



Australian Government

AHCCSW501 Survey and report on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites

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 survey and report on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites.

This unit applies to those working in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities and on Country in cultural landscapes and with cultural sites and objects. The unit applies to working with lore/law men and women either as an autonomous sites worker or under the appropriate supervision and Cultural Authority of Traditional Owners or Elders for specific Country; it is also applicable to the work of repatriation workers and anthropologists. On Country refers to the land, sea and waterways. An explanation of the differences between lore and law and why both are important is available in the Implementation Guide.

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>

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1. Identify, communicate and consult with key stakeholders	1.1 Work with Cultural Authorities to identify appropriate persons within Communities who hold cultural knowledge 1.2 Develop and implement communication and consultation systems that place cultural protocols and values at the forefront 1.3 Confirm traditional ownership of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites, material and objects with supervisor 1.4 Engage with stakeholders to address concerns and interests 1.5 Ensure approvals and permissions are obtained from relevant Traditional Owners for cultural sites access and work to be undertaken 1.6 Complete required submissions for conducting cultural sites surveys 1.7 Scope and document client needs for deliverables in a formal sites survey report 1.8 Manage planning and assessment processes, according to the Burra Charter process and other existing industry guidelines and legislation
2. Manage collection of initial sites data	2.1 Identify and acquire required resources 2.2 Source and verify sites plans and maps, including topographical maps 2.3 Prepare a base plan of the sites 2.4 Undertake sites orientation and define and verify location, geographic and operational boundaries 2.5 Identify and record current land use and environmental problems and threats 2.6 Identify and record covenants that could affect the sites or report 2.7 Ascertain climate and weather conditions from historical data

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3. Compile a sites inventory	3.1 Categorise and record sites context, location and sites information data 3.2 Categorise and record features data 3.3 Identify and record cultural material, objects, properties and relevant physical characteristics on sites inventory according to archaeological or scientific protocols 3.4 Undertake relevant field research in accordance with safe work policies and procedures 3.5 Implement appropriate techniques and tools and relevant archaeological practices and procedures 3.6 Locate structural elements and confirm existing services and facilities 3.7 Record the presence, location and/or extent of other relevant sites constraints 3.8 Develop limits of acceptable change in the forms of deterioration and damage to the places of cultural significance to legislative and organisational requirements
4. Review, assess and record sites data	4.1 Engage relevant expertise and consultant services when required 4.2 Conduct an assessment of cultural significance 4.3 Document a statement of cultural significance
5. Determine the impact of threats to the sites	5.1 Identify threats to culturally significant places, both external and internal to the area under consideration 5.2 Undertake a risk assessment of all threats to determine potential impact on sites and associated cultural landscape 5.3 Develop and implement risk management strategies and protection/conservation measures to control risks 5.4 Develop and document a risk management report that incorporates an impact analysis 5.5 Document policy changes required to address the threats

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
6. Document a sites survey report	6.1 Document sites information into a sites assessment report or sites survey report 6.2 Incorporate all relevant data from the sites assessment into assessment report in line with client needs and the requirements of relevant legislation and regulations 6.3 Provide and record specific recommendations for remedial action of sites conservation and mitigation of sites problems 6.4 Formulate and document recommendations for appropriate risk controls of sites hazards 6.5 Store and maintain survey and assessment data as part of professional practice 6.6 Inform and advise client-stakeholder of the content and implications of the report, and present a copy

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
AHCCSW501 Survey and report on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	AHCASW501 Survey and report on Aboriginal cultural sites	Title updated Application updated Elements and Performance	Not equivalent

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
cultural sites		Criteria revised for clarity Foundation Skills added Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated	

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 AHCCSW501 Survey and report on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites

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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 surveyed and reported on at least one Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural site and has:

- identified appropriate Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Authorities for the local Community, place or site
- identified key stakeholders to be consulted in relation to Owners and Custodians of cultural and Community knowledge, information or material and cultural significance
- developed and implemented consultation processes
- surveyed and assessed Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural site using appropriate techniques, tools and relevant archaeological practices
- incorporated the cultural significance, heritage values and conservation issues of the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural site into report documentation
- identified threats and developed controls to mitigate and manage the risk of deterioration, damaging incidents or loss of cultural integrity
- prepared a sites survey report to meet Community and organisational needs
- completed submissions required to carry out a sites survey
- observed cultural protocols in dealing with stakeholders and land managers
- reported outcomes to local Community.

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:

- authentic and authoritative sources for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural information, material and expression able to be accessed and shared
- sites survey techniques, procedures and processes
- archaeological and scientific research techniques relevant to survey Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites

- monitoring of sites, including fabric deterioration, damage and likely causes of deterioration and damage
- cultural rights and responsibilities when using Community knowledge, information and material
- general understanding of impacts of natural resources, such as geological settings, ecological processes, and interaction between natural and cultural processes
- provisions in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter and the Burra Charter guidelines in relation to surveying and reporting on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites
- on Country-based guidelines in relation to surveying and reporting on Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites
- design and methodology of consultation processes
- policy analysis and development of impact statements
- the range of conservation strategies for cultural areas
- data submission systems and reporting requirements
- components of current Cultural and Heritage legislation or National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) legislation relevant to surveying cultural sites.

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:
 - legislation/codes of practice relevant to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural sites
- 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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