

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 6.0

ACMAIM3X2	Perform small companion animal rescue during a major incident
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to extricate small companion animals during major incidents.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who work as responders in a team to assist in small companion animal incident actions. They exercise judgement to complete a range of skilled activities responding to animal incidents in a rescue team environment and in applying animal handling and manipulation techniques.</p> <p>All work must be carried out to comply with Commonwealth, state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations.</p> <p>No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Animal Incident Management

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. Prepare for incident response	1.1 Assess incident situations and risks to people and small companion animals and discuss risk control strategies with team members 1.2 Determine appropriate techniques and equipment for incident type and welfare requirements of the animals in consultation with others 1.3 Participate in team briefing about the incident plan, objectives, team roles, including own role 1.4 Prepare to meet work health and safety (WHS), biosecurity and risk requirements
2. Prepare for small companion animal extrication	2.1 Select and correctly fit appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) 2.2 Organise support equipment and supplies as instructed 2.3 Locate, inspect and prepare manual and mechanical equipment required to extricate small companion animal 2.4 Assist with set-up of the temporary incident area, including planned release area for animal and identified escape routes 2.5 Cooperate and communicate clearly with team members to ensure safety of team and bystanders and to maintain animal welfare
3. Prepare small companion animals for extrication	3.1 Observe and anticipate behavioural characteristics of small companion animal species and use appropriate handling methods 3.2 Approach small companion animals safely and in a manner that minimises stress and stimulation 3.3 Catch or contain small companion animals using safe handling and basic restraint and controlling methods 3.4 Communicate with owners or veterinarian regarding the need for physical restraint and sedation or anaesthetics for the animal, to allow safer access, provision of first aid and assistance with extrication 3.5 Assess and respond to animal behaviour to ensure safety of self, others and animal 3.6 Monitor safety and animal welfare and maintain situation awareness at all stages

ACMAIM3X2 Perform small companion animal rescue during a major incident

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Extricate and transport small companion animal	4.1 Assist with taking small companion animals safely to a transport vehicle 4.2 Assist with the transportation of small companion animals to the planned location 4.3 Release small companion animals in a planned enclosure to be treated or monitored during recovery phase
5. Communicate with owners of small companion animals	5.1 Inform owners about whereabouts of their small companion animals 5.2 Provide owners with updates as appropriate 5.3 Inform owners about deceased small companion animals and make suitable arrangements for their remains according to workplace and legislative requirements when required
6. Conclude actions	6.1 Recover, clean and store equipment according to workplace procedures and biosecurity requirements 6.2 Remove waste and debris according to workplace procedures 6.3 Participate in incident debrief 6.4 Complete required records or reports according to workplace procedures

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
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listen attentively and ask questions to confirm or clarify information using appropriate technical terminology Use clear, precise language and tone appropriate for situation and audience to work collectively as an effective team leader with a sense of responsibility and ownership of agreed plans, decisions and outcomes

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMAIM3X2 Perform small companion animal rescue during a major incident			Newly created

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

TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMAM3X2 Perform small companion animal rescue during a major incident
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Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.
 There must be evidence that the individual has:

- prepared for the extrication of small companion animals and performed a rescue or extrication in **three** different incident scenarios.

Knowledge Evidence

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:

- major incident types including:
 - floods
 - fires
 - earthquakes
 - extreme weather events
- incident action plan for moving small companion animals, including:
 - team roles
 - methods, resources and transport requirements
 - contingency plans
 - incident risk factors
 - shelters
- critical incident small companion animal evacuation processes and emergency requirements
- key features of incident management, including:
 - allocating roles of team members
 - chain of command and communication
 - modes of communication
 - basic principles of working in a team at an incident
 - basic sequence and steps to follow in a small companion animal incident
 - incident zones (hot, warm and cold) and personnel allowed in each
 - safe zones related to animals
 - briefing and debriefing the incident, including critical incident stress monitoring
 - self-care techniques
 - post-incident activities
- incident risk factors and potential for escalation
- factors affecting the movement of animals, including:
 - fitness to be moved or to travel
 - species-specific needs and behaviours
- safe working practices around small companion animals
- empathetic communication techniques with small companion animal owners
- techniques, equipment and risks associated with a range of major incidents, including:
 - animals trapped – in water or mud, deep holes, enclosed spaces, perched on ledges or cliffs
 - animals entangled
- types of equipment and how to use, including:
 - equipment for safe rescue and transportation of small companion animals
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
- suitable methods and equipment for moving animals, including:
 - basic animal anatomy and behaviour
 - handling and restraint methods and how to lift to avoid injuries
 - moving techniques
 - leading and walking
 - transport vehicle types
 - choice of route
- resources required to carry out the activity, including personnel

Commented [AH1]: Other suggestions:
 - Perhaps stipulation of a range of species would be useful here? Two different species?
 - 2 live and one simulated? There will need to be a balance. It may be too dangerous to perform a rescue without additional skills such as ropes training. It may be better to say as part of a team rescuing.... This ideally needs further discussion.

Knowledge Evidence	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disposal methods for deceased animals • containment requirements of holding areas and temporary evacuation site, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fencing, ropes, cages • separation between species (prey or predator) to minimise stress and recovery • separation from human activities • improvised equipment • quarantine and biosecurity requirements • when to seek appropriate animal first aid and veterinary care according to action plan • work health and safety (WHS) procedures • methods used to identify animals (with the availability of a microchip reader), and record keeping requirements • regulatory requirements, with exemptions if required • animal feed, including specialised feed for special requirements for different species and recently whelped litters • longer term housing options if needed • animal welfare practices. 	
Assessment Conditions	
<p>Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills must be demonstrated in an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions or an incident • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regulations relating to major incident planning • animal welfare regulations • animal mannequin/s, equipment and incident scenarios to address the performance evidence requirements • personal protective equipment (PPE) • specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • workplace policies and procedures • relationships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • team members • small companion animals • small companion animal owners. <p>Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.</p>	
Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72