



Australian Government

NWPSOU001 Respond to blue-green algae outbreaks

Release: 1

NWPSOU001 Respond to blue-green algae outbreaks

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	This unit was released in NWP Water Training Package release 1.0 and meets the Standards for Training Packages. • New unit, created drawing upon information from deleted units NWP368A and NWP278A

Application

This unit describes the skills required to respond to blue-green algae outbreaks. The ability to identify problems, conduct sampling, determine and apply technical adjustments and produce technical reports is essential to performance.

This unit applies to those working as field staff members with specific responsibilities for responding to blue-green algae outbreaks.

The skills and knowledge described in this unit must be applied within the legislative, regulatory and policy environment in which they are carried out. Organisational policies and procedures must be consulted and adhered to.

Those undertaking this unit would work under supervision, while performing complex tasks, within a familiar context.

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

Competency Field

Source

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
Elements describe the essential outcomes	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the range of conditions section.
1. Confirm blue-green algae outbreak	1.1 Receive reports of <i>blue-green algae outbreak</i>. 1.2 Verify the extent and locations of blue-green algae outbreak.

2. Prepare samples for testing	2.1 Confirm procedures for sampling and sampling locations. 2.2 Check organisational procedures. 2.3 Prepare sampling equipment. 2.4 Identify location and extent of outbreak. 2.5 Select sample points. 2.6 Carry out sampling. 2.7 Prepare and send samples for testing.
3. Respond to blue-green algae outbreak	3.1 Evaluate potential blue-green algae control methods and select and implement appropriate actions. 3.2 Advise affected people. 3.3 Monitor and inspect area.
4. Report on blue-green algae outbreak	4.1 Collect and interpret process data. 4.2 Compile data report. 4.3 Report observations outside defined parameters for further action.

Foundation Skills

The foundation skills demands of this unit have been mapped for alignment with the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). The following tables outline the performance levels indicated for successful attainment of the unit.

ACSF levels indicative of performance:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Learning					Reading					Writing					Oral communication					Numeracy				

Performance variables:

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Support					Context					Text complexity					Task complexity				

Further information on ACSF and the foundation skills underpinning this unit can be found in the Foundation Skills Guide on the GSA website.

Range of Conditions

Blue-green algae outbreak areas	- rivers, streams, creeks - dams
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include:	• lagoons • billabongs
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Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=26336bc0-04e5-49d9-8c31-46c49b6a0037>

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Assessment Requirements for NWPSOU001 Respond to blue-green algae outbreaks

Modification History

Release	Comments
1	These Assessment Requirements were released in NWP Water Training Package release 1.0 and meet the Standards for Training Packages.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. The candidate must be assessed in at least one of the blue-green algae outbreak areas listed in the Range of Conditions. If not otherwise specified the candidate must demonstrate evidence of performance of the following on at least one occasion.

- performing blue-green algae sampling
- maintaining integrity of samples
- recording required information and basic data reporting
- implementing response plans
- selecting control methods such as isolation of the area
- reporting to supervisor depending on the extent of the outbreak
- notifying affected people, for example by phone
- identifying who to notify
- selecting appropriate method of notification

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence must satisfy all of the requirements of the elements and performance criteria. If not otherwise specified the depth of knowledge demonstrated must be appropriate to the job context of the candidate.

- types and purposes of blue-green algae samples
- procedures and techniques for blue-green algae sampling
- all blue-green algae outbreak areas
- hazards associated with collection of blue-green algae samples
- characteristics of blue-green algae
- problems caused by blue-green algal blooms
- methods of blue-green algae control
- strategy and emergency planning
- hazardous materials handling for algaecides

- material safety data sheets
- impact of blue-green algae on water and/or wastewater treatment processes
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Assessment Conditions

Competency should be assessed in an actual workplace or in a simulated environment, with access to equipment and infrastructure appropriate to the outcome. Competency should be demonstrated over time to ensure the candidate is assessed across a variety of situations.

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

Links

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