed prior to the activity.

778 Weather conditions must be monitored throughout the activity.

779

780 Weather conditions considerations must include:

- 781 • wind strength
- 782 • wind direction
- 783 • temperature
- 784 • rain
- 785 • lightning
- 786 • surface visibility.

787 Additional consideration must be given if weather conditions:

- 788 • have a surface visibility that limits the ability to monitor the group effectively
- 789 • with winds directly affecting the site of 11 knots (20 km/hr) or greater (i.e. moderate breeze on
- 790 Beaufort Scale – see [Appendix T](#))
- 791 • while thunder can be heard.

792 6.3.2 Water conditions

793 Water conditions must be assessed prior to the activity.

794 Water conditions must be monitored throughout the activity.

795 Water condition considerations must include:

- 796 • tides and slack water periods
- 797 • currents (i.e. tides, rips, longshore, outlet, channel and structural) and their direction
- 798 • wave (i.e. wind, swell, tidal, long, reflected and Tsunami) height and direction
- 799 • surf conditions
- 800 • water depth (e.g. will waves break, reef depths, conditions based on tide such as ocean bars etc.)
- 801 • water temperature
- 802 • water quality
- 803 • water visibility
- 804 • maximum depths at the site.

805 Surf conditions may include:

- 806 • wave height
- 807 • wave type (plunging or spilling breaking waves or surging waves)
- 808 • location of surf in relation to activity.

809 Additional consideration must be given if water conditions:

- 810 • have a visibility underwater that limits the ability to monitor the group effectively
- 811 • have a wave or swell height that limits the ability to monitor the group effectively.

812 6.3.3 Water quality

813 Areas where the water is known to be polluted or contaminated and would pose a risk to human health
814 must be avoided.

815 Polluted or contaminated water may include water impacted by:

- 816 • chemicals
- 817 • oil
- 818 • rubbish
- 819 • sewage
- 820 • upstream runoff (e.g. urban runoff such as oil from roads, industrial operations etc.)
- 821 • animal carcasses or waste
- 822 • waterborne microorganisms (e.g. E.coli, Giardia, blue-green algae).

823 6.3.4 Entry and exit

824 Entry and exit to the site must be:

- 825 • reviewed for obstacles and hazards
- 826 • suitable for the fitness and physical capabilities of the participants.

827 Also see [Appendix Y – Water entry and exit](#).

828 6.4 Lightning

829 A procedure for reducing the risk of being struck when lightning occurs must be implemented.

830 Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) services should be used where available to assess lightning risk.

831 Whilst thunder is audible groups should avoid:

- 832 • *snorkelling*
- 833 • being on high locations
- 834 • being in unsuitable locations.

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

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

- 837 • being on the water
- 838 • being on high structures
- 839 • being connected to metal structures, cable or equipment
- 840 • being on the highest ground in the area
- 841 • tall trees or structures that may act like a lightning rod
- 842 • water saturated ground near watercourses
- 843 • locations where group is unable to spread out
- 844 • caves.

845 6.5 Flooding

846 Areas likely to experience *flash flooding* or flood water runoff should be avoided during *severe weather* or
847 thunderstorms.

848 6.6 Weather and water condition trigger points

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

851 The *risk management plan* and emergency management plan must include guidance on *trigger points* and
852 associated actions for:

- 853 • tide movements
- 854 • rips and currents
- 855 • wind direction and strength
- 856 • wave and swell height
- 857 • water quality
- 858 • water visibility
- 859 • surface visibility
- 860 • *severe weather* warnings
- 861 • thunderstorm warnings
- 862 • hazardous surf warnings
- 863 • marine wind warnings
- 864 • tsunamis: watch and warning
- 865 • tropical cyclone advice: watch and warning

866 • extreme cold temperature
867 • extreme hot temperatures.

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

- 869 • cancellation of activity
- 870 • postponing the activity
- 871 • moving the activity site
- 872 • avoid sites affected
- 873 • moving to areas that are protected from the effects
- 874 • evacuating to a safe location.

875 6.7 Marine safety agency, land managers and 876 traditional owners

877 6.7.1 Marine safety agency and land managers requirements

878 Also refer to the Core GPG - Land owner and/or manager.

879 Procedures must be used to determine and comply with all relevant *marine safety agency* and *land*
880 *manager* requirements.

881 *Land managers* may include:

- 882 • a national *marine safety agency*
- 883 • marine safety agencies in the jurisdiction of operation
- 884 • harbourmasters in port jurisdictions
- 885 • marine authorities
- 886 • marine national park or national park authorities
- 887 • marine sanctuary authorities
- 888 • local waterway managers.

889 6.7.2 Marine navigation requirements

890 Relevant requirements must be complied with where indicated by:

- 891 • buoyage systems (i.e. lateral, cardinal, isolated danger, special and safe water marks)
- 892 • zone signage (i.e. buoys and beacons)
- 893 • navigation signals (i.e. navigation lights, dayshapes, code flags and whistle signals)
- 894 • areas of commercial operation.

895 6.7.3 Traditional owners

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

898 6.8 Environmental conditions, safety and impact 899 management

900 See *Core GPG (Environment)*.

901 6.9 Bushfires, prescribed fire and fire danger

902 See *Core GPG (Environment)*.

903 6.10 Tree safety

904 See *Core GPG (Environment)*.

905 6.11 Drinking water safety

906 See Core GPG (Environment).

907 6.12 Food safety

908 See Core GPG (Environment).

909 6.13 Wildlife safety

910 6.13.1 Wildlife safety considerations

911 Procedures should be in place to minimise the risks associated with local fauna and flora that may be
912 encountered.

913 The types of wildlife encounters that may need to be considered include but is not limited to:

- 914 • blue ring octopus
- 915 • cone shells
- 916 • crocodiles
- 917 • jellyfish
- 918 • sea snakes
- 919 • sharks
- 920 • stingrays
- 921 • stone fish
- 922 • any other relevant aquatic wildlife found in the area.

923 6.13.2 Jellyfish

924 Procedures should be in place to minimise the risks associated with jellyfish stings including:

- 925 • appropriate *risk assessment* before the activity
- 926 • selecting suitable areas
- 927 • briefings on avoiding contact
- 928 • consideration of the use of protective clothing
- 929 • appropriate first aid treatment training
- 930 • having available appropriate first aid treatment equipment and supplies.

931 6.13.3 Sharks

932 The *risk management plan* should consider:

- 933 • if shark deterrent devices should be carried
- 934 • areas and conditions that are likely to have higher shark activity (e.g. run off areas after heavy rain,
935 warmer temperature water areas, dawn, dusk etc.)
- 936 • referral to shark monitoring or reporting information for shark activity.

937 6.13.4 Wildlife swims

938 Wildlife swim laws and regional *land manager* marine animal requirements must be complied with (e.g.
939 water body, marine national park or marine sanctuary).

940 Procedures relating to marine animals may include but is not limited to:

- 941 • staying clear of free-swimming animals
- 942 • not blocking or attempt to alter the natural path of free-swimming animals
- 943 • keeping a specific distance away
- 944 • keeping a constant direction and avoiding sudden direction changes
- 945 • not approaching head on
- 946 • not separating individuals from their group
- 947 • not coming between a mother and their young
- 948 • avoiding birthing areas.

949 6.14 Environmental sustainability procedures

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

951 6.14.1 Plan ahead and prepare

952 Refer procedures listed in Environmental sustainability section in Core GPG – Appendix J.

953 6.14.2 Travel on durable surfaces

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

- 955 • practicing basic techniques with beginner snorkelers in environments that are not likely to be
- 956 adversely affected (e.g. sandy areas, areas of bare rock)
- 957 • following natural paths and water currents (e.g. direction of currents along the reef walls)
- 958 • avoiding touching, hitting or kicking features by:
 - 959 o being mindful of fin locations
 - 960 o avoiding shallow and narrow features
 - 961 o not touching or handling coral
 - 962 o not kicking up sand from the bottom
- 963 • choose the deepest channel or groove to swim over
- 964 • swimming rather than walking
- 965 • not walking on reef surfaces
- 966 • selecting appropriate entry and exit points to minimise impact on plants and/or animals
- 967 • using designated access points.

968 6.14.3 Dispose of waste properly

969 Disposal of waste properly may include but is not limited to:

- 970 • carry out food and general waste (e.g. plastic bags, 6 pack plastic holders, etc.)
- 971 • carry out human waste and personal hygiene waste
- 972 • when safe to do so, removing and dispose of any fishing line found.

