



**Australian Government**

# **PUAFIR413 Develop simple prescribed burn plans**

**Release 1**

## PUAFIR413 Develop simple prescribed burn plans

### Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	PUA12 V2	New unit
1	PUA00 V8.1	Primary release on TGA

### Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to develop simple prescribed burn plans for specified burn areas and to prepare the plans to achieve identified objectives.

A prescribed burn is the controlled application of fire under specified environmental conditions to a predetermined area and at the time, intensity and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives.

A simple prescribed burn is characterised by low risk, low intensity, small area, low potential impact on assets, completion in one shift and minimal variation of fuel and terrain.

A prescribed burn plan is an approved plan for the conduct of prescribed burning, includes a map identifying the area to be burned and incorporates the specifications and conditions under which the operation is to be conducted.

Compliance with legislative requirements will be required.

### Application of the Unit

This unit applies to personnel responsible for the development of simple burn prescriptions.

### Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

### Pre-Requisites

PUAFIR303B Suppress wildfire

### Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

## Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

## Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Identify burn areas and burn objectives	<p>1.1 Areas requiring prescribed burning are identified in the <b><i>prescribed burn plan</i></b> in accordance with organisational procedures</p> <p>1.2 <b><i>Burn objectives</i></b> and actions required are developed in accordance with organisational procedures</p> <p>1.3 <b><i>Target groups</i></b> are identified and consultation process is initiated in accordance with organisational procedures</p>
2. Prepare plans for prescribed burning	<p>2.1 Fuel types and quantities within the burn area are determined</p> <p>2.2 Fire behaviour and intensity required to meet burn objectives are determined</p> <p>2.3 <b><i>Burn ignition strategies and tactics</i></b> suited to the location and that provide the fire behaviour required to meet objectives, are nominated in accordance with organisational procedures</p> <p>2.4 Result of consultation undertaken and input is factored into the planning process in accordance with organisational procedures</p> <p>2.5 Legislative requirements are identified and complied with</p> <p>2.6 <b><i>Hazards</i></b>, the safety of <b><i>people</i></b>, and protection of <b><i>property, assets</i></b>, and the <b><i>environment</i></b> are taken into account through proposed ignition and control strategies and tactics</p> <p>2.7 Required preparatory hazard mitigation and asset protection works are identified</p> <p>2.8 Type and quantity of <b><i>resources</i></b> required are identified</p> <p>2.9 Conditions for implementation of the strategies and</p>

- tactics are specified in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.10 Contingencies are outlined in prescribed burn plan
- 3. Gain prescribed burn approval**
- 3.1 Burn plan is submitted for approval in accordance with legislative requirements and organisational procedures
- 3.2 Modifications and amendments to burn plan are made based on feedback received
- 3.3 Burn plan approval is gained

## Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

### Required Skills

- assess fuel types and quantities
- assess risk
- communicate effectively in writing
- consult and liaise with the community
- predict fire behaviour
- prepare plans
- read maps
- recommend actions to be taken and communicate these actions with others

### Required Knowledge

- effects of fire on vegetation, fauna and accumulated fuels
- effects of fire on areas and places of cultural significance
- fire behaviour for fuel type being prescribed
- legislation relevant to the application of prescribed fire
- prescribed burning ignition and suppression strategies
- safe work practices
- organisational procedures
- wildfire hazards

## Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

### **Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit**

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- develop timelines for burn planning and conduct of burn
- identify risks and hazards
- develop burn objectives
- develop strategies and tactics to meet burn objectives
- identify actions required to minimise unacceptable impacts of burn preparation and conduct
- identify and consult with target groups

### **Consistency in performance**

Competency should be demonstrated in a range of actual and/or field-based workplace environments.

### **Context of and specific resources for assessment**

#### **Context of assessment**

Competency should be assessed in an agency approved simulated and/or workplace environment.

#### **Specific resources for assessment**

Access is required to:

- area requiring the application of fire under prescribed conditions
- existing management plans and data relevant to the area being prescribed

### **Method of assessment**

In a public safety environment assessment is usually conducted via direct observation in a training environment or in the workplace via subject matter supervision and/or mentoring, which is typically recorded in a competency workbook.

Assessment is completed using appropriately qualified assessors who select the most appropriate method of assessment.

Assessment may occur in an operational environment or in an agency-approved simulated work environment. Forms of assessment that are typically used include:

- direct observation
- interviewing the candidate

- journals and workplace documentation
- third party reports from supervisors
- written or oral questions

## 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 in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<b><i>Prescribed burn plan</i></b> includes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• approval of the plan for the conduct of prescribed burning</li> <li>• map identifying the area to be burned</li> <li>• specifications and conditions under which the operation is to be conducted</li> </ul>
<b><i>Burn objectives</i></b> may address:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• asset protection</li> <li>• community protection</li> <li>• habitat management</li> <li>• hazard reduction</li> <li>• management of cultural sites and activities</li> <li>• vegetation management</li> </ul>
<b><i>Target groups</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjacent land owners and/or managers</li> <li>• commercial operations within the impact zone</li> <li>• community groups with specific interests</li> <li>• government organisations including local, state and federal</li> <li>• other groups and people within the prescribing organisation</li> </ul>
<b><i>Burn ignition strategies and tactics</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contingency planning</li> <li>• fire behaviour to be achieved</li> <li>• ignition methods, lighting patterns, sequencing and timing of ignition</li> </ul>
<b><i>Hazards</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjoining land use, proximity to urban areas</li> <li>• adverse terrain or weather conditions</li> <li>• falling trees and limbs</li> <li>• flammable vegetation</li> <li>• flammable hazardous materials</li> <li>• road traffic</li> </ul>
<b><i>People</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• people involved with burn implementation</li> <li>• people on areas adjacent to the burn area</li> <li>• people permanently or temporarily in the burn area</li> <li>• smoke vulnerable communities</li> </ul>
<b><i>Property and assets</i></b> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• commercial crops or other assets on the burn area</li> <li>• cultural sites, historical buildings, etc.</li> <li>• property and assets adjacent to or within the burn area</li> <li>• stock</li> </ul>

Protection of the <i>environment</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• consideration of location of native flora and fauna, including rare and endangered species</li><li>• safe use of chemical fire suppressants</li><li>• smoke management</li><li>• soil conservation</li><li>• water quality</li></ul>
<i>Resources</i> may include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• crews for ground ignition and suppression</li><li>• equipment back-up</li><li>• ignition and suppression equipment and supplies</li><li>• logistical support</li><li>• other vehicles</li><li>• tankers</li></ul>

## Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.