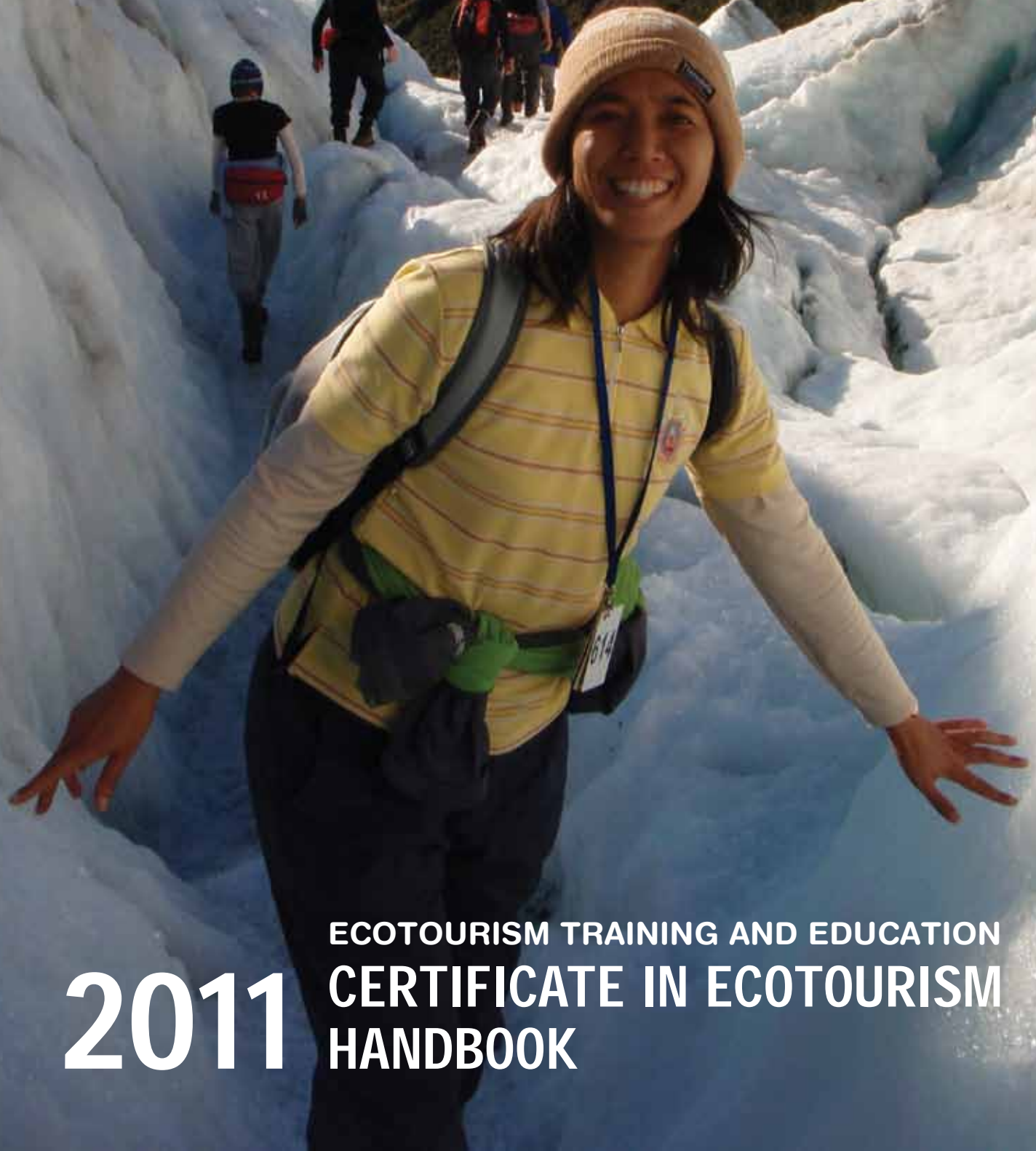




ecotourismnz

FOR THE FUTURE. FOR GOOD.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic
West Coast
NEW ZEALAND



2011 ECOTOURISM TRAINING AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATE IN ECOTOURISM HANDBOOK



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JOIN THE REVOLUTION

Ecotourism is one of the smallest but fastest growing sectors of New Zealand's tourism industry. Around 2000 to 3000 new jobs are expected to be created in the sector over the next five years as environmental awareness grows, and more people demand sustainable eco-friendly holidays.