973 6.14.4 Leave what you find

974 Leave what you find may include but is not limited to:

- 975 • before moving to new locations clean equipment to avoid spread of pest plants or animals
- 976 • leave all coral or shells where they are
- 977 • leave all flora and fauna where they are
- 978 • leave all artefacts or cultural heritage items where they are.

979 6.14.5 Respect wildlife

980 Respecting wildlife may include but not limited to:

- 981 • avoid touching or handling wildlife or benthos zone organisms
- 982 • not feeding fish, birds or other wildlife
- 983 • staying clear of free-swimming animals
- 984 • not blocking or attempt to alter the natural path of free-swimming animals
- 985 • staying clear of breeding areas
- 986 • practicing basic techniques with beginner snorkelers in environments that are not likely to be
- 987 adversely affect marine animals
- 988 • keep fins and equipment (e.g. cameras, torches) away from bottom dwelling animals and plants.

989 6.14.6 Be considerate of your hosts and other visitors

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

- 991 • use underwater horns only in appropriate circumstances (e.g. emergency situations, herding groups,
- 992 catching somebody's attention)
- 993 • minimise disturbance to other users

- 994
- conform to fishing requirements including licensing and size/volume restrictions.

995 6.15 Land owner and/or manager requirements

996 See Core GPG (Environment).

997 6.16 Water environments

998 See Core GPG (Environment).

999 7 Equipment and logistics

1000 The right equipment, well chosen and well maintained, is fundamental to safe delivery. Equipment
1001 requirements differ from one activity and context to another, spanning personal and group gear, first aid
1002 and medication, communications and transport. Deciding what is genuinely needed, keeping it fit for
1003 purpose, and organising the logistics around it are everyday responsibilities for any provider.

1004 It helps a provider decide what equipment is genuinely needed, who is responsible for it, and how it is kept
1005 fit for purpose. The framework can drive equipment checklists matched to each activity, inspection and
1006 maintenance schedules appropriate to scale, and communications and first aid provisions matched to the
1007 remoteness and risk of the activity. It supports consistent logistics decisions without imposing a single
1008 equipment list on every provider.

1009 7.1 Framework for equipment requirements

1010 See Core GPG (Equipment and logistics).

1011 7.2 Equipment requirements

1012 7.2.1 Personal attire

1013 Procedures must be in place to ensure appropriate clothing and *personal thermal protection* is available
1014 and fit for purpose for the expected and foreseeable weather conditions.

1015 Clothing and/or *personal thermal protection* should be of a colour that makes it easily visible for *activity*
1016 *leaders* or lookouts and other water users.

1017 Procedures must be in place to ensure reasonable and appropriate sun safety equipment and measures are
1018 taken.

1019 Having available appropriate extra clothing or *personal thermal protection* must be considered.

1020 Consideration for carrying extra clothing or *personal thermal protection* may include:

- 1021
- the participants involved
 - 1022 • the *snorkelling* conditions
 - 1023 • the duration of the activity.

1024 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix W](#).

1025 7.2.2 Activity equipment

1026 Activity equipment listed should be manufactured for use in the context of the activity:

- 1027
- diving masks
 - 1028 • snorkels
 - 1029 • fins
 - 1030 • devices used for *buoyancy* control (e.g. weight belts, buoyancy vests for snorkelling, wetsuits).

1031 Any *marine safety agency*, *land owner* and/or *land manager* law(s), regulation(s) and/or requirements for
1032 rescue equipment must be complied with.

- 1033 An appropriate design standard for rescue equipment must be used where one is available.
- 1034 All weight belts must have a quick release mechanism.
- 1035 A range of masks with different shapes and sizes should be available to fit different users and/or fit over a
1036 beard or moustache.
- 1037 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.1](#).
- 1038 **7.2.3 Emergency equipment**
- 1039 **7.2.3.1 Rescue equipment**
- 1040 The rescue equipment available must be appropriate for use in the context of the activity.
- 1041 Rescue equipment each *activity leader* must have readily available for use includes:
- 1042 • a whistle appropriate for water environments
 - 1043 • a suitable means of cutting fishing line or rope
 - 1044 • a means of towing a person.
- 1045 *Activity leaders snorkelling* should have a towed float or *buoyancy aid*.
- 1046 Throw bags if used must be of an appropriate design and use floating rope.
- 1047 Additional rescue equipment to consider may include appropriate hoist systems for lifting unconscious or
1048 heavy people from the water. (For example, being able to lift the person out of the water onto a watercraft if it is
1049 used as the base for snorkelling.)
- 1050 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.2](#).
- 1051 **7.2.3.2 First aid equipment**
- 1052 Where available, any medical oxygen supply must be appropriately maintained by an appropriately
1053 *competent person* or service agent.
- 1054 Where available, any Automated External Defibrillator (AED) must be appropriately maintained by an
1055 appropriately *competent person* or service agent.
- 1056 Also refer to [3.2 Emergency management planning](#) and [Appendix A4.4](#).
- 1057 **7.2.4 Shark emergency equipment**
- 1058 When carried, shark deterrent devices should be appropriate for use in the context of the activity.
- 1059 Consideration for the use of shark deterrent devices should include if they are appropriate for the area (e.g.
1060 marine protected area requirements).
- 1061 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.3](#).
- 1062 **7.2.5 Communications equipment**
- 1063 The communications equipment available must be appropriate for use in the context of the activity and
1064 local laws or regulations.
- 1065 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.5](#).
- 1066 **7.2.6 Navigation and group management equipment**
- 1067 The type of navigational markers (e.g. dive flags) used must be appropriate for use in the context of the
1068 activity and local laws or regulations.
- 1069 Floats, markers and lines used for group management should be appropriate for use in the context of the
1070 activity.
- 1071 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.6](#).

1072 7.2.7 Other equipment

1073 Refer to the list of equipment to consider in [Appendix A4.7](#).

1074 7.3 First aid equipment and medication

1075 See Core GPG (*Equipment and logistics*).

1076 7.4 Use of equipment

1077 All equipment must be used with reference to the manufacturers instructions.

1078 All equipment must be checked that it is serviceable before each activity or before being used.

1079 Where available, any medical oxygen supply must have the level of oxygen checked to confirm it is at the
1080 required level prior to leaving for the activity site.

1081 Electronic shark deterrent devices must be confirmed to have sufficient charge prior to use.

1082 Procedures must be used so that relevant provided equipment is hygienic.

1083 Provided equipment that may require hygiene procedures includes but is not limited to:

- 1084 • snorkels
- 1085 • masks
- 1086 • wetsuits and other personal attire or *personal thermal protection*
- 1087 • fins.

1088 Prior to use of equipment, all relevant people must receive appropriate training and advised of any relevant
1089 manufacturers instructions or limitations.

1090 Also refer colour coding systems for *higher risk participants* and *activity leaders* in the [7.4.5.2 Easy](#)
1091 [identification](#) section.

1092 See Core GPG (*Equipment and logistics*) for the general requirements and further detail.

1093 7.5 Transport

1094 See Core GPG (*Equipment and logistics*).

1095 7.6 Maintenance of equipment

1096 Equipment and inspection records must conform with any legislative or regulatory requirements.

1097 Appropriate procedures must be in place for equipment inspections and determining the time periods
1098 between inspections.

1099 A retirement of equipment policy should be developed.

1100 Considerations for a retirement of equipment procedure may include but is not limited to:

- 1101 • type of use
- 1102 • frequency of use
- 1103 • prevailing conditions when used
- 1104 • actual deterioration, wear and tear
- 1105 • extreme usage events or patterns
- 1106 • age
- 1107 • years in service
- 1108 • manufacturers recommendations.

1109 See Core GPG (*Equipment and logistics*) for the general requirements and further detail.

1110 7.7 Storage of equipment

1111 Activity equipment should be stored with reference to the manufacturers recommendations or
1112 instructions.

1113 Considerations for storage of equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1114 • equipment is clean and dry
- 1115 • the storage is free from harmful chemicals
- 1116 • the storage is free from damp conditions
- 1117 • the storage is free from environmental exposure including Ultraviolet (UV) light and avoids
- 1118 extremes of temperature
- 1119 • the storage is free from interference of fauna or vermin.

1120 See Core GPG (*Equipment and logistics*) for the general requirements and further detail.

1121 8 Responsibilities and roles

1122 This section sets out the responsibilities and roles of persons involved in the planning and delivery of
1123 snorkelling activities under this guide. It must be read in conjunction with Core GPG Section 8, which
1124 contains the generic responsibilities and roles framework applicable to all outdoor activities. Where a sub-
1125 section below states 'See Core GPG', the full requirements for that sub-section are set out in the Core GPG
1126 and apply without modification to snorkelling activities delivered under this guide.

