



Australian Government

AHCCSW301 Protect places of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural significance

Release: 1

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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 protect places of cultural significance to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples. It includes stakeholder engagement to research, document and conserve culturally significant places and requires following cultural protocols when detailing specific cultural, gender and kinship sensitivities of working in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and on Country with diverse cultural requirements.

This unit applies to individuals working on Country and in cultural keeping places, and includes protecting cultural places, sites and objects often in co-operation with a range of stakeholders and with reference to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and/or line management. This unit is also applicable to the work of repatriation workers and anthropologists.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

Unit Sector

Cultural Sites Work (CSW)

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. Identify and communicate with key	1.1 Identify appropriate persons within local communities who hold cultural knowledge relevant in determining the cultural significance of

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
stakeholders	Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander places and heritage 1.2 Develop working relationships with key stakeholders that assist in the management of culturally significant places 1.3 Develop communication approaches that place Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols and values at the forefront and accommodate stakeholder concerns and interests 1.4 Seek permission to document and obtain views on the way in which the cultural significance and resource can be conserved and used 1.5 Report feedback to management for operational planning processes
2. Investigate cultural significance	2.1 Ensure cultural Knowledge Holders inform the decision-making process to determine the cultural significance of places 2.2 Acknowledge traditional Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander knowledge, practices, rights and responsibilities in managing Country and environment 2.3 Research and document scientific, aesthetic and historical elements of a place to determine cultural significance 2.4 Determine the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander beliefs embedded in a place of cultural significance 2.5 Assess and document cultural significance according to local Community permissions and intellectual property protocols 2.6 Ensure research and assessment activities are conducted in a manner that is safe to self and others
3. Identify threats to culturally significant places	3.1 Identify external and internal threats to culturally significant places 3.2 Record evidence of land degradation using standard industry and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander terminology 3.3 Participate in a risk assessment to determine potential impact on cultural sites 3.4 Document protection or conservation measures
4. Conserve significance	4.1 Develop and implement policies and plans relevant to conservation activities 4.2 Obtain resources for conservation and restoration activities 4.3 Apply safe and environmentally sustainable work practices

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	4.4 Implement conservation activities in culturally sensitive ways, according to local Community, organisational and legislative requirements

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 and extract information from a range of sources
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
AHCCSW301 Protect places of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural significance	AHCASW301 Protect places of Aboriginal cultural significance	Title change 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>

Assessment Requirements for AHCCSW301 Protect places of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural significance

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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 protected a place of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural significance at least once and has:

- identified appropriate Cultural Authorities for a Community, place or site
- observed Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols when working with stakeholders and land managers
- developed working relationships with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander and non-Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander stakeholders in cultural sites
- consulted with relevant Traditional Owners or Custodians of local cultural and Community knowledge, information and material
- canvassed views to determine the cultural significance, heritage value and preservation issues of a cultural site
- sought permission to document cultural rights and responsibilities when using Community knowledge, information and material
- reported outcomes of feedback to management
- identified and documented potential threats to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander site
- contributed to planning for the protection of an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural site, including:
 - identified resources
 - assisted in completing submissions
- participated in the implementation of measures to mitigate and manage the risk of damage or loss of cultural integrity
- applied work health and safety practices in the context of own work
- applied appropriate sustainability practices in the context of own work.

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:

- Community's history, cultural values and interpersonal and Community protocols related to the place
- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information, material and expression able to be accessed and shared
- methods of reporting, including:
 - formal documentation
 - formal verbal communication
 - informal documentation and communication
- the relationship of natural resources to spirituality, art, environment, values, beliefs and lore
- organisational policies and procedures for conservation of places of cultural significance
- sensitivities towards protection of culturally significant places, including past and potential land disturbances, landforms and soil types
- workplace health and safety and environmental sustainability processes relevant to places of cultural significance
- potential threats to culturally significant places, including:
 - land degradation
 - vandalism
 - catastrophic fire and extreme weather events
- assessing, mitigating and controlling risks in a culturally significant place
- principles of Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) and its protocols
- key concepts of Burra Charter and Guidelines
- local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander names and standard industry terminology
- key concepts of Cultural and Heritage Legislation and National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to the protection of culturally significant places.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on Country and/or within an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- specifications:
 - access to relevant legislation including NPWS
 - access to relevant codes of practice including ICIP and Burra Charter and Guidelines
- relationships:
 - local Community Elders and/or Custodians.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:

- Assessment must be undertaken by a workplace assessor who has expertise in this unit of competency and who is:

an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elder and/or Custodian or:

- accompanied by, and/or in communication with, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience and knowledge of local cultural protocols.

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