Ecotourism involves:

- nature-based activities
- interpretation of our natural and cultural environment
- growing sustainable tourism
- working alongside communities

LEARN FROM THE BEST

Tai Poutini Polytechnic is New Zealand's leading ecotourism education and industry training provider. We offer a range of programmes to help businesses and individuals harness the potential for ecotourism in New Zealand. Upskill and add value to your business with Tai Poutini Polytechnic.

- Certificate in Ecotourism
- Short courses and training programmes
- Tailor-made training options
- Distance learning
- Work-based training

AN IDEAL ENVIRONMENT

The West Coast of the South Island is the best place in New Zealand to learn about, experience and enjoy ecotourism. Five National Parks, several World Heritage status areas, a large conservation estate and plenty of highly-regarded ecotourism operations make it the ideal back drop to Tai Poutini Polytechnic's ecotourism training programmes.





ECOTOURISM TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Ecotourism is sustainable tourism that offers meaningful educational experiences in our natural environment.

By definition, ecotourism practices must protect and conserve the natural and cultural environments in which they operate, support their local communities, and demonstrate a high level of environmental responsibility.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic offers a range of education programmes, short awards' courses and tailor-made training to suit individuals and businesses looking to up skill and get ahead in ecotourism.

CERTIFICATE IN ECOTOURISM

The Certificate in Ecotourism is a 34 week programme focusing on the core principles and practices of ecotourism.

Learn about our ecology, bio-diversity, geology, flora and fauna and cultural heritage tourism. Get practical skills in guiding, interpretation and business management. Gain skills to share the stories of our land and its people with integrity, sensitivity and skill.

Lay the foundation for an exciting and rewarding career path.

GRADUATE PROFILE

Our Certificate in Ecotourism offers many opportunities. Graduates will have a broad knowledge of ecotourism principles and practice, and gain practical skills to succeed in the workplace.

They will be prepared for a range of careers including tourism information, hospitality, travel consulting, guiding, tourism research and roles within the Department of Conservation.

PROGRAMME CONTENT AND QUALIFICATION

The Certificate in Ecotourism is a comprehensive introduction to ecotourism. It includes training in guiding, ecosystems, business practices and first aid. The programme lays the foundation for gaining work in the tourism industry and has a strong focus on supporting graduates into employment. It includes ten weeks' work-placement in the tourism sector.

The Certificate in Ecotourism qualification is equivalent to levels 4 of the National Qualification Framework. This qualification sits outside the Framework and is based on Tai Poutini Polytechnic Provider Units. The Certificate in Ecotourism is based at Tai Poutini Polytechnic's West Coast campus.

The five components to the Certificate in Ecotourism are:

- Ecotourism Principles
- Culture and Heritage
- The Natural World
- Our Environment
- Guiding and Certification

THE CERTIFICATE IN ECOTOURISM COMPONENTS

ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES	credits	level
Ecotourism	5	4
Business Practice	10	4
Ecological Management	10	4
Tourism General	6	4
<i>Total credits</i>	31	
CULTURE & HERITAGE	credits	level
Te Ao Maori	10	3
Treaty of Waitangi	5	4
Heritage Tourism	10	4
<i>Total credits</i>	25	
THE NATURAL WORLD	credits	level
Plant Physiology & Biology	6	4
Animal Physiology & Biology	5	4
Ecology	5	4
Taxonomy	4	5
<i>Total credits</i>	20	
OUR ENVIRONMENT	credits	level
Special Characteristics of NZ Flora & Fauna	8	4
Earth Science	8	4
Meteorology	3	3
<i>Total credits</i>	19	
GUIDING & CERTIFICATION	credits	level
Outdoor Skills	5	4
Guiding Techniques	8	4
Interpretation	10	4
First Aid – Provide First Aid	4	2
First Aid – Outdoor First Aid	5	3
<i>Total credits</i>	32	



ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES

This short award is an introduction to the principles and practices of Ecotourism. Learn practical business skills to succeed in ecotourism while also exploring local and global environmental issues. Discover what it takes to develop an ecotourism business and look into aspects of small business management including ownership structures, legal and compliance requirements, performance management, financing requirements, developing itineraries and employment issues. Gain an understanding of our tourism industry and how to work within it. Learn about our key visitor types and iconic destinations.

