



**Australian Government**

**Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**

# **SFICOMP202B Conduct field observations**

**Release: 1**

## SFICOMP202B Conduct field observations

### Modification History

Not Applicable

### Unit Descriptor

<b>Unit descriptor</b>	<p>This unit of competency involves making observations in the field following the agency's policies and procedures.</p> <p>Licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements may apply to this unit. Therefore it will be necessary to check with the relevant state or territory regulators for current licensing, legislative or regulatory requirements before undertaking this unit.</p>
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### Application of the Unit

<b>Application of the unit</b>	<p>Observations could be for the purposes of surveillance, research or monitoring of cultural or natural resources.</p> <p>An observer would typically make use of observation and recording equipment, such as maps, charts, video cameras, still cameras and global positioning system (GPS). For surveillance, an observer would require expertise in collecting relevant information of the type, quality and quantity necessary for presentation as admissible evidence in a court of law, if required. Knowledge of legislation relevant to the surveillance is also required.</p> <p>Where observations are being undertaken for the purposes of research and monitoring, the observer will require sufficient knowledge of the subject to ensure meaningful and accurate observations.</p>
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### Licensing/Regulatory Information

Refer to Unit Descriptor

## Pre-Requisites

<b>Prerequisite units</b>		

## Employability Skills Information

<b>Employability skills</b>	This unit contains employability skills.
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## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.
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## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Select appropriate equipment and technology for observation and recording purposes	<p>1.1. The purpose of the <i>field observations</i> is identified and confirmed with the supervisor or team leader.</p> <p>1.2. <i>Nature and type of information</i> to be collected is confirmed with the supervisor or team leader.</p> <p>1.3. Any agency protocols or requirements for the recording of observations are identified and confirmed.</p> <p>1.4. <i>Equipment and technology</i> appropriate for the field observation task are selected and checked for <i>serviceability</i>.</p>
2. Conduct field observations	<p>2.1. Equipment is used in a manner that facilitates observations being recorded that are accurate and effective for the intended purpose.</p> <p>2.2. Sufficient and relevant information is collected from observations.</p> <p>2.3. Observations are recorded according to agency procedures.</p> <p>2.4. Equipment is used in a manner that ensures the safety of self and others.</p> <p>2.5. Security of equipment is ensured at all times.</p>
3. Report on field observations	<p>3.1. Report is prepared and collated, identifying any evidence of non-compliance, and presented according to agency procedures.</p> <p>3.2. Recorded observations are labelled and filed securely according to agency procedures.</p> <p>3.3. Queries arising from the report are answered in a timely manner.</p>

## Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE
This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.
Required skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>communicating to respond to queries and confirm instructions</li> <li>conducting equipment serviceability checks</li> </ul>

**REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE**

- filing and file security
- identifying hazards, and conducting risk assessments and risk controls
- interpreting work plans
- operating observation and recording equipment
- selecting, fitting and using of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

**Literacy skills used for:**

- developing reports
- reading maps, charts and signs
- recording observations.

**Numeracy skills used for:**

- making observations, such as counting, measuring and estimating.

**Required knowledge**

- basic operational requirements of observation and recording equipment
- culturally sensitive areas impacting on the field observation:
  - sacred and other culturally significant sites
  - cultural activity, including the attitude, beliefs and values of local communities
- environmental and community issues relating to natural resource management, such as:
  - fishing by traditional methods
  - Indigenous land rights
- marine and fisheries management legislation and surveillance legislation relevant to the field observation
- recording and reporting requirements
- safety procedures and hazards associated with field observations.

## Evidence Guide

### EVIDENCE GUIDE

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

#### Overview of assessment

#### Critical aspects for assessment evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- make accurate and relevant field observations
- recognise evidence of non-compliance
- use a range of observation and recording equipment and techniques.

Assessment must confirm knowledge of:

- marine and fisheries management legislation relevant to the field observation task.

#### Context of and specific resources for assessment

Assessment is to be conducted in the field and workplace, or in a simulated field and work environment.

Resources may include:

- directive and details explaining the observation task
- relevant procedures
- relevant sources of information
- recording forms
- observation and recording equipment.

#### Method of assessment

The following assessment methods are suggested:

- observation of practical demonstration
- oral and written short-answer testing
- practical exercise that simulates a field observation.

#### Guidance information for assessment

This unit may be assessed holistically with other units within a qualification.

## Range Statement

### RANGE STATEMENT

## RANGE STATEMENT

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

<b><i>Field observations</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• monitoring of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• marine resources</li> <li>• sacred and other cultural sites</li> </ul> </li> <li>• surveillance of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• suspected illegal activities</li> <li>• vessel or vehicle movements.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b><i>Nature and type of information</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• environmental factors, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• phase of moon</li> <li>• swell</li> <li>• tides and currents</li> <li>• weather conditions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• measurements, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• frequency</li> <li>• quantity</li> <li>• rate</li> <li>• size (e.g. length, breadth, depth and diameter)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• observable features of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• catch</li> <li>• crew behaviour and dress</li> <li>• equipment</li> <li>• fish or marine fauna species</li> <li>• nationality</li> <li>• signage</li> <li>• types of vessels and vehicles</li> <li>• vessel colour and shape</li> </ul> </li> <li>• timing, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• day of week and month of year</li> <li>• season</li> <li>• time.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b><i>Equipment and technology</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• audio recording device</li> <li>• binoculars and telescope</li> </ul>

RANGE STATEMENT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GPS</li> <li>• maps and charts</li> <li>• night-vision gear</li> <li>• radio</li> <li>• satellite phone</li> <li>• still camera</li> <li>• video camera.</li> </ul>
<i>Serviceability</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• calibration or standardisation</li> <li>• currency</li> <li>• equipment start-up or operational checklists</li> <li>• maintenance logs</li> <li>• test run.</li> </ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Fisheries compliance
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## Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		

## Competency field

Competency field	
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