



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUA FIR326 Push trees with machines in forest fire control operations

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release 1. This is the first release of this unit of competency in the PUA Public Safety Training Package.

Performance Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements, performance criteria and range of conditions on at least one occasion and includes

- applying Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) organisational requirements
- assessing and planning to push trees using machinery
- considering topography, vegetation, environmental, cultural and heritage factors
- communicating within the chain of command
- implementing safe work procedures including
 - communicating with fire control line supervisors and support vehicles
 - ensuring FOPS and ROPS are correctly fitted and used
 - maintenance of contact and communication with support vehicles
 - positioning in relation to live fire edge and fire intensity
 - providing assistance to vehicles and personnel working with machines
 - survival techniques in burn over situations
 - wearing personal protective clothing and equipment
 - wearing seatbelts in cabin
 - working within limits of machine capability
- identifying hazards and risks including exposures
- maintaining communication with support personnel and vehicles
- operating machines in a fire and non-fire environment
- participating in briefing sessions
- performing basic maintenance and ensuring servicing of machinery in fire and non-fire environments
- performing pre-start checks
- preparing ground for tree pushing
- pushing trees in support of fire operations safely
- seeking and gaining permission to complete actions
- undertaking mop up and rehabilitation activities
- using safe tree pushing practices including not rocking trees, avoiding obstacles such as tree roots, stumps and rocks, determining direction of approach relative to proposed direction of

fall, recognising minimum and gradual power application to effect tree fall, being aware of point of contact with machine and using blade and/or tree arm for optimal leverage

Knowledge Evidence

Evidence required to demonstrate competence in this unit must be relevant to and satisfy all the requirements of the elements, performance criteria and range of conditions and includes knowledge of

- assessment of hazards and risks including characteristics of trees, cultural and heritage factors, environmental factors, hazards and risks including exposures, topographical factors and vegetation, burn over survival techniques and capabilities of support vehicles
- ground preparation including clearing escape route, clearing vegetation and obstacles such as logs and rocks around trees, creating ramp for pushing and ripping or severing roots of tree to be pushed
- hazards and risks including exposures
- machine capabilities, limitations, design and safety features
- machine maintenance requirements in a fire ground environment
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures including operating machines
- personal protective clothing and equipment
- rehabilitation works
- re-start and post work check procedures
- safe work procedures including
 - assistance to vehicles and personnel working with machines
 - communication with fire control line supervisors and support vehicles
 - ensuring FOPS and ROPS are correctly fitted and used
 - fire ground emergencies
 - maintenance of contact and communication with support vehicles
 - position in relation to live fire edge and fire intensity
 - survival techniques in burn over situations
 - wearing personal protective clothing and equipment
 - wearing seatbelts in cabin
 - working within limits of machine capability
- safe tree pushing practices including
 - avoiding obstacles such as tree roots, stumps and rocks
 - awareness of point of contact with machine
 - considering characteristics of hazardous tree
 - considering rehabilitation activities
 - direction of approach relative to proposed direction of fall
 - minimum and gradual power application to effect tree fall
 - not rocking tree
 - use of blade and/or tree arm for optimal leverage

- wildfire control tactics and techniques
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) organisational requirements including risk mitigation

Assessment Conditions

As a minimum, assessors must satisfy applicable regulatory requirements, which include requirements in the Standards for Registered Training Organisations current at the time of assessment.

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Assessment processes and techniques must be appropriate to the language, literacy and numeracy requirements of the work being performed and the needs of the candidate.

Assessment must occur in workplace operational situations. Where this is not appropriate, assessment must occur in industry approved simulated workplace operational situations that reflect workplace conditions.

Competency should be assessed in an organisational/agency approved operational environment or in a field based simulated wildfire environment; pushing trees by machinery should be assessed in a forest environment.

Resources for assessment must include access to

- a range of relevant exercises, case studies and/or simulations
- relevant and appropriate materials, equipment, tools and personal protective clothing and equipment currently used in industry including
 - trees requiring pushing, machinery and communications equipment
- applicable documentation including organisational procedures, industry standards, equipment specifications, regulations, codes of practice and operation manuals.

Links

PUA Training Package Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found in VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=3eca5672-6d5a-410b-8942-810d0ba05bbf>