



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCECR502 Conduct biological surveys

Release: 1

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Modification History

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

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 planned and conducted at least one biological survey with at least two of the following biological elements:

- flora
- vertebrate fauna
- fungi
- invertebrate fauna
- microorganisms

The survey must also be conducted in at least one of the following environments:

- terrestrial
- marine or aquatic
- arboreal

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- planned, conducted and reported on biological surveys according to client requirements, workplace policies and industry best practice
- identified scope, objectives and constraints for a biological survey
- assessed current data and determined data collection and processing needs
- identified biological indicators that are repeatable and statistically representative
- developed a survey plan that documents survey methods and indicators
- secured permits and approvals
- scheduled survey activities and established access to the site
- conducted a biological survey with data collection staged and recorded according to the survey plan and health and safety requirements, and that must include:
 - species, identified by biological and vernacular name
 - frequency
 - distribution

- condition
- habitat
- produced a biological survey report with analysis and conclusions, including:
 - survey findings according to the survey scope and objectives
 - identified areas requiring remedial action and improvements
 - detailed recommendations for action
 - description and assessment of the specified biological components
- ensured survey plan and activities complied with animal welfare codes of practice and environmental and biosecurity 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:

- biological classification systems
- plant and animal recognition relevant to survey area
- environmental factors that impact on vegetation and animal populations
- survey equipment, machinery and methods for specific environments, including:
 - marine and aquatic
 - terrestrial
 - arboreal
- survey techniques and methods for different biological elements, including:
 - microorganisms
 - fungi
 - micro and macro invertebrates
 - plants
 - animals including fish
 - methods for obtaining statistically representative sample
- requirements for ensuring the legality of biological surveys, including:
 - animal welfare
 - codes of practice
 - legislative requirements
 - ethical standards and approvals
- ecological principles and terminology, including
 - ecosystem structures and habitat
 - interactions between flora and fauna
 - vegetation types and their characteristics
 - energy flows and trophic structures of communities
- assessment, reporting and client liaison procedures and best practice techniques
- workplace team management procedures
- workplace health and safety legislative requirements and codes of practice, including:

- hazard identification, assessment and control measures.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in the field and according to the conditions specified in the Performance Evidence or in an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - survey equipment relative to the type of survey undertaken
- specifications:
 - specific workplace policies and procedures for conducting surveys and recording results
 - client brief and specifications for survey
 - specific legislation and codes of practice for ethical surveys
- relationships:
 - client
- timeframes:
 - according to time specified in client brief.

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

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>