



Australian Government

PUAFIR213 Assist with prescribed burning

Release 2

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
2	PUA12 V2.1	Editorial changes.
1	PUA12 V2	New unit.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to assist with prescribed burning for agricultural, natural resource purposes or hazard mitigation. It requires the ability to assist with preparations for the burn, support the conduct of the burn and participate in clean-up activities.

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

Application of the Unit

This unit applies to personnel participating in lighting and conducting prescribed burns under direct supervision.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

PUAFIR215 Prevent injury

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where ***bold italicised*** text is used, further information is detailed in the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Assist with preparations for the burn	1.1 <i>Equipment and media</i> to be used in the burn are prepared for use as directed. 1.2 Safety equipment is checked and prepared for use. 1.3 Location and extent of the burn is discussed and clarified with supervisor. 1.4 Strategies and tactics for conducting the burn, including contingency plans, are obtained in a briefing and clarification is sought if required. 1.5 <i>Assets requiring protection</i> during the burn are recognised and noted. 1.6 Personal role, crew activities and extent of the burn are checked with supervisor.
2. Participate in conducting the burn	2.1 Assistance with pre-burn checks is provided as directed by supervisor. 2.2 Burn operations, including lighting and suppression activities, are undertaken in accordance with organisational safety and operating guidelines. 2.3 Ignition devices are used in accordance with organisational safety and operating guidelines. 2.4 Ignition techniques suitable for the burn objectives

are implemented in accordance with directions provided.

2.5 Problems or concerns during the burn are raised with supervisor.

2.6 Communication is maintained at all times in accordance with organisational procedures.

2.7 **Conditions at the burn** are observed and their effect on fire behaviour and development are noted and reported to supervisor.

2.8 **Weather conditions** and changes to fire behaviour are observed and reported to supervisor.

2.9 Safe escape route or refuge is identified and maintained at all times.

2.10 **Personal protective equipment** is utilised throughout the burn in accordance with organisational guidelines.

2.11 Burn perimeter is made safe in accordance with burn plan.

2.12 Hazards remaining in the burn area are noted and reported to supervisor.

2.13 Burn debrief is participated in.

3. Participate in clean-up activities

3.1 **Clean-up activities** are carried out under direction in accordance with organisational procedure.

3.2 Personal protective equipment is cleaned and returned to storage.

3.3 Equipment used in the burn is cleaned, maintained and returned to storage.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- assist with preparations for the burn
- participate in briefings and debriefings
- participate in clean-up activities
- participate in conducting the burn
- use suppression and ignition equipment

Required Knowledge

- burn ignition and suppression tactics and techniques
- extinguishing media and equipment
- fire behaviour
- fire hazards
- ignition media and equipment
- organisational operating and work health and safety procedures
- working safely around fire

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the Performance Criteria, Required Skills and Knowledge, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package.

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- work as a member of a team and follow safe work practices
- undertake pre-burn checks
- assist in lighting a burn using the relevant equipment
- use extinguishing media and equipment in suppression activities
- follow directions and respond appropriately to instructions given during the burn
- communicate effectively with supervisor and members of the team.

Consistency in performance

Competency must be demonstrated in a range of actual and/or field-based workplace environments.

Context of and specific resources for assessment

Context of assessment

Competency should be assessed in an agency approved field-based environment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access is required to:

- range of controlled fires or prescribed burns
- ignition equipment
- suppression equipment

Method of assessment

In a public safety environment assessment is usually conducted via direct observation in a training environment or in the workplace via subject matter supervision and/or mentoring, which is typically recorded in a competency workbook.

Assessment is completed using appropriately qualified assessors who select the most appropriate method of assessment.

Assessment may occur in an operational environment or in an agency-approved simulated work environment. Forms of assessment that are typically used include:

- direct observation
- interviewing the candidate

- journals and workplace documentation
- third party reports from supervisors
- written or oral questions

Range Statement

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

<i>Equipment and media</i> may include:	• drip torch • hand tools • hose • knapsack • incendiary devices • matches • small gear pump • tanker
<i>Assets requiring protection</i> may include:	• area of rare or sensitive flora and fauna • buildings and other property • crops • public lands • tree plantations • utilities (power and telephone lines, water supply structures, communications towers)
<i>Conditions at the burn</i> may include:	• fuel characteristics • fire behaviour including flame height, rate of spread, fire shape and smoke development • terrain
<i>Weather conditions</i> may include:	• atmospheric stability • relative humidity • temperature • wind speed and direction
<i>Personal protective equipment</i> may include:	• eye protection • gloves • hearing protection • helmet/hat • overalls • respiratory protection • safety boots
<i>Clean-up activities</i> may include:	• maintenance of ignition equipment • maintenance of personal protective clothing and equipment • maintenance of suppression equipment • use of vehicles to patrol until the burn is declared safe

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Custom Content Section

Not applicable.