
PEST CONTROL
Control vertebrate pests by shooting

level:	3
credit:	6
planned review date:	July 2006
sub-field:	Pest Management
purpose:	<p>This unit standard is for people involved with vertebrate pest control in rural environments.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify vertebrate pest characteristics and activity in preparation for shooting; prepare for shooting vertebrate pests; shoot target vertebrate pests; clean and store equipment and materials, and store or dispose of carcasses following shooting.</p>
entry information:	Open.
accreditation option:	Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.
moderation option:	A centrally established and directed moderation system has been set up by the Primary Industry Training Organisation.
special notes:	<p>1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to the – Resource Management Act 1991, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, Wild Animal Control Act 1977, Conservation Act 1987, National Parks Act 1980, Reserves Act 1977, Wildlife Act 1953, Arms Act 1983, Animal Welfare Act 1999, Biosecurity Act 1993, and their subsequent amendments.</p>

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- 2 Definitions
organisational procedures – the verbal and written instructions to staff on procedures for control of vertebrate pests by shooting.
vertebrate pests – any feral or uncontrolled domestic, introduced species impacting negatively on native plant or animal species, which includes but is not limited to – avian pests, mustelid pests, rats, cats, rabbits, and possums.
rural environments – any land outside urban environments.

- 3 Assessment
Evidence for practical assessment of elements 2 – 4 is required for at least one vertebrate pest.

People seeking credit for this unit standard must hold a Firearms Licence, and a *Permit to Operate a Vehicle Carrying a Loaded Firearm* (Pursuant to Regulation 34 of the Traffic Regulations 1976).

- 4 Reference
The Firearms Safety Manual is produced by, and available from, New Zealand Police.

Elements and Performance Criteria

element 1

Identify vertebrate pest characteristics and activity in preparation for shooting.

performance criteria

- 1.1 Vertebrate pest characteristics are identified by their distinguishing features and location of target organs.

Range: features – size, shape, colour;
target organs – heart, brain.

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- 1.2 Vertebrate pest activity is described in terms of their movements and reactions.
- Range: daily movement patterns, reaction to spotlights and vehicle movement.

element 2

Prepare for shooting vertebrate pests.

performance criteria

- 2.1 Location and boundaries identified for the shoot are consistent with target pest behaviour and organisational procedures.
- 2.2 Hazards and environmental risks associated with shooting are identified in accordance with legislative requirements, local authority requirements, and organisational procedures.
- 2.3 Signs of vertebrate target pests are located during property inspection and by discussion with property occupier or owner, in accordance with organisational procedures.
- Range: signs may include – droppings, scratchings, burrows, nests, pad runs; damage caused to crops, pasture, orchards and trees.
- 2.4 Vehicles, equipment and materials for shooting are prepared in accordance with organisational procedures.
- Range: may include but is not limited to – vehicles, firearms, night scope, safety equipment.
- 2.5 Firearm and ammunition used are consistent with those recommended for the target vertebrate pest.
- 2.6 Firearm is prepared for shooting, checked for serviceability, and stowed with ammunition for transport in accordance with legislative requirements and organisational procedures.

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element 3

Shoot target vertebrate pests.

Range: during the day, at night.

performance criteria

- 3.1 Personal protective and safety equipment is used in accordance with legislative requirements, and organisational procedures.
- 3.2 Firearm is carried and used in accordance with the Firearms Manual and organisational procedures.
- Range: loaded, discharged, unloaded.
- 3.3 Target vertebrate pests are shot after positive identification, and using a minimum number of shots for a clean kill.
- Range: features for identification may include but are not limited to – eye colour, movement pattern, animal size.
- 3.4 Proportion of target animals killed is in accordance with organisational procedures.
- 3.5 Target vertebrate pests that have not been killed cleanly, are destroyed in a humane manner in accordance with the Animal Welfare Act 1999, and organisational procedures.
- 3.6 Records are maintained in accordance with organisational procedures.

element 4

Clean and store equipment and materials, and store or dispose of carcasses following shooting.

performance criteria

- 4.1 Equipment and materials used for shooting are cleaned and stored in accordance with legislative requirements and organisational procedures.

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- 4.2 Firearms are cleaned and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, and firearms and ammunition are stored in accordance with the Arms Act 1983.
- 4.3 Carcasses are stored or disposed of in accordance with legislative requirements and organisational procedures.
- Range: those with commercial value, those without commercial value.
- 4.4 Job completion is reported, and documentation is completed in accordance with organisational procedures.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation standards@primaryito.ac.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 0052 which can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.