



Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ (Inc)

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FMC Member News August 2011

Here is a summary of activities by the Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand in August 2011 containing news on significant developments of importance to trampers, climbers and all interested in outdoor recreation.

Freedom Camping

Parliament has just passed the Freedom Camping Act making it easier for councils and DOC to impose fines on people sleeping on the side of the road or in no camping areas. FMC's strong submission resulted in some improvements at Select Committee but we are still concerned about this Act. If members have a bad experience under the new regime, let your local executive member know immediately for us to follow up.

Health and Safety in Employment (Adventure Activities) Regulations 2011

These regulations, which should come into effect on October 1st, will require operators of adventure activities to be accredited and audited. FMC has looked at the draft and made a submission. We are pleased to see that, as drafted, the regulations specifically exclude clubs which are providing activities for members. There is less certainty over activities for non-members. Generally speaking, allowing non-members on club trips to encourage membership of the club or interest in its activities will be OK. Clubs that run on a less formal basis, where people can participate on a long term basis without formally joining, may have some issues. Likewise, there may be issues around public courses. FMC has submitted on this point.

Further advice will be given to clubs once the final wording is released.

Travel Club

Dossiers of 2012 trips with full details of itinerary and costs are being published on the FMC Website at <http://www.fmc.org.nz/travel-club/>. The dossiers for Tasmania (February), Nepal (March-April), Kokoda Trail (May), South Australia & Larapinta Trail (May-June) and Turkey/Crete (July-August) are all available and others will follow.

The May 2012 trip to the Kokoda Trail in Papua New Guinea is a new destination for the Travel Club. It will appeal to people who have a good level of fitness and are looking for a different challenge.

Tasmania 2012 Travel Club Trip.

We have confirmed the trip to operate but have 4 places left and need to finalise our plans now. If you would like to join us, please contact John Dobbs urgently!

Second Round of FMC Youth Scholarships for 2011

In late 2010 FMC supported by the FMC Mountain and Forest Trust and the Maerewhenua Trust created two types of Scholarships for young people. One is a grant towards the cost of specific skill training and the second is a grant towards expedition costs.

A second round of Scholarships will be awarded in November 2011. The closing date for these is 16th September 2011. For more details and to download application forms, go to: <http://www.fmc.org.nz/schools/>

New Tararua Map

Geographx have produced a new Tararua Map Poster. It was introduced at our 80th conference and Geographx have agreed to donate \$5 from every purchase to the FMC. To see what the map looks like and for more details on how to buy this map go to <http://www.fmc.org.nz/sales/maps/>.

NZ Native Trees

A reminder to members that the special pre publication price for the new book on NZ Native Trees that is being published by Craig Potton Publishing finishes soon. Go to <http://www.fmc.org.nz/sales/> for details and an order form.

Tramping Calendar

Orders are being taken for the 2012 Tramping Calendar. Clubs can get a special reduced rate and all clubs have been sent an order form. Individual Supporters can order at a discount price through the website form available at <http://www.fmc.org.nz/sales/calendar/>

Rule Changes

Your Executive would like to hear from Clubs about the proposed fee structure for 2012. Details have been sent to all clubs and we would like any feedback by 15 September. If you would like more details then you can download the material sent to clubs from <http://www.fmc.org.nz/services-to-clubs/clubsecretaries/>

Photo Competition CD

Any club which would like a CD of a selection of 100 photos from this year's FMC competition can order this from the administration officer (\$10.00 inc p&p). admin@fmc.org.nz

Incorporated Societies

A reminder – particularly to our larger clubs and clubs with significant assets - that the laws around Incorporated Societies are being reviewed by the Law Commission. Details are at <http://www.lawcom.govt.nz/project/review-incorporated-societies-act-1908>. and submissions close on 30 September 2011.