

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release [1]	This version released with [xxxx] Training Package Version [1.0].

AHCNAR3XX	Conduct an ecological and cultural site inspection prior to operational works
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to conduct site inspections for ecological, biosecurity, cultural and heritage risk and report discrepancies in planned operations prior to commencing site operations.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who work in conservation and land management under broad supervision. They take responsibility for their own work and use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.</p> <p>No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil.
Unit Sector	[Sector] ([SEC])

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Determine impact of site operations on biotic and abiotic elements	1.1 Confirm site location and proposed operations from site plans and specifications 1.2 Inspect site and identify biotic and abiotic elements impacted by planned site operations 1.3 Identify changed biotic or abiotic elements to that presented in operations plan 1.4 Identify threats to biotic and abiotic elements 1.5 Determine acceptable risk to biotic and abiotic elements from site operations plan 1.6 Record changed conditions and risk that exceeds parameters documented in site operations plan
2. Determine impact of operations on site cultural assets	2.1 Identify cultural and heritage assets from site plans and specifications 2.2 Inspect site and locate cultural and heritage assets 2.3 Reconcile cultural and heritage assets against site plans and specifications 2.4 Record un-accounted heritage and cultural assets 2.5 Identify threat to cultural and heritage assets from site operations 2.6 Determine acceptable risk to cultural and heritage assets from site operations plan 2.7 Record risk to cultural and heritage assets that exceed parameters documented in site operations plan
3. Determine biosecurity implications of operations for site	3.1 Identify biosecurity hazards and threats from site plans and specifications 3.2 Inspect site and identify biosecurity threats not specified in site plans and specifications 3.3 Record biosecurity threats not identified in site plans and specifications
4. Document and report information on data collected	4.1 Compile records into pre-operational site report 4.2 Present report to supervisor for determinations and action

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Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCNAR3XX Conduct an ecological and cultural site inspection prior to operational works	New	New Unit	No equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet:
<https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

TITLE	Assessment requirements for AHCNAR3XX Conduct an ecological and cultural site inspection prior to operational works
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has conducted site inspections on at least 3 ecologically different sites prior to site operational works.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirmed site location and proposed operations from site plans and specifications • identified site biotic and abiotic elements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical characteristics • chemical characteristics • undisturbed native topsoil • remnant and regrowth native vegetation types and classification • presence and signs of native fauna and habitat • threatened species and ecological communities • reconciled biotic and abiotic elements against site operations plan and recorded discrepancies, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • threats posed by operations • acceptable risk from site operations plan • threats and risk that exceeds parameters in site operations plan • identified and assessed the impact of operations on cultural and heritage assets from site plans and specifications, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reconciled cultural and heritage assets against site plans and specifications and recorded un-accounted heritage and cultural assets • identified threats to cultural and heritage assets from site operations and determined acceptable risk • recorded risk to cultural and heritage assets that exceeded parameters specified in site operations plan • identified biosecurity hazards and threats from site plans and specifications, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inspected site for biosecurity threats not identified in site plans and specifications • recorded biosecurity threats not identified • compiled records into pre-operational site report and presented to supervisor for determination and action. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<p>An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foundation ecological principles for a native ecosystem, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical structures (biotic and abiotic, functions and identity) • value of terrestrial and aquatic native ecosystems to humans • ecological functions and processes including energy transfer • damaged to threatened species or communities, native soils and water • animal habitat features including non-native species • abiotic elements both physical and chemical affecting ecosystems, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate and climate change including rain, wind, sunlight and temperature • terrain, aspect and altitude of the site • geology, soil type and chemical properties including, salt, nutrient and pH • pollution and effect on the ecology • surface water and the process of erosion • earth works and pollution of streams and soil erosion • biotic elements in the ecosystem, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • native and introduced plants and their vegetation classification 	

Commented [RB1]: How would they do this at a site inspection. Would this have been done at the planning stage

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Knowledge Evidence

- native and introduced animals both vertebrates and invertebrates including common threatened species on the site
- microorganisms and their role in the environment
- role of debris, rocks, hollows and shrubs in providing habitat to native fauna
- role of agricultural, horticultural and landscaping practices, including fertilizer and mulch addition in the degradation of native ecosystems
- value of remnant vegetation and original soil profiles in ecosystem works
- major threats to native ecosystems, including human responsibility to protect the environment
- common biosecurity threats from pest animals, pest plants and diseases
 - site, equipment and work team hygiene practices to mitigate biosecurity threats
 - principles of prevention and control of pests and diseases
- major physical and social threats to cultural and heritage assets, including their value for preservation
 - cultural values and significance for Indigenous Australians
 - principles of protecting Indigenous and European heritage sites and artefacts material culture
 - indicators of presence of Indigenous cultural artefacts, structures and landforms
 - indicators of European or other ethnic group relics including landscapes/landforms
 - legislative protection of archaeological sites.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on ecological sites specified in the performance evidence
- specifications:
 - use of site specific plans for operational works
 - use of workplace specifications for site works showing current biosecurity threats, and, cultural and heritage assets
- relationships:
 - supervisor

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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