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Learn the stories of our land and how to share them with visitors with this short award focusing on understanding and interpreting our rich history and culture.

Explore Te Ao Maori – “the Maori World”, and learn the basics of Te Reo Maori including greetings and farewells, correct pronunciation and the significance of Maori language in a tourism context. Visit Bruce Bay Marae and experience Maori culture and tikanga (protocol) firsthand. Learn about the history of the Treaty of Waitangi including Treaty settlements and claims. New Zealand’s European history will also be examined. Visit a range of historic sites around the West Coast and learn how to share that history with clients.

THE NATURAL WORLD

New Zealand’s natural environment is unlike any other, which is why visitors are so keen to learn about it. This short award teaches you about our natural environment including classification of plants and animals and the interesting stories associated with them. Gain an understanding of ecological concepts such as biodiversity, adaptation and natural selection and look at Maori perspectives including kaitiakitanga and whakapapa. Hear experts discuss the unique aspects of endemic New Zealand plants and animals and enjoy field trips to several West Coast locations to view plants, birds and animals in their natural habitat.

OUR ENVIRONMENT

Stories of New Zealand as an isolated island, the geological processes and the adaptations that the species have made are very important when interpreting the environment for ecotourism clients. Graduates of this short award will gain a better understanding of the broader processes shaping the landforms, characteristics of our flora and fauna and New Zealand’s weather and climate.

GUIDING AND CERTIFICATION

Interpretation is a key element of this short award. Learn how to share the stories of our land, people and culture with integrity, sensitivity and skill. Gain skills to confidently guide clients in a range of settings. Learn about planning

for an outdoor excursion, risk management, assessing environmental impacts and navigation. First Aid training is also included in this short award.

CERTIFICATE IN ECOTOURISM DATES 2011

START: 7 February 2011

FINISH: 21 November 2011

SHORT COURSES AND FLEXIBLE STUDY

You can now study the five components of the Certificate in Ecotourism as separate short courses. In other words, choose what training you do, when you want it.

Each component, or short award, earns credits towards the Certificate in Ecotourism qualification.

The following five short awards are offered in 2011:

- Ecotourism Principles
- Culture and Heritage
- The Natural World
- Our Environment
- Guiding & Certification

MONTH	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
FEBRUARY	INTRODUCTION		ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES	
MARCH	ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES			C & H
APRIL	CULTURE & HERITAGE		Study Leave	
MAY	OUR ENVIRONMENT			
JUNE	THE NATURAL WORLD			
JULY	G & C	Study Leave		G & C
AUGUST	GUIDING & CERTIFICATION		Resits	Final Week Fieldtrip
SEPTEMBER	Work Placement			
OCTOBER	Work Placement			
NOVEMBER	Work Placement			
DECEMBER	Graduation			



CERTIFICATE IN ECOTOURISM TIMETABLE 2011

INTRODUCTION

ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES

CULTURE & HERITAGE

THE NATURAL WORLD

OUR ENVIRONMENT

GUIDING & CERTIFICATION

FEBRUARY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 INTRODUCTION Course begins	8	9 Mahinapua	10 Mahinapua	11 First Aid	12	13
14 First Aid	15 Styx River/Arahura 3-day tramp – preparation	16 Styx River/Arahura 3-day tramp	17 Styx River/Arahura 3-day tramp	18 Styx River/Arahura 3-day tramp	19	20
21 ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES Ecotourism	22 Ecotourism business site visit – Natures Tours Punakaiki	23 Debrief of Natures Tours and development of Ecotourism business idea	24 Ecotourism business idea presentations	25 Matt Lysaght on running a tourist business in the current climate	26	27
28 Tourism – understanding the tourism industry						