1127 8.1 Responsibilities and roles framework

1128 See Core GPG Section 8.1 — the responsibilities and roles framework, including the three operational
1129 leadership roles of *Leader*, *Assistant Leader* and *Support person*, applies without modification to snorkelling
1130 activities delivered under this guide.

1131 8.2 Naming conventions

1132 See Core GPG Section 8.2. This guide uses the standard Core GPG role terms — *Leader*, *Assistant Leader*
1133 and *Support person* — throughout. Where a provider uses activity-specific titles, they map as follows:

- 1134 Snorkelling guide — equivalent to *Leader* in the Core GPG.
- 1135 Snorkelling support — equivalent to *Assistant Leader* in the Core GPG. Note: the snorkelling
1136 support role is distinct from a lookout who is a *support person* — a support-person on lookout
1137 does not hold the responsibilities of an *Assistant Leader* and must not be included in *supervision*
1138 *ratio* calculations.
- 1139 *Support person* — the Core GPG term is used unchanged (see Core GPG Section 8.4.3).

1140 8.3 Provider responsibilities to prepare and support 1141 leaders

1142 See Core GPG Section 8.3 — the provider responsibilities to prepare and support leaders apply without
1143 modification to snorkelling activities delivered under this guide.

1144 8.4 Leader responsibilities and role descriptions

1145 See Core GPG Section 8.4 — the leader responsibilities and role descriptions, including the role descriptions
1146 for *Leader* (8.4.1), *Assistant Leader* (8.4.2) and *Support person* (8.4.3), and the leader fitness for work
1147 requirements (8.4.4), apply without modification to snorkelling activities delivered under this guide.

1148 8.4.1 Leader — operational responsibility in the field

1149 The *Leader* carries operational responsibility in the field for the activity and all participants, working within
1150 the provider's systems and direction; see Core GPG Section 8.4.1 for the full role description.

1151 8.4.2 Assistant Leader — delegated responsibility

1152 The *Assistant Leader* supports the Leader and carries delegated operational responsibility for defined
1153 elements or participant groups, operating under the Leader's direction; see Core GPG Section 8.4.2.

1154 8.4.3 Support person

1155 The *Support person* is a non-technical role that assists *activity leaders* in managing participants and does
1156 not carry the technical responsibilities of a Leader or *Assistant Leader*. The key responsibilities of this role,
1157 and its important limitations — including that a *support person* must not be treated as an *activity leader* for
1158 the purpose of calculating *activity leader* to participant ratios — are as set out in Core GPG Section 8.4.3.

1159 8.4.4 Leader fitness for work

1160 Leaders and *assistant leaders* must be physically and psychosocially fit for the demands of the role;
1161 providers must take reasonable steps to manage risks arising from factors including physical and
1162 psychosocial fitness, alcohol, medication, other substances and fatigue; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.

1163 8.4.4.1 Physical and psychosocial fitness

1164 The provider must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that each person assigned to a Leader or
1165 *Assistant Leader* role is physically and psychosocially capable of the demands of snorkelling — which vary
1166 with water zone, participant group and conditions. Leaders must self-assess their fitness before accepting a
1167 role; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.1.

1168 8.4.4.2 Alcohol, medication and other substances

1169 Alcohol and other substance consumption should be discouraged during or immediately before an activity
1170 where it could impair a leader's performance. Leaders must carry any required medication appropriate to
1171 the activity duration and environment; see Core GPG Section 8.4.4.2.

1172 8.4.4.3 Fatigue

1173 Physical and mental fatigue creates significant risk, particularly for leaders managing continuous visual
1174 monitoring and in-water supervision of snorkelling groups; providers must implement reasonable controls
1175 including appropriate scheduling, role allocation and self-assessment procedures; see Core GPG Section
1176 8.4.4.3.

1177 8.5 Leader readiness and capability

1178 See Core GPG Section 8.5 — the leader readiness and capability requirements, including leadership
1179 knowledge, skill and experience (8.5.1), provider responsibilities under the Outdoor Leader KSE Framework
1180 (8.5.2), first aid (8.5.3), knowledge and skill acquisition (8.5.4), verification (8.5.5), currency (8.5.6) and
1181 verification and currency records (8.5.7), apply to snorkelling activities delivered under this guide.

1182 The detailed knowledge, skill and experience required of a Leader is set out in Appendix M of this guide,
1183 and of an *Assistant Leader* in Appendix N. The program planning matrix (leader-matching tool) is set out in
1184 Core GPG Appendix O, the recognition-of-competence pathways in Core GPG Appendix P, and the
1185 indicative experience bands in Core GPG Appendix Q.

1186 8.5.1 Leadership knowledge, skill and experience

1187 The provider must ensure each person in a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role holds integrated knowledge, skill
1188 and experience appropriate to the responsibilities of the role and the specific snorkelling context. This is a
1189 non-delegable provider obligation that cannot be satisfied by a qualification alone — it requires active,
1190 documented verification against the role's responsibilities; see Core GPG Section 8.5.1.

1191 8.5.2 Provider responsibilities under the Outdoor Leader KSE 1192 Framework

1193 Providers must verify the capability of every person assigned to a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role across the
1194 nine domains of the AAAS Outdoor Leader KSE Framework, scaled to the activity context and the capability
1195 level required for the water zone; see Core GPG Section 8.5.2. The snorkelling activity scope, and the leader

1196 requirements that flow from activity variant and operating environment, are set out at the head of
1197 Appendix M.

1198 8.5.3 First aid

1199 Leaders must hold a current first-aid qualification appropriate to the activity, environment and applicable
1200 work health and safety law(s) and/or regulation(s); for remote marine environments, a remote or
1201 wilderness first-aid qualification should be considered. See Core GPG Section 8.5.3.

1202 8.5.4 Knowledge and skill acquisition

1203 Knowledge, skill and experience may be developed through, but is not limited to, formal qualifications,
1204 industry training, provider-based programs, structured participation or a combination; no single method
1205 has primacy; see Core GPG Section 8.5.4.

1206 8.5.5 Verification

1207 For each person in a Leader or *Assistant Leader* role, the provider must verify knowledge, skill, experience
1208 and currency in context before the person carries the role. The detailed snorkelling knowledge, skill and
1209 experience against which verification is made is set out in Appendix M (Leader) and Appendix N (*Assistant*
1210 *Leader*), and pathway guidance is in Core GPG Appendix P; see Core GPG Section 8.5.5.

1211 8.5.6 Currency

1212 Knowledge, skill and experience must be current. The provider must determine the minimum currency and
1213 recency requirements appropriate to the context — having regard to the water zone, the participant group
1214 and the consequences of a lapse in capability — and verify currency for each person in a leadership role
1215 before they carry the role. In-water rescue competencies specific to snorkelling must be practised
1216 periodically to maintain currency. The means by which currency may be established are set out in Core GPG
1217 Section 8.5.6.

1218 8.5.7 Verification and Currency Records

1219 Providers must maintain records of how verification was conducted — including the basis, method, date
1220 and person responsible — for each person in a leadership role, retained consistent with the provider's
1221 record-keeping obligations; see Core GPG Section 8.5.7.

1222 Glossary

1223 Also refer to Terms and definitions in [Core GPG](#).

1224 AAAS: Australian Adventure Activity Standard – See Introduction for details.

1225 *Active count system*: a *count system* that requires the people being counted to actively participate in the
1226 counting process. (For example, roll call, tagging or signing). These systems tend to be slower than *passive*
1227 *count systems* but are less prone to error.

1228 *Activity leader*: the collective noun for *snorkelling* guides and instructors.

1229 *Beaufort Wind Force Scale* (also referred to as the “*Beaufort Scale*”): a system for estimating wind strengths
1230 without the use of instruments, based on the effects wind has on the physical environment.

1231 *Buddy pair system*: [refer section 7.4.5.4](#)

1232 *Buoyancy*: the ability or tendency of something to float in water. A snorkeller's *buoyancy* is described as
1233 positive, neutral and *negative buoyancy* (see individual definitions).

1234 *Buoyancy aids*: an item or device that provides additional *buoyancy*. Aids may include a snorkelling vest,
1235 kick boards, noodles etc.

1236 *Competence*: ability to apply knowledge and skills to achieve expected results.

1237 *Competent person*: someone who has the *competence* to perform specific functions.

