



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCOCM501 Conduct field research into natural and cultural resources

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.

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 field research into a natural and cultural resource on at least one occasion and has:

- used a range of electronic and manual recording systems to support research
- identified stakeholders, including current tenure, local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander history and community interest
- sought permission from local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities and/or Cultural Authorities where required
- reviewed existing knowledge of national and cultural resources and sites using literature reviews, site inspections, consultation and expert advice
- developed research objectives and research design
- coordinated staff and resources for research project
- conducted field investigations to research impacts on fauna, flora and natural resources of the site
- facilitated a consultation and decision-making process
- reported on the field investigation to organisation and legislative requirements
- applied safe and humane animal handling techniques
- applied work health and safety practices in field investigations
- applied biosecurity measures 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:

- application of conservation legislation, charters, codes of practice relating to natural and cultural resource areas

- principles of free, prior and informed consent when consulting with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples and Communities
- communication techniques used for consulting with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People including:
 - verbal and non-verbal communication
 - active listening
 - appropriate questioning
- organisational recording processes
- assessment of hazards and risks in designated environment
- workplace health and safety requirements relevant to conducting field research
- access issues
- management of research in a range of weather and area conditions
- organisational policies and procedures for carrying out investigations, consultations and development of policies
- appropriate database and geographic information system
- identification of pollution, degradation and disturbance
- relevant legislation in relation to the safe, humane treatment and handling of animals
- methods for the safe, humane treatment and handling of animals
- equipment used for the safe and humane handling of animals in field research, including:
 - magnifying glass
 - tape measures
 - animal handling gloves
 - measuring calipers
 - live traps and tagging
- impacts from areas external to natural and cultural resources in area under investigation
- differences between native title and land rights legislation
- research techniques, including:
 - tracking
 - identification of species
 - sampling of plants and animals
 - historical data
- systems and processes for assessing cultural significance
- organisational reporting processes, strategies and plans
- biological diversity of the area under assessment, including aspects of living organisms, habitats and local communities, and interactions between species
- geological diversity of the area under assessment, including aspects of stratigraphy, palaeontology, paedology, and soil classification
- sustainability and conservation processes
- major impacts on natural resources, such as geological settings, ecological processes, and interaction between natural and cultural processes
- monitoring requirements, including fabric deterioration, damage and likely causes of deterioration and damage

- relevant legislation and agreements that apply to area, including a good understanding of the concepts and potential operation of the Burra Charter
- legislation under which organisation operates and research is commissioned.

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:
 - specific legislation/codes of practice relevant to conducting field research and communicating with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community members
- 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 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.

Links

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