

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND
NEW ZEALAND GEOPHYSICAL SOCIETY
NEW ZEALAND GEOCHEMICAL & MINERALOGICAL
SOCIETY
JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Field Trip Guides

Compiled by Timothy Little

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Brent Alloway, John Begg, Kyle Bland, Alan Beu, Hamish Campbell, Rachel Carne, Warren Dickinson, Gavin Dunbar, David Kennedy, Rob Langridge, Timothy Little, Mauri McSaveney, Brad Pillans, Liz Schermer, Russ Van Dissen

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SUMMARY OF FIELD TRIPS

NB: Field trips 6 and 8 are no longer being offered because required numbers were not met.
Field trips 3 and 4 (Te Papa tours) are by arrangement with Hamish Campbell.

Pre-conference: Sunday 23 November

Field Trip 1: *Wellington Fault: Neotectonics and Earthquake Geology of the Wellington-Hutt Valley Segment*. John Begg, Rob Langridge, Russ Van Dissen and Timothy Little. Departs Sunday 23 November at 09:30 from Te Papa. Returns Sunday 23 November at 17:30 to Te Papa (in time for Icebreaker).

Field Trip 2: *Turakirae Head Coastal Geomorphology and Geology*. Mauri McSaveney and David Kennedy. Departs Sunday 23 November at 10:00 from Te Papa. Returns Sunday 23 November at 17:30 to Te Papa (in time for Icebreaker).

Post-conference: from Wednesday 26 November

Field Trip 5: *Southern Wairarapa Fault and Wharekauhau Thrust (Palliser Bay)*. Timothy Little, Liz Schermer, Russ Van Dissen, John Begg, and Rachel Carne. Departs Thursday 27 November at 08:30 from Te Papa. Returns Thursday 27 November at 18:00 to Te Papa.

Field Trip 7: *Wanganui Basin: Plio-Pleistocene Record of Sea Level Change*. Warren Dickinson, Gavin Dunbar, Brad Pillans. Brent Alloway, Kyle Bland, and Alan Beu. Departs Wednesday 26 November at 17:00 from Te Papa. Returns Friday 28 November at 17:00 to Te Papa.

Departure location: All field trips depart from the front plaza of the conference venue, Te Papa

Geological Society of New Zealand Field Trip Safety Guidelines

No activity, and certainly no field activity, is without risk. Risk management is about maintaining the essential part of an activity while avoiding unacceptable accidents. These guidelines are intended to make leaders **and** participants aware of their respective responsibilities during field trips.

Field trip leaders are responsible for ensuring that appropriate safety precautions are exercised during the course of any field trip. These include:

- Attempting to identify any potential hazards prior to the field trip, communicating their existence to participants, and mitigating their impact where possible.
- Advising participants of the field trip difficulty, duration and the level of “fitness” required when the trip is advertised.
- On accepting participants with any handicaps or limitations the field trip plan must take these into account.
- Taking into account the terrain, changing weather conditions and the abilities of all participants throughout the duration of the field trip.
- Postponement, curtailment or cancellation of a trip in severe weather conditions.
- Carrying a first aid kit at all times and a cellphone if possible.

Field trip participants have responsibilities too. These include:

- Following the leader’s instructions and directions.
- Advising the leader of any medical or physical problems prior to the start of a trip (e.g. vertigo, agrophobia, lithophobia, malleophobia etc).
- Carrying any personal medicines they may require (anti-histamines, antiinflammatories, asthma medication, pain-killers etc). A personal first aid kit is highly recommended.
- Knowing their limitations and fitness before undertaking any field trip.
- Advising the leader if they want to stop. The leader can then make arrangements to assist them safely back to the starting point, arrange a companion to stay with them or arrange to meet them on the return.
- Staying with the group at all times. Short cuts can be dangerous.
- Being responsible for taking plenty of fluids and food.
- Having enough clothing adequate for any weather changes, suitable footwear and a good raincoat.
- Taking care around rocks when using hammers, chisels and other geological equipment. Wearing eye protection is recommended.

Some Particular Hazards Common to Geoscience Field Trips

Natural Hazards

- Active volcanoes, landslides, faults, geothermal areas and cliffs or steep hillslopes are sometimes the subject of Geoscience field trips – participants must be

aware that by visiting such sites they increase their individual risk of being involved in a natural hazard event.

- All precautions advised by the leader / hosts must be followed at all times.

Roadside and Rail Track Outcrops:

- Visiting of outcrops near or across railway lines should not be attempted unless there is a substantial verge and permission has been obtained
- Visiting of outcrops on state highways should not be attempted unless there is a substantial verge and at least one participant/leader can implement appropriate traffic management procedures. These include:
 - Traffic cones to provide advance warning
 - Vehicle with hazard lights, flashing amber light and signage visible from both directions
 - Fluoro vests for participants
- Visiting of outcrops on smaller roads should also be restricted to those with wide verges and the above traffic management procedures should also be implemented.
- Before leaving safe parking to approach the outcrop all participants should be reminded of potential hazards, the need for constant vigilance and the need to avoid distraction of oncoming drivers and resulting accidents.

Quarries and Mines

- Steep slopes, loose rock and heavy machinery mean these sites contain many hazards. Request a safety briefing from the site manager and follow all safety precautions closely.
- All participants should wear personal protective equipment such as hardhats when spending time around steep slopes / cliffs.

Wilderness Areas

- All participants must be well prepared in terms of appropriate experience, fitness, and equipment/clothing for the expected conditions.
- Weather should be monitored as closely as possible and plans made accordingly.
- On bush tracks or in poor visibility leader appoint a “tail-end Charlie” for the group to ensure it stays close together. Stop and regroup at track junctions or poor sections of tracks where the way forward is unclear and account for all participants.
- River crossings should be avoided where the current is strong and the water is more than calf deep.

Driving

- On long road trips driver fatigue should be closely monitored with regular rest stops and driver changes.

Disclaimer

The Geological Society of New Zealand and the Conference Organising Committee accept no responsibility for injury, accident, illness, death or financial loss to any person attending the conference or conference field trips, whatever the reason. All insurance is the responsibility of individual registrants.