MARCH

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
	1 New Zealand as a destination – getting to know it. Introduction to itinerary exercise	2 Itinerary presentations	3 New Zealand facts – what are truths and what are fallacies	4 Shantytown field trip	5	6
7 South Westland field trip – preparation	8 South Westland field trip	9 South Westland field trip	10 South Westland field trip	11 South Westland field trip	12	13
14 Introduction to ecological management and species management	15 Local and global environmental issues	16 Blue Penguin Trust – presentation and site visit	17 Management tools in Ecotourism	18 DOC concessions with Kelly Stevens	19	20
21 Punakaiki ecological restoration site	22 Punakaiki ecological restoration site	23 Climate change	24 Conservation priorities	25 Sustainability	26	27
28 CULTURE & HERITAGE Treaty of Waitangi	29 Treaty of Waitangi	30 Treaty of Waitangi	31 Overnight to Croesus Hut – kiwi listening			

APRIL

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
				1 Overnight to Croesus Hut – kiwi listening	2	3
4 Heritage tourism	5 Heritage tourism	6 Heritage tourism	7 Heritage tourism	8 Heritage tourism	9	10
11 Te Ao Maori	12 Te Ao Maori	13 Te Ao Maori – Bruce Bay Marae Noho	14 Te Ao Maori – Bruce Bay Marae Noho	15 Te Ao Maori – Bruce Bay Marae Noho	16	17
18 Study leave	19 Study leave	20 Study leave	21 Study leave	22 Study leave	23	24
25 Study leave	26 Study leave	27 Study leave	28 Study leave	29 Study leave	30	

MAY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
30 Plant biology	31 Plant biology					1
2 THE NATURAL WORLD Special characteristics of New Zealand's flora and fauna	3 Special characteristics of New Zealand's flora and fauna	4 Special characteristics of New Zealand's flora and fauna	5 Special characteristics of New Zealand's flora and fauna	6 Special characteristics of New Zealand's flora and fauna	7	8
9 Earth science – introduction	10 Giant rimu and fossils field trip	11 Geological time	12 New Zealand's origins	13 Punakaiki geology field trip	14	15
16 Meteorology	17 Meteorology	18 Meteorology	19 Outdoor First Aid	20 Outdoor First Aid	21	22
23 Karamea field trip – preparation	24 Karamea field trip	25 Karamea field trip	26 Karamea field trip	27 Taxonomy basics	28	29

JUNE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
		1 OUR ENVIRONMENT Plant biology field trip	2 Endangered plants with Jane Marshall (DOC)	3 Animal biology	4	5
6 Animal biology presentations from students	7 Kiwi creche with Rebecca Gibson (DOC)	8 New Zealand plants and animals booklet writing	9 New Zealand plants and animals booklet writing	10 Arthurs Pass alpine plants field trip	11	12
13 Ecology – principals of Ecology	14 Wetlands with Phil Knightbridge (DOC)	15 Ecology – adaptation and biodiversity	16 Ecology	17 Westland petrels with Chippie Wood & Julie Geritzlehner	18	19
20 Taxonomy field trip – Point Elizabeth coastal forest discovery	21 Taxonomy	22 Ecology	23 New Zealand animal species	24 New Zealand animal species	25	26
27 Tasman field trip – preparation	28 Tasman field trip – sea kayak	29 Tasman field trip – sea kayak	30 Tasman field trip – Cobb Valley			

JULY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
				1 Tasman field trip – Cobb Valley	2	3
4 GUIDING & CERTIFICATION Risk management	5 Risk management	6 Risk management	7 Risk management	8 Risk management	9	10
11 Study leave	12 Study leave	13 Study leave	14 Study leave	15 Study leave	16	17
18 Study leave	19 Study leave	20 Study leave	21 Study leave	22 Study leave	23	24
25 Interpretation	26 Interpretation	27 Interpretation	28 Interpretation	29 Interpretation	30	31

AUGUST

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT	SUN
1 Guiding skills	2 Guiding skills	3 Guiding assessment – preparation	4 Guiding assessments	5 Guiding assessments	6	7
8 Interpretation	9 Small business management	10 Small business management	11 Small business management	12	13	14
15 Work skills and job placements	16 Resits	17 Resits	18 Resits	19 Resits	20	21
22 Final field trip – preparation	23 Final field trip	24 Final field trip	25 Final field trip	26 Final field trip – wrap up	27	28
29	30	31				



INDUSTRY EXPERTS AND TUTORS*

We strive to ensure our training is up to date and relevant to ecotourism today, which is why we seek out tutors and guest speakers who are experts in their field and committed to excellence.

