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**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Control vegetation fires using dry fire  
fighting techniques**

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<b>level:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>credit:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>final date for comment:</b>	March 2008
<b>expiry date:</b>	December 2009
<b>sub-field:</b>	Fire and Rescue Services
<b>purpose:</b>	<p>This unit standard applies to the use of a wide range of hand, power and mechanical tools, as well as burners, flame throwers and knapsack pumps used during fire control action.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of the use of hand tools when fighting vegetation fires; construct a fire line when fighting vegetation fires; and mop up and patrol following a vegetation fire.</p>
<b>entry information:</b>	Open.
<b>accreditation option:</b>	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.
<b>moderation option:</b>	A national moderation system of moderation networks has been established by the Fire and Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation.
<b>special notes:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.</li><li>2 Assessment against this unit standard may take place in a real or simulated fire situation.</li></ol>

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- 3 The primary reference for this unit standard is the Fire and Rescue Service Industry Training Organisation's learning resource *Use of Hand Tools*. This reference is available from FRSITO, PO Box 11988, Wellington.
- 4 *Anchor point* refers to the start point of the constructed fire line.

## **Elements and Performance Criteria**

### **element 1**

Demonstrate knowledge of the use of hand tools when fighting vegetation fires.

### **performance criteria**

- 1.1 Hand tools used for fighting vegetation fires are listed and their use described in accordance with the primary reference.
- 1.2 Safety precautions that must be adopted with the use of hand tools (when fighting vegetation fires) are described in accordance with the primary reference.  
  
Range: position with respect to fire, personal safety, safety of crew.
- 1.3 Three fire situations and their containment using hand tools are described in accordance with the primary reference.
- 1.4 The assessment of flame length for safe attack using hand tools is described in accordance with the primary reference.

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**element 2**

Construct a fire line when fighting vegetation fires.

**performance criteria**

- 2.1 Methods of constructing a fire line using hand or mechanical tools are demonstrated in accordance with the primary reference.
- Range: progressive or step up.
- 2.2 Construction techniques are demonstrated in accordance with the primary reference.
- Range: use of natural barriers, avoidance of heavy fuel material, width, height of adjacent and overhanging vegetation, positioning of burnt and un-burnt material, trenching on slopes.
- 2.3 The fire line is constructed in accordance with the primary reference.
- Range: location, anchor point, width, height of adjacent and overhanging vegetation, positioning of burnt and un-burnt material, trenching on slopes.

**element 3**

Mop up and patrol following a vegetation fire.

**performance criteria**

- 3.1 The patrol of the area after vegetation fire suppression is demonstrated in accordance with the primary reference.

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3.2 The identification of hot spots and the action taken are demonstrated in accordance with the primary reference.

Range: isolated and/or extinguished and/or contained and/or assistance sought.

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**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact the Fire and Rescue Services Industry Training Organisation [info@frsito.org.nz](mailto:info@frsito.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.

**Please Note**

Providers must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority or a delegated inter-institutional body before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by the Qualifications Authority before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for providers wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

This unit standard is covered by AMAP 0039 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/site/framework/search.html>.