



Australian Government

AHCOCM501 Conduct field research into natural and cultural resources

Release: 1

AHCOCM501 Conduct field research into natural and cultural resources

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to conduct field research into natural resource and cultural areas for resource management and related purposes.

The unit applies to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people who have responsibility to gather appropriate research information to assist in the management of natural and cultural resources.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

On Country Management (OCM)

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. Review existing knowledge	1.1 Examine existing information gathered through previous investigation to determine key features 1.2 Identify information, records and places previously destroyed or damaged or under threat and report to management 1.3 Assess scope of information for adequacy against the requirements of legislation, codes of practice, guidelines and cultural protocols

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.4 Identify and access appropriate electronic and manual recording systems for data collection 1.5 Identify and access sources of expertise in research environments 1.6 Identify and record areas of inadequate information
2. Identify appropriate stakeholders	2.1 Consult with local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities and authorised individuals 2.2 Conduct interviews under the direction of a relevant cultural reference group and according to organisational requirements 2.3 Investigate and record the current and relevant past land tenure for the site 2.4 Investigate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples' interests with regard to regional and Community organisations 2.5 Apply cultural protocols and conduct key consultations with regional and local Community organisations and individuals 2.6 Comply with privacy requirements according to the directions of stakeholders and legislative and organisation requirements
3. Develop research approach	3.1 Determine objectives of the field research in conjunction with key stakeholders 3.2 Use objectives to identify specific types of investigation, techniques to be used, and physical areas of investigation 3.3 Assess the types of investigation to be utilised 3.4 Review existing information and data records to determine the starting points for the fieldwork 3.5 Ensure research methodology is consistent with the research objectives 3.6 Identify and access required resources to establish and maintain the research program 3.7 Select appropriate research personnel and identify stakeholders to be included in the consultation process 3.8 Identify research techniques and safe operations within expected environmental and cultural conditions 3.9 Estimate and submit costs of field research for approval 3.10 Establish sampling and recording processes for research information according to best practice and scientific standards

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	3.11 Ensure investigations comply with guidelines and other legislative requirements
4. Develop process for involving decision-makers	4.1 Use information on stakeholders to determine interests held by organisations, groups and individuals, and cultural dimensions 4.2 Define and document issues to be addressed with interest groups 4.3 Develop consultation and decision-making process to address the issues with individuals, groups and organisations using appropriate cultural protocols 4.4 Provide appropriate time for consultative processes within groups and between individuals to occur and to obtain feedback on issues 4.5 Form a decision-making group, to assist in direct investigation, accessing information to address issues and/or review the significance of place or area
5. Conduct field investigations	5.1 Follow work health and safety, environmental sustainability and biosecurity policies and procedures when working in field 5.2 Inspect sites to assess condition and availability of further information 5.3 Adjust previously determined methodology considering progressive results and stakeholder feedback 5.4 Coordinate observations, records and monitoring in accordance with scientific practice and to meet research objectives 5.5 Determine ecological, biological and geological, microbiological and entomological diversity within specified area 5.6 Source appropriate equipment and skills for the capture, management and sampling of animal species 5.7 Identify and record evidence of culturally significant resources in area using appropriate recording equipment 5.8 Identify and record impacts from areas external to natural and cultural resources in area under investigation 5.9 Deploy equipment, techniques and people to carry out investigations 5.10 Document and approve each field operation according to legislative and organisation requirements for work in the research environment
6. Report on the field	6.1 Analyse and record information for impact since previous report

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
investigation outcomes	and other resources 6.2 Document outcomes according to legislative requirements, the organisation's policies and practices, and international and national processes 6.3 Brief stakeholders and record draft findings 6.4 Develop and submit a determination of significance report to the organisation and its external review processes as required by legislation and codes of practice

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, analyse and extract information from a range of sources, including complex legal documents, policies and procedures
Oral communication	Use culturally appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCOCM501 Conduct field research into natural and cultural resources	AHCILM501 Conduct field research into natural and cultural resources	Application updated Elements and Performance Criteria revised for clarity Foundation Skills added Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated	Not equivalent

Links

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