We have facilitators with extensive and current industry experience, Maori and cultural expertise and knowledge of sustainability and environmental best practice. We also bring in a range of industry and environmental experts to take specific aspects of the programme.

**Expert speakers, guest speakers, tutors and guides confirmed as at November 2010 and are subject to change.*



industry expert profiles

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Bob Dickson

Area manager. Buller / Kawatiri

Bob leads a team of 26 permanent staff based at three geographical sites (Punakaiki, Westport and Karamea) and is responsible for delivering programmes focused on species protection, pest control, visitor information, recreation services and concession opportunities.



Julie Geritzlehner

Biodiversity ranger
Buller / Kawatiri, Westport

Julie works in a team of seven people who undertake the management of threatened species and ecosystems on the West Coast.



Rebecca Gibson

Community relations ranger

Rebecca's work focuses on education initiatives and liaison with community groups and organisations. She has previously worked as a tour guide for ecotourism operators both here and overseas.



Phil Knightbridge

Technical support officer, monitoring

Phil has worked for DOC for the past ten year, mostly as a botanist. His current role for DOC's West Coast conservancy sees him monitoring the benefits of DOC's animal pest control programmes on ecosystems and species.



Jim Livingstone

Programme manager, biodiversity

Jim's work involves managing biodiversity assets and biodiversity threats. He has worked in the Rowi Recovery Programme, weed control programme, animal pest control, wetland monitoring, freshwater fish monitoring and marine mammal programme. His work includes Compliance and Law Enforcement and Fire Control programmes for the area and community relations and public awareness responsibilities.



Dr Jane Marshall

Technical support officer,
terrestrial plant ecology

Jane provides technical advice to DOC on issues relating to plant ecology on public conservation land and at times on freehold land. This includes a range of botanical issues from restoration and revegetation plans, threatened species management and assessments of biodiversity values.



Tim Shaw

Technical support officer, terrestrial fauna

Tim provides planning and strategic advice on DOC's terrestrial fauna projects in the West Coast conservancy including its rowi, whio and mohua programmes.



Henk Stengs

Biodiversity ranger

Henk is responsible for taking fish, bird and wetland surveys for the West Coast. Additional work includes plant conservation, RMA assessments, ecological assessments of private land and public education.



Kelly Stevens

Concessions and statutory land manager

Kelly manages DOC's Concessions and SLM team, providing support and advice on issues and best practice in concessions and statutory land management. DOC currently manages over 450 concessions within the West Coast Tai Poutini Conservancy.

GUEST SPEAKERS AND TUTORS



Debbie Collings

Event manager, Grey District Council

Debbie Collings has a strong background in tourism/hospitality with roles involving managing hotels and a visitor information centre. Debbie now manages events and marketing for the Grey District Council and its contribution to the economic development of the region.



Mark Crompton

Weather forecaster

Mark has worked for the Meteorological Service since 1996. He has been a weather observer at many stations around New Zealand including on Chatham, Raoul and Campbell Islands. He is particularly interested in Alpine Meteorology and in the physiological effects of severe mountain weather. Mark currently provides the MetService with weather observations from Hokitika Airport.



Matt Ewen

General manager, Tourism West Coast

The main focus of Matt's work is to tell the rest of the world about the wonderful West Coast, encouraging them to visit the region. This involves using a variety of media to get the message out and dealing with Travel Wholesalers and Travel Agents throughout the world.



Andrea Forrest

General Manager, Shantytown
www.shantytown.co.nz

Andrea is a relative newcomer to the tourism industry having commenced with Shantytown in 2006. Challenges for the iconic visitor destination include the tension between tourism and its museum roots, embarking on a journey of change through re-branding, re-theming and the introduction of interactive visitor experiences.