1238 *Confined water*: a *swimming pool* or a naturally formed water site no larger in area than approximately an
 1239 Olympic size *swimming pool* with a depth of less than 5 metres, and which offers *swimming pool* like
 1240 conditions with respect to water clarity and calmness. For area sizing of naturally formed water sites, an
 1241 Olympic size *swimming pool* is used.

1242 *Count system*: a means of confirming if all participants are present or not. Used to confirm if all participants
 1243 are accounted for and/or have returned from *snorkelling*. There are two types of *count system*, see passive
 1244 *count system* and *active count system*.

1245 *Flash Flooding*: is flooding in a localised area with a rapid onset, usually as the result of relatively short
 1246 intense bursts of rainfall.

1247 *Free diving*: *snorkel diving* with the primary focus of holding ones breath for as long as possible and/or
 1248 diving to the greatest depth possible.

1249 GPGs: Good Practice Guide(s) – See Introduction for details.

1250 *Higher risk participants*: Refer section 4.1 Participant considerations.

1251 *Hypoxic blackout*: see *shallow water blackout*.

1252 *Knot(s)*: A measurement of speed used in nautical situations. One knot is one *nautical mile* per hour. (1
 1253 Knot = 1.852 Kilometres per hour.)

1254 *Land manager*: the party that has legal responsibility for managing a particular environment. This may
 1255 include the power to restrict access or place conditions and/or requirements on anyone accessing that
 1256 particular environment. Includes managers of rivers, waterways and other bodies of water (also see *land*
 1257 *owner*).

1258 *Lookout*: a suitably briefed *responsible person* who monitors the participants during the activity. This may
 1259 or may not be an *activity leader*.

1260 *Marine safety agency*: the statutory organisation that regulates the safety of watercraft and their
 1261 operations, in the jurisdiction the activity is conducted.

1262 *Nautical Mile*: a *nautical mile* (NM) is a unit of distance equal to 1,852 metres (1.852km).

1263 *Neutral buoyancy*: the tendency of something to remain floating at its current depth in water. The weight is
 1264 equal to the water it displaces so it neither rises or sinks.

1265 *Negative buoyancy*: the tendency of something to sink towards the bottom in water. The weight is heavier
 1266 than the water it displaces.

1267 *Open water*: any body of water that is not *confined water*. (See definition *confined water*.)

1268 *Passive count systems*: a *count system* that requires little participation by the people being counted. (For
 1269 example, a head count.) These systems tend to be quicker and less intrusive but are also more susceptible to
 1270 error. If passive systems are used, the count must be conducted twice and wherever possible by different
 1271 people.

1272 *Personal thermal protection*: clothing worn to mitigate the effects of the temperature of the environment.

1273 *Positive buoyancy*: the tendency of something to rise to the surface of water and float. The weight is lighter
 1274 than the water it displaces.

1275 *Responsible person*: a *competent person* who is able to complete delegated elements or tasks during an
 1276 activity that does not require the activity-specific competence of an *activity leader*.

1277 SCUBA: acronym for Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.

1278 SCUBA Diving: being submerging and swimming below the water surface with the aid of compressed gas to
 1279 breath.

- 1280 *Shallow water blackout*: a loss of consciousness under water caused by a lack of oxygen to the brain
1281 following breath-holding. (Also known as *hypoxic blackout*.)
- 1282 *Snorkel*: a short tube through which a person swimming just under the water surface can breath through.
- 1283 *Snorkel swimming*: *snorkelling* on the surface of the water.
- 1284 *Snorkel diving*: *snorkelling* involving submerging and swimming below the water surface while holding ones
1285 breath.
- 1286 *Snorkelling*: swimming with the aid of a *snorkel* to breath.
- 1287 *Supervision ratio*: the number of *participants* that an *activity leader* may supervision, expressed as a ratio.
1288 For example, the ratio 10:1 means 10 participants to 1 *activity leader*.
- 1289 *Swimming pool*: an artificial pool for swimming in. For area sizing of *confined water*, an Olympic size
1290 *swimming pool* is used.
- 1291 *Trigger point*: a particular circumstance or situation that causes an action to occur.

1292 Acronyms

1293 The following acronyms are used in this Good Practice Guide.

- 1294 AAAS: Australian Adventure Activity Standard
- 1295 AED: Automated External Defibrillator
- 1296 BOM: Bureau of Meteorology
- 1297 EPIRB: Emergency Position-Indicating Radio Beacon
- 1298 GPG: Good Practice Guide
- 1299 ISO: International Organization for Standardization
- 1300 NAUI: National Association of Underwater Instructors
- 1301 OCA: Outdoor Council of Australia
- 1302 PADI: Professional Association of Diving Instructors
- 1303 PLB: Personal Locator Beacon
- 1304 RAID: Rebreather Association of International Divers
- 1305 SCUBA: Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
- 1306 SDI: SCUBA Diving International
- 1307 SSI: SCUBA Schools International
- 1308 TDI: Technical Diving International
- 1309 UV: Ultraviolet

1310 Appendices

1311 Appendix A Principal legal obligations

1312 See Core GPG (Appendix A).

- 1313 **Appendix B Management of Risk**
1314 *See Core GPG (Appendix B).*
- 1315 **Appendix C Summary of AS ISO 31000 – risk**
1316 **management**
1317 *See Core GPG (Appendix C).*
- 1318 **Appendix D Risk management process**
1319 *See Core GPG (Appendix D).*
- 1320 **Appendix E Risk analysis information**
1321 *See Core GPG (Appendix E).*
- 1322 **Appendix F Risk management plan template**
1323 **examples**
1324 *See Core GPG (Appendix F).*
- 1325 **Appendix G Dynamic risk assessment process**
1326 *See Core GPG (Appendix G).*
- 1327 **Appendix H Benefit–Risk Assessment**
1328 *See Core GPG (Appendix H).*
- 1329 **Appendix I Emergency management planning**
1330 **framework**
1331 *See Core GPG (Appendix I).*
- 1332 **Appendix J Health & wellbeing considerations for**
1333 **risk management**
1334 *See Core GPG (Appendix J).*
- 1335 **Appendix K Privacy of information**
1336 *See Core GPG (Appendix K).*
- 1337 **Appendix L Environmental sustainability procedures**
1338 *See Core GPG (Appendix L).*
- 1339 **Appendix M First aid and medication considerations**
1340 *See Core GPG (Appendix M).*
- 1341 **Appendix N Knowledge, skill and experience —**
1342 **Leader**
1343 Each knowledge, skill and experience requirement in this appendix is to be applied by the provider within
1344 the context of the planned snorkelling activity — including the activity variant and setting in which it is
1345 delivered. 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 snorkelling; the generic Leader knowledge, skill and experience is set out in Core GPG Appendix M.

Activity scope and leader requirements

Snorkelling activities span a range of water zones and participant types, each presenting a distinct hazard profile. The activity may be conducted in pools, protected harbours, sheltered bays, open coastal waters and reef environments. Participants may range from confident adult swimmers to children and individuals with limited aquatic experience.

The table below identifies the primary activity variants and their implications for the technical requirements of the Leader role. A Leader must hold competence appropriate to the water zone and participant group in which they are operating.

Table N.1: Activity variants and operating settings — snorkelling

Activity variant	Setting and characteristics
Confined or protected water snorkelling	Pool, harbour, sheltered bay or designated confined-water snorkelling venue. Shore-based rescue access. Stable conditions with minimal current or swell.
Open coastal and reef snorkelling	Snorkelling in open coastal waters, reef environments or sites subject to tidal current, swell or surge. Marine stinger risk varies by region and season.
Higher-risk participant groups	Activities involving children, non-swimmers, weak swimmers or participants with medical conditions relevant to aquatic activity.
Night snorkelling	Snorkelling in low-light or dark conditions, typically in coastal or reef environments.

The domains below contain only the requirements specific to snorkelling; they do not repeat the generic content of Core GPG Appendix M.

Safety and risk management

the Leader identifies and manages hazards specific to snorkelling activities, including drowning risk, shallow water blackout, marine stingers, cold water and current hazards.

Knowledge

The Leader understands the specific drowning risk profile for snorkelling, the mechanism and rescue response for shallow water blackout, and the marine stinger, cold water and current hazards relevant to the environments and seasons in which they operate.

This should include, but is not limited to: the snorkelling drowning risk profile including that drowning can occur without visible distress signs; shallow water blackout mechanism, warning sign absence and time-critical rescue response; marine stinger identification and first aid for jellyfish, bluebottle, Irukandji, stonefish and other relevant species; cold water shock, hypothermia progression and thermal protection requirements; current, surge and wave action hazard effects on group management; in-water visibility risk indicators; and higher-risk participant categories and applicable risk mitigation.

