



Australian Government

AHCECR308 Conduct a site inspection for ecological restoration

Release: 1

AHCECR308 Conduct a site inspection for ecological restoration

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to conduct a site inspection, including verification of the location, ownership, orientation and boundaries of a site, and assess the condition and recovery potential of the site's native ecosystem.

The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work, including limited responsibility for the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Ecological Restoration (ECR)

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. Collect information	1.1 Obtain site location and details of proposed works 1.2 Source and review available maps and plans for site 1.3 Source and review available documents relevant to historical and current land use 1.4 Identify scope of inspection according to stakeholder requirements and local regulations

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.5 Determine biophysical, climate and weather conditions for site from historical data and climate change prediction tools 1.6 Seek approval to visit site 1.7 Identify and record covenants affecting the site 1.8 Check availability of remote sensing tools relevant to the site
2. Prepare for a site visit	2.1 Identify and prepare resources required for site inspection 2.2 Plan methods for recording inspection, and confirm record-keeping procedures according to industry requirements 2.3 Evaluate scope of proposed works and prepare field notes to checklist specific concerns 2.4 Evaluate environmental factors to determine likely site conditions and risks 2.5 Consider access and traffic management requirements for site
3. Visit site and confirm site parameters	3.1 Carry out site orientation and verify ownership and site boundaries according to maps and plans 3.2 Identify site hazards, assess risks and implement control measures for site inspection according to workplace health and safety procedures 3.3 Identify, estimate and record site dimensions, gradients and ecological features 3.4 Identify and record existing on-site services 3.5 Identify and record impact of features and characteristics of properties adjacent to site 3.6 Identify substrate types from reference charts and texts
4. Inspect site for biotic and abiotic elements	4.1 Collect substrate samples, conduct and record field tests according to workplace procedures 4.2 Identify hydrological elements affecting site ecology 4.3 Identify the specific ecological communities on site 4.4 Identify ecosystem functions and processes occurring on site 4.5 Determine condition and recovery potential of natural areas within the site 4.6 Identify threatening processes affecting site conditions

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	4.7 Investigate and record signs of fauna on site
5. Document information	5.1 Assess site information and determine reference ecosystem relevant to site restoration 5.2 Prepare a base plan of site, including zones of varying condition 5.3 Document site inspection according to stakeholder requirements and workplace procedures 5.4 Complete documents and submit to stakeholder or supervisor according to workplace 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	Interpret plans, maps, guides and texts from a variety of sources and consolidate information
Writing	Accurately record results of inspections and investigations and prepare documentation using industry standard terminology and formatting

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCECR308 Conduct a site inspection for ecological restoration	Not applicable	The unit has been created to address a skill or task required by industry that is not covered by an existing unit	Newly created

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 AHCECR308 Conduct a site inspection for ecological restoration

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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 conducted a site inspection for at least two different ecological restoration sites.

There must also be evidence that the individual has:

- identified biota and ecological communities of the site
- identified abiotic elements and ecological processes for the site
- identified threatening processes affecting the site
- identified a reference ecosystem relevant to the restoration
- recognised symptoms of ecosystem degradation and potential for recovery
- recognised recovery potential of site, including:
 - zones of high recovery potential
 - zones of low recovery potential
- identified hazards, assessed risk and identified controls
- collected samples and conducted substrate field tests according to site conditions and stakeholder requirements
- estimated dimensions and gradients of site
- identified anticipated effects of climate change on site
- reported findings to stakeholder or supervisor according to workplace procedures.

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:

- basic ecological principles relevant to site inspections for restoration works
- basic ecological restoration principles
- biotic elements and ecosystem functions and processes, including resilience and succession after disturbance

- plan and map interpretation
- substrate type and condition and relevant field tests for soils and/or aquatic environments, including:
 - substrate type and structure
 - pH
 - soluble salts
- hydrological conditions for site and impact on ecosystem restoration
- native and non-native species identification and biology
- habitat conditions for plants and animals for restoration activities
- ecosystem resilience and recovery mechanisms of plants and animals
- threatening processes to native ecosystems
- anticipated effects of climate change on ecosystems
- measuring and estimating methods for linear measurements and gradients
- current ecosystems and their use and environmental threats
- site hazards, risks and control strategies associated with undertaking site inspections
- protocols for accessing and visiting ecological site
- legislative and regulatory requirements, including environmental protection legislation
- government regulations relating to the site components and access
- documenting site inspections using industry standard language, including:
 - inspection reports
 - site inventory reports
 - base plans
- codes of practice and current industry standards for ecological site inspections, reporting and terminology.

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 at least two different ecological sites
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - equipment for performing substrate tests
 - equipment or forms for maintaining records and reporting
 - items of personal protective equipment when accessing site
 - maps and plans for site orientation and boundary establishment
- specifications:
 - workplace documents such as policies, procedures and forms
 - workplace instructions and job specifications for inspection
 - relevant legislation/codes of practice
- relationships:

- stakeholder
- supervisor.

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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