Matt Lysaght

Managing director, Kea Heritage Tours
www.keatours.co.nz

Matt is a passionate advocate for the South Island's West Coast, particularly its awesome landforms, resilient yet relaxed lifestyle and the strong character of its people. Along with running a successful West Coast-based tour company, he is also a representative of the Shantytown board.



Peter Morrison

Marketing consultant

Peter has 20 years' experience as an independent consultant in marketing and business development around New Zealand, with a focus on tourism promotion. Peter lives at Greymouth where he is actively involved in local tourism.



David Stapleton

David is descended from four families who arrived in Hokitika in the 1860s West Coast Gold Rushes, and grew up in Hokitika before attaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography and Economics at Canterbury University. West Coast history is one of David's strong interests and he is a founding member of Heritage Hokitika, Greymouth Heritage Trust and Heritage West Coast.



Kerry-Jayne Wilson

Senior lecturer in ecology, Lincoln University

Kerry-Jayne has had a lifelong fascination with nature and for almost 40 years has carried out conservation-related research on birds. She has mostly worked in New Zealand but also in Canada, Antarctica, the Cook Islands, Sarawak and Indonesia. Kerry-Jayne recently retired after 23 years lecturing in ecology and conservation at Lincoln University. She now lives in Charleston where she is writing another book and undertaking research on penguins and other West Coast seabirds. Kerry-Jayne wrote the book 'Flight of the Huia' which describes the evolution, ecology and conservation of New Zealand's vertebrates and she compiles the annual State of New Zealand's Birds reports.



Les Wright

Historian

After an early career in radio, newspapers and television, Les now works mostly as an historian gathering and retelling West Coast stories. Gold mining is his particular interest and he has written several books on the subject. Les is a heritage adviser for Oceana Gold Limited, identifying and cataloguing relics excavated at the Globe Hill opencast gold mine near Reefton. He is also a director and guide for Green Kiwi Tours at Punakaiki where he lives in his 'home-made' house near the sea.

GUIDES



Zane Smith

Ecotourism operator

Zane has worked in tourism for 18 years, specialising in the adventure and ecotourism sectors. He started his first ecotourism business in 1997 and today operates an accommodation business and ecotourism guiding company, both based at Punakaiki in the Paparoa National Park.



Bridgit Young

Ecotourism guide

Bridgit has a degree in Physical Education from Otago University and certificates in Outdoor Recreation and Advanced Leadership and Guiding from Tai Poutini Polytechnic. She has worked as a sea kayak guide and outdoor instructor in Australia and NZ. Bridgit is passionate about educating and encouraging others to explore our natural environment in sustainable ways.

ecotourism operators

Ecotourism operators play a large part in our ecotourism programmes. Listed below are some of the outstanding ecotourism operations you will be visiting during your training.



Bush & Beyond

www.bushandbeyond.co.nz

Maryann Ewers and Bill Rooke operate Bush and Beyond, taking guided walks in Kahurangi National Park. They are committed conservationists, building their business reputation as an ecologically based operation, with a concern for the park's natural values. Maryann is a descendent of two of the early pioneer families of the district. Both she and Bill have had years of experience tramping and exploring in the area, and have a vast knowledge of flora, fauna and history to pass on to clients.



Dolphin Encounters

www.dolphin.co.nz

Dolphin Encounter® has been operating dolphin tours in Kaikoura for 20 years. The company is focused on giving visitors a natural experience where any interaction between man and mammal is on the terms of the mammal. Dolphin Encounters is committed to environmental sustainability and improving efficiency to ensure it has the least impact on the environment and the marine mammals it relies on for success.



Franz Josef Glacier Guides

www.franzjosefglacier.com

Franz Josef Glacier Guides are an internationally-recognized guiding operation offering a range of hiking tours on South Westland's Franz Josef Glacier.



Maori Tours

www.maoritours.co.nz

Maori Tours Kaikoura was set up by Maurice and Heather Manawatu and is family-owned and operated. The family are the indigenous people of New Zealand or Tangata Whenua (people of the land). The tour shares Maori culture and history in a natural and intimate way.