Skills

The Leader applies continuous visual monitoring, hazard assessment and emergency response skills to manage the specific safety risks of snorkelling activities.

This should include, but is not limited to: identifying and monitoring marine hazards, current and surge throughout the activity and adjusting participant placement and supervision in response; maintaining

1378 continuous visual monitoring of all participants including those submerged; recognising signs of participant
1379 difficulty; responding immediately to shallow water blackout; and identifying and managing higher-risk
1380 participants using buoyancy aids, buddy pairs and colour-coded equipment.

1381 **Experience recommended**

1382 The Leader has supervised snorkelling groups in marine environments across a range of conditions, water
1383 zones and participant risk profiles, and has identified and responded to participant difficulty and drowning
1384 risk events.

1385 This should include but is not limited to: supervising snorkelling groups across a range of conditions, water
1386 zones and participant risk profiles; identifying and responding to participant difficulty and drowning risk
1387 events; and implementing risk mitigation for higher-risk participants including buoyancy management and
1388 buddy pair systems.

1389 **Technical activity leadership**

1390 the Leader applies technical knowledge, equipment management, head count and in-water rescue skills
1391 specific to snorkelling activities.

1392 **Knowledge**

1393 The Leader understands the equipment selection, fitting and management requirements for snorkelling,
1394 the head count and buddy pair systems required for group supervision, and the in-water rescue techniques
1395 applicable to the water zones used in the program.

1396 This should include, but is not limited to: mask, snorkel and fin types, selection and fitting; buoyancy aid
1397 and wetsuit selection for participant risk profiles and water temperatures; head count systems (passive and
1398 active) and their frequency requirements; buddy pair briefing and monitoring requirements; lookout
1399 briefing including scanning techniques, rotation requirements and responsible-person lookout limitations;
1400 in-water rescue techniques for conscious and unconscious snorkellers; rescue equipment requirements;
1401 night snorkelling requirements; and colour-coded equipment identification systems and briefing
1402 requirements.

1403 **Skills**

1404 The Leader applies equipment fitting, head count, buddy pair management, lookout coordination and in-
1405 water rescue skills across the water zones and participant groups used in the program.

1406 This should include, but is not limited to: fitting masks, snorkels, fins and buoyancy aids correctly for each
1407 participant; conducting head counts at appropriate intervals; establishing and monitoring buddy pairs;
1408 briefing and positioning lookouts; performing in-water rescue of conscious and unconscious snorkellers;
1409 performing emergency response for shallow water blackout; and positioning the group for effective line-of-
1410 sight supervision.

1411 **Experience recommended**

1412 The Leader has guided snorkelling groups across water zones and participant ability levels, conducted in-
1413 water rescues or practice scenarios, and managed head count and monitoring systems for groups of varying
1414 size.

1415 This should include but is not limited to: guiding snorkelling groups across water zones and participant
1416 ability levels; conducting in-water rescues or practice scenarios; managing head count and monitoring
1417 systems for large groups; and implementing buddy pair and colour-coded identification systems in field
1418 settings.

1419 **Leadership and group management**

1420 the Leader manages continuous visual monitoring and coordinated supervision of snorkelling groups,
1421 including submerged participants and multiple activity leaders and lookouts.

1422 **Knowledge**

1423 The Leader understands the continuous visual monitoring requirements for snorkelling groups, including
1424 the challenge of identifying submerged participants and the coordination required to achieve unbroken
1425 monitoring coverage across the activity area.

1426 This should include, but is not limited to: the supervision challenge of monitoring partially and fully
1427 submerged participants without gaps in coverage; colour-coded equipment identification systems and
1428 briefing requirements for activity leaders and lookouts; and coordination of multiple leaders and lookouts
1429 to eliminate coverage gaps.

1430 **Skills**

1431 The Leader applies positioning and coordination skills to maintain continuous group coverage in the activity
1432 area.

1433 This should include, but is not limited to: positioning within or adjacent to the water to maintain line-of-
1434 sight coverage of all snorkellers simultaneously; and coordinating multiple activity leaders and lookouts to
1435 ensure unbroken coverage of the activity area.

1436 **Experience recommended**

1437 The Leader has managed snorkelling groups using lookout support and colour-coded identification systems
1438 in field settings.

1439 This should include but is not limited to: managing snorkelling groups with lookout support and colour-
1440 coded identification systems; and coordinating multiple activity leaders in marine snorkelling environments.

1441 **Decision-making and judgement**

1442 the Leader applies snorkelling-specific proceed, modify and cancel triggers, including participant screening
1443 criteria and marine conditions assessment.

1444 **Knowledge**

1445 The Leader understands the specific proceed, modify and cancel triggers for snorkelling and the participant
1446 screening criteria that determine whether individual participation should proceed, be modified or be
1447 declined.

1448 This should include, but is not limited to: proceed, modify and cancel triggers including declining visibility,
1449 increasing swell or current, deteriorating weather, stinger presence, participant fatigue and cold; and
1450 participant screening criteria including minimum swimming standards and modification procedures for
1451 individuals who do not meet them.

1452 **Skills**

1453 The Leader applies site condition assessment and participant screening decision skills to make and
1454 communicate proceed, modify or cancel decisions throughout the activity.

1455 This should include, but is not limited to: assessing water visibility, current, swell and marine hazard
1456 presence before and during the activity and communicating proceed, modify and cancel decisions; and
1457 applying participant screening criteria and managing individual participant modifications during the activity.

1458 **Experience recommended**

1459 The Leader has made proceed, modify and cancel decisions in response to changing conditions and applied
1460 participant screening criteria in snorkelling settings.

1461 This should include but is not limited to: making proceed, modify and cancel decisions in response to
1462 changing marine conditions; and applying participant screening criteria and managing individual participant
1463 modifications in snorkelling settings.

1464 Planning and program management

1465 the Leader manages pre-activity site survey and site access planning requirements specific to snorkelling
1466 that extend beyond the generic planning framework in the Core.

1467 Knowledge

1468 The Leader understands the site survey requirements and site access and permit obligations for snorkelling
1469 activities in the environments used.

1470 This should include, but is not limited to: site survey requirements including in-water assessment of
1471 visibility, current, surge, marine stinger presence, entry and exit safety and depth profile; and reef access
1472 permits, marine park requirements and land manager access requirements for the specific sites used.

1473 Skills

1474 The Leader applies in-water site survey skills and permit management to snorkelling activity preparation.

1475 This should include, but is not limited to: conducting pre-activity site surveys including entering the water
1476 to assess conditions and hazards before participant entry; and confirming site access and permit
1477 requirements for the planned activity.

1478 Experience recommended

1479 The Leader has conducted pre-activity site surveys across marine environments and has managed site
1480 access and permit requirements for snorkelling activities.

1481 This should include but is not limited to: conducting pre-activity site surveys across a range of marine
1482 environments and conditions; and managing site access and permit requirements for snorkelling activities.

1483 Environment and place-based knowledge

1484 the Leader applies environmental knowledge specific to snorkelling environments, including water zone
1485 classification, tidal patterns, marine stinger distribution and reef ecology.

1486 Knowledge

1487 The Leader understands the water zone classifications and supervision implications for snorkelling, the tidal
1488 and current dynamics of the sites used, marine stinger distribution patterns, and the reef ecology and
1489 minimum-impact requirements applicable to the program.

1490 This should include, but is not limited to: water zone classifications (confined, snorkelling, open marine) and
1491 their supervision implications; tidal patterns, current types and their effect on drift and exit-point access;
1492 marine stinger distribution by season, region and temperature; reef, rocky reef and seagrass ecology and
1493 minimum-impact practice; and site-specific hazards including underwater topography, surge channels and
1494 moored watercraft.

1495 Skills

1496 The Leader applies tidal and current assessment, marine stinger risk identification and minimum-impact
1497 briefing skills to snorkelling activity planning and delivery.

1498 This should include, but is not limited to: reading and interpreting tidal information, swell forecasts and
1499 current patterns for the site; identifying marine stinger risk and implementing protective measures; and
1500 briefing participants on local marine species, hazards and minimum-impact practice.

1501 Experience recommended

1502 The Leader has operated at snorkelling sites across multiple seasons and conditions, including sites with
1503 tidal current, surge and marine stinger risk.

1504 This should include but is not limited to: operating at snorkelling sites across multiple seasons and
1505 conditions including tidal current, surge and marine stinger environments; and managing site-specific
1506 hazards in marine snorkelling settings.

