

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of working safely at vegetation fires		
Level	3	Credits	3

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is for people attending vegetation fire incidents who will participate in fire suppression or related activities.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - elements of vegetation fire behaviour; - safe practices during vegetation fire suppression; and - personal safety on the incident ground.
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Classification	Fire and Rescue Services > Fire and Rescue Services - Vegetation
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Compliance with the fire and emergency agency’s provider’s Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.
- 2 Assessment against this unit standard may be based on a combination of oral, written and/or practical evidence (under simulated conditions).
- 3 Definitions
Fire and emergency agency’s requirements refer to policies, procedures, and supporting documentation on safety and operation set down by each fire and emergency agency, employer or host organisation.
Hazard aligns with its use in the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 and the meaning set forth by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) Bushfire Glossary. The AFAC Bushfire Glossary defines ‘hazard’ as “a source of potential harm or a situation with potential to cause loss”.
LACES refers to Lookouts, Awareness or Anchor points, Communications, Escape routes, Safety zones.
- 4 Assessment against outcomes 1 and 2 must be in accordance with the fire and emergency agency’s requirements.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of elements of vegetation fire behaviour.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Vegetation fire science is described.
- Range fire triangle, fuel factors, stages of combustion, methods of heat transfer, removal of fire triangle elements.
- 1.2 A vegetation fire environment and its effect on fire behaviour is explained.
- Range weather, fuel, topography.
- 1.3 Vegetation fires are described.
- Range types, parts, spread patterns.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of safe practices during vegetation fire suppression.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Safety principles for fire suppression operations are described.
- 2.2 Safe practices for fire suppression operation are described.
- Range includes but is not limited to LACES and safe practices when working – with hand tools, water under pressure, portable equipment; in the vicinity of heavy support machinery; on the ground in the vicinity of aircraft drop zones.
- 2.3 Vegetation fire suppression strategies are described.
- 2.4 Communication requirements and procedures relating to safe operations are explained.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of personal safety on the incident ground.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Hazards of a vegetation fire are identified.
- Range must include but is not limited to – weather, fuel, topography.
- 3.2 Measures taken to protect against personal injury are identified.
- Range preventative measures, protective measures, LACES.
- 3.3 Medical and physical conditions are identified in terms of how it may affect firefighting safety on the incident ground.

3.4 Survival procedures in the event of being threatened by a fire are described.

Range buildings, vehicles, in the open.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	16 March 1995	31 December 2023
Review	2	27 May 1998	31 December 2023
Review	3	25 March 2004	31 December 2023
Review	4	20 November 2009	31 December 2023
Review	5	30 September 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0039
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact The Skills Organisation reviewcomments@skills.org.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.