



Australian Government

ACMAIM307 Participate in large whale disentanglement operations

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to participate in a team to safely assess an entanglement scene and release a large whale from entanglement.

The unit applies to individuals trained in incident management response who participate in a response team crew aboard a vessel using appropriate specialist equipment and resources. They work under an approved incident management structure.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety, wildlife, and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

Most government jurisdictions have requirements that allow only appropriately authorised agencies to undertake response operations. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Animal Incident Management (AIM)

Elements and Performance Criteria

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. Assist with planning	1.1 Identify requirements and procedures of authorising agencies for

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whale disentanglement operations	large whale disentanglement operations 1.2 Identify and adhere to cultural protocols relevant to species and operations 1.3 Respond to report of whale entanglement according to organisational procedures 1.4 Assess available information and risks involved in operation, and contribute to a risk assessment 1.5 Participate in team briefing 1.6 Select and prepare appropriate equipment, resources and required vessels based on incident information
2. Contribute to assessment of whale disentanglement operation and environment	2.1 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment appropriate for activity 2.2 Contribute to efforts to locate whale using supplied information and visual sightings 2.3 Use a systematic approach to identify potential hazards and risks enroute and on approach to the scene 2.4 Assess the whale at the scene to determine type of entanglement, injuries, behaviour and other relevant factors 2.5 Assess sea activity and current and forecast weather conditions 2.6 Report outcomes of assessment to operations officer, providing detailed information according to organisational procedures 2.7 Recommend actions to contribute to disentanglement strategy
3. Assist with implementing disentanglement strategy	3.1 Confirm disentanglement instructions and select appropriate response equipment relevant to job role and responsibility 3.2 Clarify and ensure agreed communication signals and team roles are followed during the operation 3.3 Attach working line, and telemetry buoy where required by jurisdiction response agency, to gear entangled on the whale using appropriate equipment and careful placement to avoid injury to the whale 3.4 Apply load to the line by deploying large floats and move load forward to slow the animal and help keep it close to the surface 3.5 Approach the whale when slowed and close to surface, and cut entangling gear in planned locations and sequence 3.6 Follow organisational procedures for unsuccessful

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	disentanglement 3.7 Maintain situational awareness at all times, assessing whale behaviour and location, team members, equipment and vessels and overall operating environment
4. Conclude operations	4.1 Report outcomes of disentanglement operation and accurately complete records according to organisational procedures 4.2 Recover, clean and service equipment according to manufacturers' guidelines and organisational standards 4.3 Participate in team debriefing activities 4.4 Report signs of critical incident stress in self and others to relevant personnel

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
Reading	Interpret guidelines and standard operating procedures relating to whale disentanglement
Oral communication	- Use active listening and clear, precise language in conversations with key personnel and team members - Confirm communication signals to be used by response team members
Numeracy	Estimate weight (kg, t), length (m) and speed (m/s, km/h) of whales with reasonable accuracy

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMAIM307	Not applicable	Developed in response to	Newly created

Participate in large whale disentanglement operations		industry need	
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Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>