1507 Communication and interpersonal skills

1508 Not modified for snorkelling — the requirements of Core GPG Appendix M (domain M.7) apply in full.

1509 Self-management and professional practice

1510 Not modified for snorkelling — the requirements of Core GPG Appendix M (domain M.8) apply in full.

1511 Outdoor living, activity and travel skills

1512 Not modified for snorkelling — the requirements of Core GPG Appendix M (domain M.9) apply in full.

1513 Appendix O Knowledge, skill and experience — 1514 Assistant Leader

1515 This appendix sets out the knowledge, skill and experience expected of a person carrying the Assistant
1516 Leader (snorkelling support) role described in Section 8.2. The role is structured against the same nine
1517 domains as Appendix M; the requirements of Appendix M apply, with the variation that each domain is
1518 applied at the level of the delegated tasks, under the direction of the Leader and within the provider's
1519 systems. Note: the Assistant Leader role is distinct from a lookout who is a responsible person — a
1520 responsible-person lookout does not hold the responsibilities of an Assistant Leader and must not be
1521 included in supervision ratio calculations. This appendix contains only the requirements specific to
1522 snorkelling; see also Core GPG Appendix N.

1523 Safety and risk management

1524 As for Safety and risk management — applied at the level of the delegated tasks. The Assistant Leader must
1525 be able to identify drowning risk, marine hazards and higher-risk participants in their assigned monitoring
1526 area, follow the Leader's safety procedures and contribute to emergency response under direction. They
1527 are not required to lead risk-management planning for the whole activity.

1528 Technical activity leadership

1529 As for Technical activity leadership — applied to the delegated tasks only. The Assistant Leader must hold
1530 the snorkelling supervision skills, equipment knowledge and in-water rescue capability sufficient for the
1531 water zone and participant group they are assigned to monitor. This includes: correct equipment fitting and
1532 buoyancy assessment for participants in their group; continuous monitoring of participants in their assigned
1533 area; participation in head count procedures; in-water rescue techniques for conscious and unconscious
1534 snorkellers; and briefed lookout or buddy-pair monitoring duties as directed by the Leader.

1535 Leadership and group management

1536 As for Leadership and group management — applied to the sub-group or monitoring area assigned by the
1537 Leader. The Assistant Leader maintains continuous visual monitoring of their assigned participants, uses
1538 colour-coded identification to track higher-risk participants, and reports changed conditions or participant
1539 welfare concerns promptly to the Leader.

1540 Decision-making and judgement

1541 As for Decision-making and judgement — limited to the scope of decisions delegated by the Leader. The
1542 Assistant Leader must recognise deteriorating conditions or developing participant risk and communicate
1543 these promptly to the Leader, and make immediate safety decisions within their assigned monitoring area
1544 while referring broader activity management decisions to the snorkelling guide.

1545 Planning and program management

1546 As for Planning and program management — limited to supporting the Leader's plans. The Assistant Leader
1547 must be familiar with the activity plan, monitoring arrangements, head count procedures and emergency
1548 management plan, and coordinate their assigned elements within those plans.

1549 Environment and place-based knowledge

1550 As for Environment and place-based knowledge — sufficient for the assigned monitoring area. The
1551 Assistant Leader must have sufficient knowledge of the site's tidal patterns, hazards and marine stinger risk
1552 to carry out their monitoring and supervisory duties safely.

1553 Communication and interpersonal skills

1554 As for Communication and interpersonal skills — applied to delegated communications. The Assistant
1555 Leader must communicate promptly with the Leader about anything affecting safe delivery and brief
1556 participants on group conduct within their assigned area.

1557 Self-management and professional practice

1558 As for Self-management and professional practice — applied to the Assistant Leader role. The Assistant
1559 Leader must self-assess fitness for work, maintain snorkelling supervision and in-water rescue currency
1560 appropriate to the water zones in which they operate, and operate within professional and ethical
1561 boundaries.

1562 Outdoor living, activity and travel skills

1563 As for Outdoor living, activity and travel skills — applied to the delegated tasks and activity context. The
1564 Assistant Leader requirements for this domain follow Core GPG Appendix M (domain M.9) as applied to the
1565 snorkelling activity context.

1566 Appendix P Recognition of competence: pathways to 1567 verification

1568 See Core GPG Appendix P. The recognition-of-competence pathways — formal qualifications and training,
1569 provider-based assessment and prior learning — apply without modification to snorkelling activities. For
1570 snorkelling, industry qualifications in aquatic supervision, lifesaving or dive education may be relevant to
1571 formal-pathway verification, but are not mandatory — capability verified through provider-based
1572 assessment is equally valid where it addresses the requirements of Appendix M.

1573 Appendix Q Indicative experience bands and 1574 evidence expectations

1575 See Core GPG Appendix Q. The indicative experience bands and evidence expectations support the
1576 provider's verification of leader experience for snorkelling activities. When applying the bands, providers
1577 should have regard to the water zone, the participant risk profile and the complexity of the marine
1578 environments in which the leader has operated.

1579 Appendix R Australian Bureau of Meteorology 1580 weather warnings and trigger points

1581 See Core GPG (Appendix R).

Appendix S Program planning matrix: leader-matching tool

See Core GPG Appendix O. The program planning matrix (leader-matching tool) applies without modification to snorkelling activities. Providers rate the three factors — provider support and backup availability, environment and proximity, and activity complexity — and read off the recommended minimum leader configuration. For snorkelling, activity complexity is informed by the water zone and participant profile (see Appendix M, Activity scope and leader requirements). When applying the matrix to snorkelling, providers should note that open marine environments, activities with higher-risk participant groups (including children and weak swimmers), and night snorkelling may require a higher level of Leader experience and capability even in supported settings.

Appendix T Beaufort wind force scale

See the Core GPG.

Appendix U Weather information

See the Core GPG.

Weather warnings

The following table details the:

- current Australian weather warnings
- associated possible weather for each warning
- mainland warning trigger points for issuing warnings for strong winds and hail.

Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and associated weather Table:

Table U.2: Weather 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		

Marine related wind warnings:

“Strong winds warning” For winds averaging from 26 knots up to 33 knots (48 km/hr to 61 km/hr)

“Gale warning” For winds averaging above 33 knots up to 47 knots (above 61 km/hr to 87 km/hr)

“Storm Force Wind Warning” Winds averaging above 47 knots and up to 63 knots (above 87 km/hr to 116 km/hr)

“Hurricane Force Wind Warning” Winds averaging above 63 knots or more (above 116 km/hr).

Bureau of Meteorology information:

The Bureau of Meteorology also provides a range of services and information can be found at:

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

1613 <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/WeatherGuideLand.pdf>

1614 <http://www.bom.gov.au/marine/knowledge-centre/hazards.shtml>

1615 Appendix V Snorkelling and diving related 1616 information to consider

1617 *See the Core GPG.*

1618 Snorkelling

1619 The following may have relevant information to consider:

1620 Australia:

- 1621 • Office of Industrial Relations, Workplace health and Safety Queensland:
 - 1622 o Recreational Diving, Recreational Technical Diving and Snorkelling Code of Practice 2018
 - 1623 o Snorkel Safety: A guide for workers (undated)
- 1624 • AS/NZS 2299.3:2003 Occupational diving operations – Recreational industry diving and snorkelling
- 1625 operations.

1626 International:

- 1627 • ISO 13289: 2011 Recreational Diving Services – Requirements for the conduct of snorkelling
- 1628 excursions
- 1629 • ISO 13970: 2011 Recreational Diving Services – Requirements for the training of recreational
- 1630 snorkelling guides

1631 Diver training agency standards

1632 The following diver training agency standards may have relevant snorkelling information to consider.

1633 Diver training agency standards are standards developed by technical dive training organisations.

1634 Technical dive training organisations may include:

- 1635 • National Association of Underwater Instructors (NAUI)
- 1636 • Professional Association of Diving Instructors (PADI)
- 1637 • Rebreather Association of International Divers (RAID)
- 1638 • SCUBA Diving International (SDI)
- 1639 • SCUBA Schools International (SSI)
- 1640 • Technical Diving International (TDI)
- 1641 • or those based on the minimum international standards recognised by the Recreational SCUBA
- 1642 Training Council.

1643 Appendix W Equipment

1644 Snorkelling equipment

1645 *Snorkelling* equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1646 • booties
- 1647 • fins
- 1648 • gloves
- 1649 • hoods
- 1650 • mask
- 1651 • snorkel
- 1652 • weight system or device to control *buoyancy*
- 1653 • wet suit.

