

Title	Destroy vertebrate pests using night shooting for pest management		
Level	3	Credits	6

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify vertebrate pests at night; prepare a nightshoot plan; transverse the operational area at night; and destroy vertebrate target pests.
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Classification	Compliance and Law Enforcement > Compliance and Regulatory Control
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to: Biosecurity Act 1993, Local Government Act 1974, Local Government Act 2002, Resource Management Act 1991, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Animal Welfare Act 1999, Arms Act 1983, Arms Regulations 1992.
- 2 Reference
New Zealand Arms Code, available from <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice/firearms-and-safety/arms-code>.
- 3 Definitions
Organisational requirements refer to instructions to staff on policy and procedures which are documented in memo or manual format and are available in the workplace. These include the application of legislation and the implementation of the Regional Pest Management Strategy.
Vertebrate pests refer to rabbits, possums, hares, and wallabies.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Identify vertebrate pests at night.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Visible signs and characteristics of vertebrate pests are described.

Range	eye colour; size and shape of animal droppings and marks; animal size, shape, and colour; animal movement; reaction to spotlights and vehicle movement.
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- 1.2 Vertebrate pests are identified without error.
- 1.3 Non-target animals are identified without error.
- Range sheep, cattle, horses.

Outcome 2

Prepare a nightshoot plan.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Operational area inspection locates hazards and shooting zones.
- 2.2 Traverse routes are determined and reasons for the choice of traverse routes identified.
- Range preferred and alternate routes.
- 2.3 Sketch map of the operational area is prepared identifying hazards, shooting zones, and traverse routes.
- 2.4 Signs of vertebrate target pests are located during property inspection and by discussion with property occupier or owner.
- Range signs may include – droppings; scratchings; burrows; nests; pad runs; damage caused to crops, pasture, orchards, trees.
- 2.5 Equipment required for nightshoot is identified and obtained.
- Range may include but is not limited to – spotlight, spotlight battery, vehicle(s), firearm(s), night scope(s), safety equipment.
- 2.6 Equipment is prepared in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and organisational requirements.
- Range may include but is not limited to – spotlight, spotlight battery, vehicle(s), firearm(s), night scope(s), safety equipment.

Outcome 3

Traverse the operational area at night.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Firearm carried and controlled in accordance with the New Zealand Arms Code.
- 3.2 Permission to carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle is sought and obtained from New Zealand Police.
- 3.3 Traverse route is taken in accordance with the nightshoot plan.

Outcome 4

Destroy vertebrate target pests.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Animals are shot only after positive identification has been made of the target pest.
- 4.2 Target vertebrate pests are destroyed in proportion with the estimated total population in accordance with organisational and contractual requirements.
- 4.3 Firearm used is appropriate to the type of animal to be destroyed and nature of the shooting zone.
- 4.4 Firearm is discharged only in planned shooting zone in accordance with the New Zealand Arms Code.
- 4.5 Firearm is discharged without risk of injury to the shooter or any other person.
- 4.6 Details of animals destroyed are recorded in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 4.7 Firearms are cleaned in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and stored in accordance with the Arms Act 1983.
- 4.8 If any non-target animals are destroyed it is reported in accordance with organisational requirements.
- 4.9 Carcasses are disposed of in accordance with organisational requirements.

This unit standard is expiring. Assessment against the standard must take place by the last date for assessment set out below.

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	19 August 1998	31 December 2023
Revision	2	17 July 2002	31 December 2023
Revision	3	19 May 2004	31 December 2023
Review	4	25 July 2007	31 December 2023
Review	5	23 May 2019	31 December 2023

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0046
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.