Okarito Kiwi Tours

www.okaritokiwitours.co.nz

Kiwi are New Zealand's national treasure. In spite of this, most of people will never see one in their lifetime. Okarito Kiwi Tours are the only operators approved to guide people deep into kiwi habitat in South Westland on the South Island's West Coast, and show them real live kiwi. The tours, led by Ian Cooper, focus on the rowi or Okarito brown kiwi – the rarest of all kiwi.



Okarito Nature Tours

www.okarito.co.nz

Okarito Nature Tours is a small family-owned kayak business offering freedom rental and guided kayaking trips on the Okarito Lagoon, New Zealand's largest unmodified coastal wetland and well known for its outstanding avifauna.



Oparara Tours

www.oparara.co.nz

The Oparara Valley Project Trust manages The Oparara Guided Tours. It is a community initiative, working together with the Department of Conservation. The Trust has developed and enhanced the existing attractions in the Oparara to become the premium visitor attraction of the northern Buller, encouraging visitors to stay longer. The unique combination of natural landforms, diverse ecosystems and spectacular caves and arches born of a million years of undisturbed isolation is protected by DOC. The guided walks in the area are outstanding.



Rongos Backpackers

www.rongobackpackers.com

Rongos Backpackers is based in Karamea – a small, isolated community in sub-tropical far north West Coast nestled between the mountains of Kahurangi National Park and the sea. Rongo Backpackers and Gallery is now officially carbon neutral following a recent carbon audit. A small carbon deficit was made up by investing in green energy.



Wilderness Lodges New Zealand

www.wildernesslodge.co.nz

Gerry and his partner Anne have established a successful and world-recognised ecotourism business, Wilderness Lodges, at Lake Moeraki and Arthur's Pass. Gerry has extensive experience in conservation and was the Conservation Director for the Royal Forest and Bird Protections Society. In 2003 he received an Honorary Doctorate in Resource Management from Lincoln University. Gerry holds a PHD in Ecology and Range Management 1984 from Lincoln University.

tai poutini polytechnic tutors



Geoff Button

Programme coordinator, Ecotourism

Geoff will focus on content covering ecology, earth sciences and biology. Geoff is passionate about ecotourism and the environment. He has extensive tourism industry experience and has also worked for DOC, mainly in Abel Tasman and Kahurangi National Parks. It was the latter experience that made him aware of the impacts and issues involved with tourism.



Dave Ritchie

Tutor, Outdoor education

Dave has been with the Outdoor Recreation Department since 2006. He spends most of his time floating down beautiful West Coast rivers. In his spare time on land, he lends us his valuable time and knowledge developing our Leadership and Guiding programme and pushing students and staff to their limits as programme coordinator.



Hine Mckletchie

Tutor

Hine holds a Diploma in teaching Maori language and is an experienced Maori language tutor. Hine lives in Hokitika and her wide interests include Maori arts such as flax weaving, creative writing and small business management.



Dave Mason

Te Takawaenga/Kohinga Matauranga (Maori development and support officer), Kaiwhakaako (Tutor)

Dave provides guidance around ceremonial and other occasions that require Maori protocol, coordinates the development and maintenance of Maori course content across the polytechnic and throughout Te Tai Poutini and supports Maori and Pacific Island students. He is of Ngai Tahu descent and enjoys walking on the Arahura River looking for Pounamu (Greenstone), fishing, and just replenishing his wairua (spirit).



FIELD TRIPS 2011

Field trips are an integral part of the ecotourism programme, forming the basis for classroom theory and assignment work. Up to 50 days or 40 percent of the programme is spent visiting a wide range of West Coast attractions, conservation areas and ecotourism operations.

ECOTOURISM PRINCIPLES	NUMBER OF DAYS
Styx River/Arahura tramp	3
Punakaki ecotourism experiences	3
South Westland ecotourism	4
Blue Penguin day trip	1
Croesus kiwi listening trip	2
Wilderness Lodge Arthur's Pass	1
CULTURE & HERITAGE	
Bruce Bay Marae Noho	4
West Coast heritage tour	3
Kaikoura cultural and ecotour	5
THE NATURAL WORLD	
Mt French plant identification	1
Abel Tasman & Cobb Valley	5
Ecotourism NZ Conference	3
Tauranga Bay day trip	1
Woods Creek interpretation	1
OUR ENVIRONMENT	
Reefton fossils and great rimu	1
Karamea and Heaphy	3
Meteorology and weather station	1
GUIDING & CERTIFICATION	
Rafting the Clarence	5



GENERAL INFORMATION

WORK PLACEMENT

Tai Poutini Polytechnic has a strong focus on supporting students into work. One way we do this is through work placement in the tourism industry.