1654 Additional *buoyancy aids* may include but is not limited to:

- 1655 • kick boards
- 1656 • life rings
- 1657 • snorkelling vests
- 1658 • tubes (such as noodles).

1659 Group management equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1660 • coloured vests or ribbon (refer [7.4.5.2 Easy identification](#))
- 1661 • area markers, boundary lines and floats
- 1662 • marine navigation signal flag(s).

1663 Rescue equipment

1664 (Also see 6.1.3.1 Rescue equipment.)

1665 Rescue equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1666 • appropriate hoist systems for lifting unconscious or heavy people from the water
- 1667 • dive knife and/or tool
- 1668 • life ring
- 1669 • rescue tube/float/buoy with tow line
- 1670 • throw bag.

1671 Shark emergency equipment

1672 Additional emergency equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1673 • shark deterrent device (electrical or chemical).

1674 Emergency response equipment

1675 Emergency equipment must include but is not limited to:

- 1676 • appropriate rescue equipment (see [6.1.3 Emergency equipment](#) section)
- 1677 • an appropriate communication device (see [Core GPG - Communication equipment](#), above section [6.1.5 Communications equipment](#) and [A4.5 Communication equipment](#) below)
- 1679 • first aid kit (see [Core GPG - First aid equipment and medication](#)) in waterproof storage
- 1680 • documentation (see the [Core GPG - Emergency management planning](#) and [Activity leader required documentation](#))
- 1682 • a waterproof method of storing and carrying documentation and communications equipment.

1683 Additional first aid equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1684 • automated external defibrillator (AED)
- 1685 • jellyfish sting first aid supplies
- 1686 • medical oxygen supply.

1687 Communication equipment

1688 Communications equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1689 • emergency position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB)
- 1690 • flares
- 1691 • light source (e.g. torch, strobe light, chemical light stick)
- 1692 • mobile phone
- 1693 • personal locator beacon (PLB)
- 1694 • satellite phone/communicator
- 1695 • signalling mirror
- 1696 • sea emergency water dye
- 1697 • two-way radio (marine or UHF as appropriate)
- 1698 • whistles appropriate to water environment.

1699 **Navigation equipment**

1700 Navigation equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1701 • appropriate maps
- 1702 • compass
- 1703 • GPS navigation unit
- 1704 • spare batteries for GPS
- 1705 • waterproof watch.

1706 **Other equipment**

1707 **Repair kit**

1708 Repair equipment may include but is not limited to:

- 1709 • tools and materials appropriate to assist repairs.

1710

1711 Personal items

1712 Personal items may include but is not limited to:

- 1713 • contact lens or glasses
- 1714 • drink bottle
- 1715 • lip balm
- 1716 • medication
- 1717 • personal hygiene products
- 1718 • sunglasses
- 1719 • sunscreen.

1720 Clothing

1721 Clothing may include but is not limited to:

- 1722 • appropriate footwear
- 1723 • *personal thermal protection* clothing (e.g. wetsuits, dry suits, thermal underwear etc.)
- 1724 • swimming caps, sun hats
- 1725 • sun protection clothing (e.g. 'rash' shirts, long sleeve shirts, board shorts, long pants, etc.)
- 1726 • wind protection clothing (e.g. spray jacket, rain jacket etc.).

1727 Other

1728 An appropriate supply of drinking water must be available.

1729 Other items may include:

- 1730 • food related equipment (e.g. storage, preparation, cooking, serving and cleaning)
- 1731 • hygiene related equipment (e.g. hand wash system etc.)
- 1732 • toileting and personal hygiene systems and products (e.g. toileting removal or disposal system, personal
- 1733 hygiene product removal or disposal system etc.)
- 1734 • waste (e.g. rubbish, food waste etc.) removal system
- 1735 • camping related equipment (refer Camping_GPG).

1736 Appendix X Marine safety terminology for waters 1737 throughout Australia

1738 Terminology used in this document

1739 *Confined water*: a *swimming pool* or a naturally formed water site no larger in area than approximately an
1740 Olympic size *swimming pool* with a depth of less than 5 metres, and which offers *swimming pool* like
1741 conditions with respect to water clarity and calmness. For area sizing of naturally formed water sites, an
1742 Olympic size *swimming pool* is used.

1743 *Open water*: any body of water that is not *confined water*.

1744 Terminology used by jurisdiction

1745 Marine safety agencies throughout Australia use a range of terms that define the type of water that
1746 *snorkelling* might occur on. The following is a list of terminology (as at August 2017).

1747 *Table X.3: Terminology used by jurisdiction*

Jurisdiction	Terms used to describe waters
NSW	Inland waterways, enclosed waters, open waters
NT	Inland waters, intermediate waters (including sheltered waters) and open waters
QLD	Smooth, partially smooth, beyond smooth and partially smooth (open water)
SA	Protected, semi-protected and unprotected
TAS	Smooth, sheltered and coastal
VIC	Inland, enclosed and coastal
WA	Protected and unprotected

Terminology used in other good practice guides

Coastal Waters (Also known as open water, unprotected): All waters other than inland waters or enclosed waters and extending a specific number of nautical miles seaward. Refer to the relevant *marine safety agency* for the jurisdiction of operation for details. (Jurisdictions define the coastal waters number of nautical miles seaward differently but generally this is between 2 and 3 nautical miles.)

Inland waters (Also known as smooth waters, protected waters or inland waterways): waters that include rivers (inside the seaward entrance), creeks, canals, lakes, reservoirs and any similar waters either naturally formed or man-made and which are either publicly or privately owned, but does not include any navigable rivers, creeks or streams within declared port waters. Refer to the relevant *marine safety agency* for the jurisdiction of operation for details of declared port waters.

Enclosed waters (also known as partially smooth, semi-protected, intermediate and sheltered.): waters that include enclosed coastal bays, harbours, declared port waters and similar waters that are generally offer some form of limited protection from the environment or weather. Enclosed waters can be the interface between inland waters and/or coastal waters. The relevant *marine safety agency* for the jurisdiction of operation will generally declare what areas are considered enclosed waters. Refer to the relevant *marine safety agency* for details.

Open waters: All waters that are not coastal waters, inland waters or enclosed waters. (Note that the Snorkelling GPG has a **different definition** of open waters – see definition in section [A5.1 above.](#))

Appendix Y Water entry and exit

Procedures must address risks associated with entry into water (e.g. from rocks, jetties, etc.)

Entry into the water must be feet first.

Procedures to assess the suitability and safety of the water entry and exit must be used.

Appropriate assessment by a suitably *competent* person must be undertaken of the entry and exit area.

Instruction on how to avoid any entry or exit hazards must be provided.

Considerations when assessing the entry and exit area access must include:

- difficulty and exposure of access routes
- exposure to potential falls from height
- the features of the entry areas
- potential for unexpected or uncontrolled entry
- the hazards and obstacles
- the spacing between and the progress of participants so they do not interfere with each others entry.

Considerations when assessing the entry and exit area water must include:

- depth of the water
- obstacles and hazards in the water
- submerged obstacles and their depth
- waves and swell
- current and the speed of the water
- where currents and water flows (e.g. flowing into hazards)
- clarity of water to see if obstacles are present.

Entry into the water activity management considerations should include but is not limited to:

- appropriate assessment of the activity entry area
- jumping is actively prevented and discouraged
- participant management ensures they do not interfere with each others entry

- 1792 • the entry area is clear of other people before each person enters
- 1793 • actively managing with *direct supervision* entry into difficult situations
- 1794 • providing suitable instruction in appropriator entry methods (e.g. seated entry, step off/giant stride)
- 1795 • providing suitable instruction in keeping mask and *snorkel* in place.

