



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for PUA FIR417 Supervise machinery use in wildfire 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 and monitoring safe work practices during fire suppression activities including control line construction and pushing trees
- applying Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) organisational requirements
- assessing work area including hazards and risks
- briefing and tasking machine operators
- communicating with machine operators
- conducting mop up and support activities
- constructing anchor points and safety zones including burnt areas, clearings, rivers, site of a recent wildfire or prescribed burn, static water bodies and area of safety zone suitable for fire size
- cooperating with support vehicle personnel
- ensuring hazardous trees have been marked for attention
- establishing and maintaining work standards of machine operators
- implementing strategies
- maintaining communication
- maintaining health and safety of people in wildfire area
- monitoring and reporting on machinery operations in fire suppression activities
- recovering and maintaining equipment
- reviewing options
- selecting and marking routes for fire control line construction
- supervising personnel and the use of machinery
- wearing personal protective clothing and equipment

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

- asset categories
- Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS)
- communications equipment
- fire control line construction including anchor points and safety zones, asset protection, capabilities of support vehicles, fire control line construction rates and construction standards, using machines to construct control lines, construction guidelines and tandem operations
- isolation of hazards
- mop up and support activities
- options available with control lines
- organisational documentation, policies and procedures
- personal protective clothing and equipment
- potential hazards
- processes for planning for the availability of machines and operators
- protection of environmental, structural, infrastructure, cultural and agricultural assets
- records for time keeping and reporting requirements
- role and responsibilities of machine supervisor
- role of machines in mopping up
- safety including communication, machine requirements, mutual support, operator safety, operating procedures, safe work practices including those for working around trees, survival techniques when threatened by wildfire and personnel welfare
- strategies and tactics for firefighting
- tree marking including hazardous tree and track marking system
- types of control line construction
- types of hazards including burns, disorientation, environmental, fatigue, heat related illness, falling objects, branches and trees, lack of visibility, machines, manual handling, overhead hazards, beehives, powerlines, trees weakened by fire, rot or cracks, rolling objects, smoke inhalation, snake or insect bites, sprains or fractures, terrain and soil types, trips and falls and water bombing operations
- types of machinery, their capabilities and limitations including bobcat - skid steer loader, brompton rat, bulldozer, excavator, front end loader, grader, scrub rollers, tractor with blade or plough and wheeled dozer and log skidder with blade
- use of machines in wildfire operations including
 - arrangements regarding organisational, private and contracted equipment
 - capabilities of supporting fire units
 - general servicing and maintenance requirements of machines
 - machine design and safety features
 - machine set up and capabilities
 - organisational requirements for engagement of machines
 - transport of machines
- Work, Health and Safety (WHS)/Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) legislated requirements including risk mitigation and safe work procedures

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 demonstrated and assessed over time in a range of field based environments.

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
 - wildfire or prescribed burn and machinery
- 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>