The Certificate in Ecotourism includes 10 weeks' placement with ecotourism operations or other relevant organisations. Students get hands-on experience that is relevant to ecotourism today.

The polytechnic will arrange work placements unless students have other suitable options. Payment for the work is to be agreed between the employer and the student.

Students have worked in a range of exciting and interesting operations and organisations including Milford Sound Sea Kayaking, Whale Watch Kaikoura, various information centres around the South Island, Te Papa Museum of New Zealand and the Department of Conservation.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Geoff Button is the Certificate in Ecotourism programme coordinator. He is usually available between 3.20pm to 5pm Monday to Friday. Geoff is based on the second floor of the Cambell Building at the Tai Poutini Polytechnic Greymouth campus.

DDL: 769-9657 Ext 7857
EMAIL: geoffb@tpp.ac.nz
MOBILE: 027 2163904

LEARNING HOURS

Most training and study occurs weekdays between 9am and 5pm, excluding multi-day field trips.

ASSESSMENTS

The Ecotourism assessments are a combination of both written and oral, with all assessment reviewed on:

Professional presentation AND students' understanding of the environment and cultural awareness.

EQUIPMENT

Essential items required for outdoor activities include:

- Sleeping bag (warm enough for winter overnight stays in DOC huts)
- Waterproof jacket
- Good footwear for walking on tracks
- Warm clothes (woollen or polarfleece overjacket or similar, and polypropylene undergarments)
- Tramping pack large enough for overnight stays

Useful but not essential equipment includes:

- Torch
- Compass
- Personal first aid kit
- Tent



ASSESSMENT POLICY

To gain the certificate in Ecotourism you are required to complete approximately 20 assessment tasks contained in four large assessments. You should strive to complete all assessments to the required standard by the due date.

At the start of each Provider Unit your tutor will give you the date or dates you are expected to have completed your assessment(s) by and how the unit will be assessed, such as: project, essay, test, oral presentation.

On (or before) the date your assessment is due you are required to hand in your work with a cover sheet. The cover sheet provides the following instructions:

- Staple cover sheet to assessment
- Fill in cover sheet (name, date and sign for the authenticity of your work)
- Initial each page of the assessment so that should your work comes apart it will not be lost
- Place in assessment box
- Assessment is due 4.30pm on the date stated

If you have not completed the assessment you must hand in your work as it stands. Your tutor will mark your work and inform you of your resit opportunities. You get one opportunity to resit.

Student work may be copied and handed to third parties for moderation purposes to ensure academic fairness occurs at all times.

ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Students who believe they have not been justly treated by any assessment process have the right to appeal. Appeals must be lodged within 10 days of being advised of a decision of a member of the Tai Poutini staff. In the first instance an appeal should be addressed to the Outdoor Education Head of Department. Details of the appeals' process are set out in the Tai Poutini Student Information 2008 booklet.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Students completing the Ecotourism Programme at Tai Poutini Polytechnic receive the Tai Poutini Certificate in Ecotourism. The award of the Tai Poutini Certificate in Ecotourism requires a student to be judged as competent by gaining at least 115 of the 120 available credits. Students must obtain all available credits in the Ecotourism, Special Characteristics of NZ Flora and Fauna, Treaty of Waitangi, and First Aid Courses, and at least 80 percent of the available credits in all other courses offered.

Attendance to classes and activities is essential to ensure all the material is covered for the Certificate in Ecotourism. Students must attend at least 80 percent of all classes and field trips.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Students may apply for cross-credits and recognition of prior learning although with the use of integrated assessments, it may be necessary to carry out a whole assignment or task as units are not assessed in isolation.





CONTACTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Certificate in Ecotourism (WC2893)

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Outdoor Education Department

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Thanks to:



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Te Papa Atawhai

and our guest speakers and ecotourism operators





