



Australian Government

ACMEXH401 Implement species population planning and management

Release: 1

ACMEXH401 Implement species population planning and management

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 develop and monitor the implementation of an animal population management plan, by ensuring extensive liaison with internal and external personnel and assisting in the development of facility policies, manuals and records in species management.

The unit applies to senior team members with zoo keeping, wildlife care, aquarium or related experience who generally supervise others and provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable and unpredictable problems. Tasks may vary in scale from individual animal welfare to social group management, working across a range of programs or animal groups in the facility.

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

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Exhibited Animals (EXH)

Elements and Performance Criteria

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<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>

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1. Action current species population plan	1.1 Determine activities required to implement species population plan within designated area 1.2 Communicate information about activities required to achieve species population plan to section staff 1.3 Implement and monitor requirements related to breeding activities according to species population plan 1.4 Communicate with relevant internal and external personnel regarding species reproductive activity and breeding environment 1.5 Select animals for transfer between facilities according to objectives of facility species population plan and regional plan 1.6 Manage animal transactions and security to comply with animal transport and biosecurity regulations and legislative requirements
2. Maintain and review species population information and records	2.1 Maintain accurate records of animal breeding/transactions for designated area according to facility policies and procedures 2.2 Update in-house husbandry manual or studbook according to facility procedures 2.3 Monitor species population data and information, identifying trends and successes and challenges 2.4 Determine if changes to activities are required to meet objectives of facility and regional species population plans
3. Research information on species population planning and management	3.1 Research information about relevant species from a range of sources, including animal databases, inventories and studbooks 3.2 Liaise with internal and external personnel about species population planning and management 3.3 Consider recommendations of Taxon Advisory Groups in managing the species population, including acquiring and disposing of animals 3.4 Evaluate characteristics and merits of each species in the population plan 3.5 Prepare recommendations for improvements to species population plan and management
4. Provide input to population management planning and policy	4.1 Present recommendations based on the analysis and review of the population plan to curator or management 4.2 Assist curator or management with development of animal

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	population planning policy 4.3 Provide information or assistance to regional and international studbooks and management plans 4.4 Prepare reports and present to curator or management according to facility policies and 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
Reading	Access technical advice to increase knowledge of species requirements and population planning and management
Oral communication	Use industry terminology and concepts to obtain and convey information relevant to species population planning and management
Numeracy	Interpret and analyse data and trends from a range of sources

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEXH401 Implement species population planning and management	ACMCAN401 Implement collection management	Redesigned unit merging <i>ACMCAN401 Implement collection management</i> and <i>ACMCAN502 Develop and monitor collection management</i> to reduce duplication Content updated to reflect industry practices	Not equivalent

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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>

Assessment Requirements for ACMEXH401 Implement species population planning and management

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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:

- actioned activities to implement one species population plan for designated area, including:
 - coordinated animal breeding and/or transfer activities
 - communicated information to staff on species population plan
 - maintained accurate records and documentation relating to species population plan
- researched and contributed information for species population plan for designated area, including:
 - liaised with and accessed technical information from internal and external personnel
 - analysed data and managed animal records
 - provided recommendations for population planning to management.

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:

- principles and objectives of population management, including:
 - breeding or population control
 - transfer of animals, species stocking
 - wildlife conservation
 - species recovery
 - population planning requirements
 - taxonomy and relevance to population management
- facility population planning policies and procedures, master plan and other relevant policies

- key requirements and guidelines of Australasian Species Management Program (ASMP):
 - Regional Census and Plans
 - criteria for studbook keeping
- role of the Zoo and Aquarium Association in population management
- working knowledge of international agreements, conventions and conservation status categories, including:
 - World Zoo Conservation Strategy
 - International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- animal welfare principles and ethics related to population management, including:
 - Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Exhibited Animals
 - state/territory regulations including native wildlife protection
- compliance requirements of state/territory legislation relevant to species population planning, including:
 - animal welfare
 - environment protection and biodiversity
 - wildlife trade
 - biosecurity
- animal identification to the sub-species level
- species-specific biology and husbandry of animals in designated area
- breeding and genetic concepts, including:
 - concepts of inbreeding and outbreeding
 - genetic principles for the management of species in captive care
 - importance of breeding coefficients
 - small population biology
 - species stocking policies
- facility approved breeding and population control methods, including:
 - fertility control – permanent or temporary; removal of nesting opportunities, removal and/or manipulation of eggs
 - separation of males and females during breeding; keeping single sexes
 - approved transfer of animals; euthanasia
- information management requirements, including:
 - features of studbooks and animal husbandry manuals
 - types of animal information management software
 - database programs for record-keeping and data analysis
 - formats for species population management plans and reports.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:

- an animal care workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - facility animal information management system, database or inventories
 - studbooks and husbandry manuals
- specifications:
 - facility policies and procedures and relevant ASMP Regional Census and Plan
- relationships:
 - internal and external personnel.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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