



Australian Government

MSS025030 Assist with assessing site environmental indicators

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. Unit code changed. Application changed. Elements changed. Performance Criteria changed. Foundation Skills populated. Assessment Requirements changed. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSS025017 Assist with assessing site environmental indicators.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to identify and report on environmental indicators to assist with determining the environmental condition of a site or locality.

This unit applies to environmental technicians and similar roles who are required to confirm the regulatory and other requirements relevant to the work, determine appropriate environmental indicators, source relevant data and analyse the data to identify trends and estimate environmental health of a site or locality.

This unit applies in a range of sectors, including but not limited to environmental monitoring and sampling; environmental compliance, auditing and inspection; groundwater and clean water; water treatment, storm and wastewater management; solid and hazardous waste management; site remediation; management of contaminated sites; geotechnical services and civil engineering; natural resource management.

No licensing or certification requirements exist at the time of publication. Relevant legislation, industry standards and codes of practice within Australia must be applied.

Pre-requisite Unit

MSS024027 Participate in environmental field work

Competency Field

Environmental monitoring and technology

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Read and interpret existing site or locality information	1.1 Confirm the scope of the proposed project and details of the site or locality 1.2 Identify legislative, regulatory and planning requirements relevant to project 1.3 Access, read and interpret available information about the site or

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	locality 1.4 Summarise existing data and relate them to legislative, planning and organisational requirements relevant to project
2. Identify environmental indicators relevant to site or locality	2.1 Determine which environmental indicators and statutory environmental quality concentration limits are relevant to proposed project and requirements of site or locality 2.2 Identify core environmental indicators and source and collate data 2.3 Identify statutory environmental quality concentration limits and source and collate data 2.4 Identify additional site, locality or project specific environmental indicators and source and collate data 2.5 Identify gaps in available data and refer to supervisor for further action
3. Analyse data to establish environmental condition of site or locality	3.1 Determine compatibility of data sets and seek advice on any issues 3.2 Compare compatible data with core environmental indicators, established standards, regulatory limits, and statutory environmental quality concentration limits 3.3 Apply environmental chemistry and biodiversity concepts and principles to estimate the environmental health of the site or locality 3.4 Identify significant trends in environmental data and correlations and differences with indicators 3.5 Make a final assessment of environmental condition of site or locality to meet project requirements
4. Report findings	4.1 Report final assessment of environmental condition in required format and expected timeframe 4.2 Brief supervisor and stakeholders about environmental assessment process and outcomes

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

- Reading skills to interpret complex workplace documents and regulatory requirements

- Writing skills to document data analysis and report findings
- Oral communication skills to communicate with supervisor and stakeholders, seek advice
- Numeracy skills to compare and interpret data on indicators, identify trends, correlations and differences.

Other foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit.

Unit Mapping Information

Release 1. Supersedes and is equivalent to MSS025017 Assist with assessing site environmental indicators.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5b04f318-804f-4dc0-9463-c3fb9a3fe998>

Assessment Requirements for MSS025030 Assist with assessing site environmental indicators

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Performance Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has completed the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit, and demonstrated the ability to:

- determine environmental indicators and source relevant data for at least one site or locality
- interpret data to determine environmental health of at least one site or locality.

Knowledge Evidence

There must be evidence the candidate has knowledge of:

- scientific terminology relevant to job role, use of environmental indicators and assessment of environmental pollution and environmental degradation
- fundamental concepts and principles in chemistry, physics, geology and biology to support a scientific, systematic approach to the evaluation of environmental degradation
- fundamentals of environmental chemistry, including:
 - natural and modified hydrologic cycle
 - aquatic chemistry in natural and polluted waters
 - water pollutants, including heavy metals, inorganics, organics, nutrients and pesticides
- atmosphere and its composition, structure and circulation
- atmospheric stability and instability, including lapse rates and inversions
- atmospheric pollutants, including particulates, inorganic air pollutants and organic air pollutants
- concepts of climate change
- soil chemistry
- hazardous wastes and toxicological chemistry
- concepts of biodiversity stresses, including:
 - land clearing and loss of habitat
 - threatened and vulnerable species and ecological communities
 - introduced species
- specific legislation, policies and codes of practice related to site or locality, environmental pollution and biodiversity
- common site hazards and control measures

- health, safety and environmental requirements, including field safety and survival principles.

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions and contingencies. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
 - State of the Environment Reports, national environment protection measures, ANZECC Core Environmental Indicators documentation
 - environmental databases relevant to project
 - national and state/territory environmental management legislation, policies, and codes of practice
 - site reports and history
 - environmental management plan
- • modelling of industry operating conditions.

Assessors must satisfy the NVR/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

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