



Australian Government

AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals

Release: 2

AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0.
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to euthanise animals using firearms and techniques appropriate for the type and mobility of the animal.

The unit applies to individuals who hold a valid firearms license and work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and for solving problems.

State or territory licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply in some jurisdictions. Destruction of pest animals must comply with state animal cruelty legislation.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Pest Management (PMG)

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. Plan for the shooting activity	1.1 Map location and boundaries for the shoot in accordance with the pest management plan and monitoring program 1.2 Confirm location of habitats, habits and range of movement of target animal 1.3 Determine timing of the shoot based on the activity patterns of the

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	target animal and estimate time required to complete the shoot 1.4 Identify hazards and risks and apply control measures associated with the shoot according to workplace safety procedures 1.5 Identify environmental and personal and public safety risks associated with the shoot 1.6 Identify, fit and use suitable personal protective equipment and warning signs required for the activity
2. Prepare for the shooting activity	2.1 Confirm anatomy and physical features identifying location of vulnerable organs of target animal 2.2 Take precautions to minimise hazards and environmental risks associated with the shoot 2.3 Select vehicles, equipment and materials intended for use and check for serviceability 2.4 Ensure firearm licences and permits are current and applicable to purpose 2.5 Select firearm and ammunition types to comply with recommendations and workplace procedures for target animal 2.6 Ensure firearms, ammunition, and stowage for transportation meets licensing requirements 2.7 Check and prepare firearm and ammunition 2.8 Zero and test firearm according to workplace procedures 2.9 Stow firearm for transport according to legislative and regulatory requirements and workplace procedures
3. Shoot animals	3.1 Carry firearm safely with muzzle pointing in safe direction at all times according to industry best practice and workplace procedures 3.2 Load, discharge and unload firearm according to safety procedures 3.3 Aim firearm at vulnerable organ on the target animal and discharge firearm to kill using a single shot 3.4 Check each target animal to ensure it is dead prior to selecting the next target animal 3.5 Euthanise target animals that have not been killed cleanly 3.6 Handle carcasses required for research or commercial use to minimise personal health and safety and biosecurity risks 3.7 Dispose of animal carcasses not required for research or other

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	purposes according to enterprise procedures to minimise biosecurity or public safety and health risks
4. Clean and store equipment and material	4.1 Clean and store carcasses for research or commercial use 4.2 Clean and store equipment and materials according to workplace practices 4.3 Clean, maintain and store firearms in line with regulatory standards 4.4 Store ammunition safely 4.5 Report or record activity completion according to workplace practices

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
Writing	Accurately completes organisational records and reports using clear language and industry terminology
Navigate the world of work	- Takes responsibility for following explicit and implicit licencing requirements, policies, procedures, codes of practice and legislative requirements - Be up to date with state or territory and federal legislation related to the use of firearms licensing
Get the work done	- Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks and workload - Makes routine decisions and implements standard procedures for routine tasks, using formal decision making processes

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title	Code and title	Comments	Equivalence status
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current version	previous version		
AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals Release 2	AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals Release 1	Minor changes to Performance Criteria for clarity Updated Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence	Equivalent unit

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 AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals

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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 on at least one occasion the individual has demonstrated the skills to use a firearm to euthanise animals, including:

- planned the shoot within the boundaries and location of the target animal its range and habitat according to the timeframe, pest management plan and monitoring program
- ensured licences and permits were valid and applicable and environmental and public safety risks were mitigated
- identified target animal and its anatomical vulnerabilities for a clean kill
- operated a firearm safely in accordance with statutory requirements
- zeroed and test fired the firearm safely at a range under supervision at a distance that is commensurate with the target animals to be destroyed
- selected and checked serviceability of transport, equipment, firearms and ammunition, and stowed the firearm and ammunition safely for transport
- cleaned, maintained and stored equipment, firearms and ammunition safely and in accordance with statutory requirements
- checked target animal was dead, and euthanised immediately, if signs of life, according to relevant animal welfare codes of practice
- used personal protective equipment (PPE) to handle carcasses to ensure health and safety in the workplace
- identified health and safety in the workplace hazards and risks and applied control measures and used PPE according to health and safety in the workplace procedures
- applied biosecurity measures when handling, transporting or disposing of carcasses
- maintained records and reporting 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:

- pest management plan and their purpose
- environmental hazards and risks associated with the use of firearms
- safety hazards and risk management strategies associated with shooting
- checking and preparing a firearm and ammunition
- checking target animal for life after discharging the firearm
- anatomy and physical features and vulnerable organs, or humane points on target animals
- procedures for the safe handling of carcasses required for research or commercial use
- procedures for the safe disposal of animal carcasses not required for other purposes
- reporting and recording procedures required by the pest management plan
- location and boundaries for the shoot
- habitats, habits and range of movement of target animals
- PPE required for the shoot
- firearm's licensing requirements
- firearm and ammunition types recommended for the target animal
- State and territory gun control laws, acts and regulatory requirements including firearms agreements and codes of practice, relating to the use of firearms for euthanising animals
- basic requirements for ensuring the welfare of animals described in the relevant Codes of Practice
- prevention of cruelty to animals legislation applicable to destruction of animals
- basic requirements for biosecurity in the context of destruction of animals.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in an outdoor field environment with pest animals or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - pest animals, carcasses or targets
 - firearms
 - PPE
- specifications:
 - workplace documents including procedures for firearm use
 - operating instructions for firearms
 - licences and permissions to discharge firearms
 - specific legislation and codes of practice for firearm use and animal welfare
- timeframes:
 - checked animal for signs of life after discharge of firearm.

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:

- must possess firearms licences
- appropriate experience in using firearms for pest control.

Links

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