

---

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Lead ground support for air operations  
at vegetation fires**

---

<b>level:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>credit:</b>	<b>4</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 is for personnel at vegetation fires who have responsibility for the ground support component of air operations.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate basic knowledge of aircraft performance in relation to vegetation fire fighting; choose landing sites for fixed and rotary wing aircraft; and lead ground support operations at vegetation fires.</p>
<b>entry information:</b>	<p>Prerequisite: Unit 20388, <i>Work safely with aircraft at emergency incidents</i>, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.</p> <p>People seeking credit for this unit standard must have prior competence in supervisory management skills.</p>
<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>	<p>1 Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.</p>

---

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Lead ground support for air operations  
at vegetation fires**

---

- 2 Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or practical simulated conditions.
- 3 The minimum standard to which knowledge in respect of this unit standard must be demonstrated is in the booklet '*Aircraft Safety: Fire Management - Working with the Aviation Sector*' published by the National Rural Fire Authority (ISBN 0-908920-66-0). This reference is available from FRSITO, PO Box 11988, Wellington, or from the NRFA, PO Box 2133, Wellington.

## **Elements and Performance Criteria**

### **element 1**

Demonstrate basic knowledge of aircraft requirements in relation to vegetation fire fighting.

### **performance criteria**

- 1.1 Performance characteristics and fire fighting capabilities of fixed and rotary wing aircraft are identified in accordance with the primary reference.  
  
Range: passenger capacity, cargo capacity, load capacity, fuel type and consumption rate, landing and take off requirements.
- 1.2 Logistic requirements for aircraft used at vegetation fires are identified in accordance with the primary reference.  
  
Range: site delivery times, ground based support, aviation fuel, water and additives.

---

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Lead ground support for air operations  
at vegetation fires**

---

- 1.3 Radio communications techniques and protocols are explained in accordance with the primary reference.

Range: air to ground, incident management.

**element 2**

Choose landing sites for fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

**performance criteria**

- 2.1 Identification of existing airstrips and helipads allows the safe operation and servicing of aircraft in accordance with industry guides and standards.

Range: aircraft capabilities, safety of personnel, delivery of water and additives, access for support personnel and vehicles.

- 2.2 Suitable roads are identified for use as airstrips in accordance with the primary reference.

Range: length, side clearance, end clearance, visibility, hazards to aircraft, surrounding terrain, road traffic control.

- 2.3 Temporary helipads are selected for the safe operation and servicing of aircraft in accordance with the primary reference.

Range: terrain influence, weather influence, flight hazards, aircraft capabilities, safety of personnel, delivery of water and additives and access for support personnel and vehicles.

---

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Lead ground support for air operations  
at vegetation fires**

---

**element 3**

Lead ground support operations at vegetation fires.

**performance criteria**

- 3.1 Safety and welfare of ground support personnel is maintained to the requirements of the fire and rescue service provider.
- Range: personnel safety and welfare, allocation of tasks, crew safety briefing, crew performance.
- 3.2 Communications are established and maintained with pilots and ground crew personnel and with incident management for the duration of the operation in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider requirements.
- 3.3 Fire behaviour is monitored in relation to aircraft and ground support crew safety in accordance with fire and rescue service provider requirements.
- Range: current situation, predicted situation.
- 3.4 Assessment of resources required to achieve the objectives is maintained throughout the operation in accordance with operational requirements.
- Range: current situation, predicted situation.
- 3.5 Resource utilisation is recorded in accordance with the requirements of the fire service provider.
- 3.6 Situations requiring additional support are identified and communicated to incident management in accordance with the incident action plan.
- Range: aircraft operations, heavy machinery, water carriers.

---

**FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES -  
VEGETATION**  
**Lead ground support for air operations  
at vegetation fires**

---

- 3.7 Control of the public prevents interference with operations and maintains operational safety in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

---

**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>.