1796 Detailed Contents

1797	Traditional Owner Acknowledgement.....	2
1798	Copyright.....	2
1799	Disclaimer.....	2
1800	Version details.....	2
1801	Foreword.....	2
1802	Table of Contents.....	4
1803	List of Figures.....	4
1804	List of Tables.....	4
1805	<i>Preface</i>.....	4
1806	About these documents.....	4
1807	Dependent Participants.....	4
1808	Does the Standard and Good Practice Guides apply to me?.....	5
1809	Are they legally binding?.....	5
1810	Structure of the Standard and Good Practice Guides.....	7
1811	Interpretation of the Standard and Good Practice Guides.....	8
1812	Creation.....	8
1813	<i>1 Introduction</i>.....	9
1814	1.1 Snorkelling.....	9
1815	1.2 Exclusions.....	9
1816	1.3 Related activities information.....	10
1817	<i>2 Management of Risk</i>.....	10
1818	2.2 Context Matters.....	10
1819	2.3 Risk management framework and process.....	10
1820	2.4 Risk management plan.....	10
1821	2.5 Dynamic risk assessment.....	11
1822	2.6 Incident reporting.....	11
1823	<i>3 Planning</i>.....	11
1824	3.1 Management and approval of activities.....	11

1825	3.2 Activity plans.....	11
1826	3.3 Group size.....	12
1827	3.4 Cultural, environmental and historical values.....	12
1828	3.5 Emergency management planning.....	12
1829	3.5.1 Emergency management plan.....	12
1830	3.5.2 Reporting notifiable incidents.....	12
1831	3.6 Activity leader required documentation.....	12
1832	4 Diversity, equity and inclusion.....	12
1833	4.1 Diversity of participants and leaders.....	13
1834	4.2 Inclusive practice.....	13
1835	4.3 Cultural safety.....	13
1836	4.4 Psychological safety and dignity.....	13
1837	4.5 Information, communication and consent.....	13
1838	4.6 Leader competence.....	13
1839	4.7 Concerns, complaints and review.....	13
1840	5 Participants.....	13
1841	5.1 Participant considerations.....	14
1842	5.2 Information provided pre-activity.....	14
1843	5.3 Activity briefing.....	15
1844	5.4 Supervision and management during the activity.....	15
1845	5.4.1 Supervision and group size considerations.....	15
1846	5.4.2 Recommended supervision.....	15
1847	5.4.3 Snorkelling lookouts.....	15
1848	5.4.4 Activity briefing.....	17
1849	5.4.5 Knowledge of the site.....	17
1850	5.4.6 Buoyancy of participants.....	17
1851	5.4.7 Higher risk participants considerations.....	17
1852	5.4.8 Higher risk participants – risk mitigation.....	17
1853	5.4.9 Head counts.....	19
1854	5.4.10 Night snorkels.....	19
1855	5.4.11 Other activity management procedures.....	19
1856	5.5 Pre-activity communication.....	20
1857	5.6 Participation restrictions.....	20
1858	5.7 Vulnerable participants.....	20
1859	5.8 Health and wellbeing.....	20
1860	5.9 Privacy of information.....	20

1861	5.10 Activity leader to participants ratios.....	20
1862	6 Environment.....	20
1863	6.1 Environment related planning.....	20
1864	6.2 Weather and water conditions information.....	21
1865	6.2.1 Weather information.....	21
1866	6.2.2 Water conditions information.....	21
1867	6.3 Snorkelling conditions.....	21
1868	6.3.1 Weather.....	21
1869	6.3.2 Water conditions.....	22
1870	6.3.3 Water quality.....	22
1871	6.3.4 Entry and exit.....	23
1872	6.4 Lightning.....	23
1873	6.5 Flooding.....	23
1874	6.6 Weather and water condition trigger points.....	23
1875	6.7 Marine safety agency, land managers and traditional owners.....	24
1876	6.7.1 Marine safety agency and land managers requirements.....	24
1877	6.7.2 Marine navigation requirements.....	24
1878	6.7.3 Traditional owners.....	24
1879	6.8 Environmental conditions, safety and impact management.....	24
1880	6.9 Bushfires, prescribed fire and fire danger.....	24
1881	6.10 Tree safety.....	24
1882	6.11 Drinking water safety.....	25
1883	6.12 Food safety.....	25
1884	6.13 Wildlife safety.....	25
1885	6.13.1 Wildlife safety considerations.....	25
1886	6.13.2 Jellyfish.....	25
1887	6.13.3 Sharks.....	25
1888	6.13.4 Wildlife swims.....	25
1889	6.14 Environmental sustainability procedures.....	26
1890	6.14.1 Plan ahead and prepare.....	26
1891	6.15 Land owner and/or manager requirements.....	27
1892	6.16 Water environments.....	27
1893	7 Equipment and logistics.....	27
1894	7.1 Framework for equipment requirements.....	27
1895	7.2 Equipment requirements.....	27
1896	7.2.1 Personal attire.....	27
1897	7.2.2 Activity equipment.....	27

1898	7.2.3 Emergency equipment.....	28
1899	7.2.4 Shark emergency equipment.....	28
1900	7.2.5 Communications equipment.....	28
1901	7.2.6 Navigation and group management equipment.....	28
1902	7.2.7 Other equipment.....	29
1903	7.3 First aid equipment and medication.....	29
1904	7.4 Use of equipment.....	29
1905	7.5 Transport.....	29
1906	7.6 Maintenance of equipment.....	29
1907	7.7 Storage of equipment.....	30
1908	8 Responsibilities and roles.....	30
1909	8.1 Responsibilities and roles framework.....	30
1910	8.2 Naming conventions.....	30
1911	8.3 Provider responsibilities to prepare and support leaders.....	30
1912	8.4 Leader responsibilities and role descriptions.....	30
1913	8.4.1 Leader — operational responsibility in the field.....	31
1914	8.4.2 Assistant Leader — delegated responsibility.....	31
1915	8.4.3 Support person.....	31
1916	8.4.4 Leader fitness for work.....	31
1917	8.5 Leader readiness and capability.....	31
1918	8.5.1 Leadership knowledge, skill and experience.....	31
1919	8.5.2 Provider responsibilities under the Outdoor Leader KSE Framework.....	32
1920	8.5.3 First aid.....	32
1921	8.5.4 Knowledge and skill acquisition.....	32
1922	8.5.5 Verification.....	32
1923	8.5.6 Currency.....	32
1924	8.5.7 Verification and Currency Records.....	32
1925	Glossary.....	32
1926	Appendices.....	35
1927	Appendix A Principal legal obligations.....	35
1928	Appendix B Management of Risk.....	35
1929	Appendix C Summary of AS ISO 31000 – risk management.....	35
1930	Appendix D Risk management process.....	35
1931	Appendix E Risk analysis information.....	35
1932	Appendix F Risk management plan template examples.....	35
1933	Appendix G Dynamic risk assessment process.....	35
1934	Appendix H Benefit–Risk Assessment.....	35

1935	Appendix I Emergency management planning framework.....	35
1936	Appendix J Health & wellbeing considerations for risk management.....	35
1937	Appendix K Privacy of information.....	35
1938	Appendix L Environmental sustainability procedures.....	35
1939	Appendix M First aid and medication considerations.....	35
1940	Appendix N Knowledge, skill and experience — Leader.....	35
1941	Activity scope and leader requirements.....	36
1942	Safety and risk management.....	36
1943	Technical activity leadership.....	37
1944	Leadership and group management.....	38
1945	Decision-making and judgement.....	38
1946	Planning and program management.....	39
1947	Environment and place-based knowledge.....	39
1948	Communication and interpersonal skills.....	40
1949	Self-management and professional practice.....	40
1950	Outdoor living, activity and travel skills.....	40
1951	Appendix O Knowledge, skill and experience — Assistant Leader.....	40
1952	Safety and risk management.....	40
1953	Technical activity leadership.....	40
1954	Leadership and group management.....	40
1955	Decision-making and judgement.....	41
1956	Planning and program management.....	41
1957	Environment and place-based knowledge.....	41
1958	Communication and interpersonal skills.....	41
1959	Self-management and professional practice.....	41
1960	Outdoor living, activity and travel skills.....	41
1961	Appendix P Recognition of competence: pathways to verification.....	41
1962	Appendix Q Indicative experience bands and evidence expectations.....	41
1963	Appendix R Australian Bureau of Meteorology weather warnings and trigger points.....	41
1964	Appendix S Program planning matrix: leader-matching tool.....	42
1965	Appendix T Beaufort wind force scale.....	42
1966	Appendix U Weather information.....	42
1967	Weather warnings.....	42

1968	Marine related wind warnings:.....	42
1969	Bureau of Meteorology information:.....	42
1970	Appendix V Snorkelling and diving related information to consider.....	43
1971	Snorkelling.....	43
1972	Diver training agency standards.....	43
1973	Appendix W Equipment.....	43
1974	Snorkelling equipment.....	43
1975	Rescue equipment.....	44
1976	Shark emergency equipment.....	44
1977	Emergency response equipment.....	44
1978	Communication equipment.....	44
1979	Navigation equipment.....	45
1980	Other equipment.....	45
1981	Appendix X Marine safety terminology for waters throughout Australia.....	46
1982	Terminology used in this document.....	46
1983	Terminology used by jurisdiction.....	46
1984	Terminology used in other good practice guides.....	47
1985	Appendix Y Water entry and exit.....	47
1986	Detailed Contents.....	48
1987		