

Qualification Title: New Zealand Diploma in Environmental Management (Level 5) with strands in Marine, Terrestrial, and Conservation (Operations)

Qualification number: 2964

Date of review: 25 November 2019

This report refers to graduates awarded this qualification prior to: **31 December 2018**

Final decision on consistency of the qualification: National consistency is confirmed

Threshold:

The threshold to determine sufficiency with the graduate profile was determined as evidence of:

Graduates have the skills and knowledge to work independently within marine, and/ or terrestrial and/or conservation operations. Graduates contribute to environmental management through the application of technical skills and knowledge.

Education Organisations with sufficient evidence

Choose an item.

Education Organisation	Final rating
Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology	Sufficient
Northland Polytechnic	Sufficient

Introduction

The purpose of this Level 5 qualification of 120 credits is to provide the environmental management sector with individuals who have the skills and knowledge to work independently within marine, terrestrial and conservation operations. This qualification is designed for people with prior experience in marine, terrestrial and conservation operations. Aotearoa/New Zealand will benefit from having graduates who are able to contribute to environmental management through the application of technical skills and knowledge.

Graduates may progress onto the New Zealand Diploma in Environmental Management with strands in Marine and Terrestrial (Level 6). The employment pathway includes work in the following contexts; conservation officer, resource management adviser/consultant; and environmental consultant/technician.

This qualification was developed by The Skills Organisation.

The consistency review meeting was held in Auckland. Two ITP providers presented. In addition to the education organisations, the consistency review was attended by a representative from The Skills Organisation via Skype.

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Evidence

The education organisations provided a range of evidence to demonstrate that their graduates met the graduate profile outcomes.

The criteria used to judge the evaluation question were:

- The nature, quality and integrity of the evidence presented by the education organisation.
- How well the organisation has analysed, interpreted and validated the evidence, and used the understanding gained to achieve actual or improved consistency.
- The extent to which the education organisation can reasonably justify and validate claims and statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes, including in relation to other providers of programmes leading to the qualification.

Evidence provided for this review included:

- Confirmation that each of the education organisations had a coherent programme of study which ensured that programme components led to the graduate profile.
- Graduate, employer and next-level tutor surveys which confirmed that graduates had gained, and were using, the skills and knowledge outlined in the graduate profile.
- Destination data supporting that graduates were working in roles that required the application of skills and knowledge required by the graduate profile.

How well does the self-assessment and supporting evidence provided by the education organisation demonstrate that its graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold?

Education organisations submitted a range of evidence that could be triangulated to demonstrate that their graduates match the graduate outcomes at the appropriate threshold. This included moderation evidence, programme alignment, graduate, employer and next-level tutor feedback, and destination data.

Both education organisations provided convincing evidence demonstrating the alignment of their approved programme of study with the GPOs. External and internal moderation is providing useful feedback to ensure robust assessment. Strong connections with the conservation sector was evident. One education organisation provided evidence of programme review.

The quality of the graduate, employer and next-level tutor feedback varied significantly. Overall graduate feedback was not sufficient to convincingly demonstrate that graduates have the skills and knowledge consistent with the GPOs. Employer and next-level tutor surveys also varied in quality but were more convincing.

Both education organisations presented destination data, most graduates have continued onto study the New Zealand Diploma in Environmental Management with strands in Marine and Terrestrial (Level 6), as the qualification intended. A few graduates are employed in a field relevant to the environmental management qualification.

Overall, the self-assessment and supporting evidence supplied, by those organisations found sufficient, demonstrates that their graduates meet the graduate outcomes at the determined threshold.

Special Focus (includes special focus on a strand or outcome)

None.

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Examples of good practice

Programme evidence was well presented indicating quality and integrity in these processes to ensure programme components led to the graduate profile. The qualification conditions were evident in the programme structure providing transparency as to how the conditions had been considered and addressed.

Issues and concerns

The quality of graduate survey tool was generally weak and could be improved to enable the collection of meaningful data for analysis and to justify statements relating to the consistency of graduate outcomes.

Recommendations to Qualification Developer

None.