

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of marine mammal stranding and respond to a stranded marine mammal situation		
Level	3	Credits	5

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended meet the training needs for a marine mammal medic who assists with a marine mammal stranding.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of marine mammal stranding situations; describe the role of the Department of Conservation, key appointed roles, and the responsibilities of a crew leader in a marine mammal mass-stranding; demonstrate knowledge of potential hazards and precautions to take for self and marine mammals in a stranding; and respond to a marine mammal stranding situation.</p>
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and regulations relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
 - Conservation Act 1987;
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978;
 - Marine Mammals Regulations 1991.
- 2 Assessment may be carried out for a real or simulated marine mammal stranding.
- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
 - examples of *marine mammals* include dolphins and whales;
 - a *stranding* refers to at least one stranded marine mammal, a *mass stranding* is three or more stranded marine mammals.
- 4 Definitions

CIMS refers to Coordinated Incident Management System and is a system used to deal with emergency situations in New Zealand by all departments and emergency services.

Grab bag refers to a bag that contains personal gear and equipment in preparedness for a marine mammal stranding.

Safe water level depths refer to waist to chest deep water.

5 References

Marine Mammal Action Plan 2005-2010 available on the Department of Conservation website - www.doc.govt.nz.

Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS), 3rd Edition. Available on the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management website - www.civildefence.govt.nz.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of marine mammal stranding situations.

Performance criteria

1.1 Describe the causes of a marine mammal stranding.

Range evidence of at least six causes is required.

1.2 Describe key anatomical features of a stranded marine mammal and the potential risk of damage by a responder.

Range evidence of three key anatomical features is required.

1.3 Describe the stages of a marine mammal stranding rescue response from notification of stranding to wrap up.

Range evidence of five stages is required.

1.4 Describe the steps to carry out when assessing a marine mammal stranding situation in accordance with Department of Conservation recommendations.

1.5 Describe why it is important to roll a stranded marine mammal into an upright position in a stranded situation.

Range evidence of three reasons is required.

Outcome 2

Describe the role of the Department of Conservation, key appointed roles, and the responsibilities of a crew leader in a marine mammal mass-stranding.

Performance criteria

2.1 Describe the role of the Department of Conservation in relation to a marine mammal mass-stranding situation.

2.2 Describe the key roles which may be appointed in a mass-stranding event in terms of the CIMS guidelines.

Range evidence of six key roles is required.

- 2.3 Describe responsibilities of a crew leader during a marine mammal mass-stranding in accordance with CIMS guidelines.

Range evidence of two responsibilities is required.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of potential hazards and precautions to take for self and marine mammals in a stranding.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Describe potential hazards for people in a marine mammal stranding situation.

Range evidence of three potential hazards is required.

- 3.2 Describe items contained in a prepared grab bag and the purpose of their use.

Range evidence of 10 items is required.

- 3.3 Describe why it is important for people to avoid breathing air in the blowhole of a stranded marine mammal.

- 3.4 Describe actions crew leaders can take to avoid personal fatigue when involved in a marine mammal stranding.

Range evidence of two actions is required.

Outcome 4

Respond to a marine mammal stranding situation.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Use safe lifting and manoeuvring techniques for stranded marine mammals.

- 4.2 Apply water to marine mammal in a manner that is safe for the marine mammal, and safe for self.

Range safe practices for self include but are not limited to – avoiding blowhole, leaning over tail;
safe practices for marine mammals include but are not limited to – care around eyes, fins.

- 4.3 Apply safe rolling technique to a marine mammal in coordination with other team members.

- 4.4 Use support resources without causing harm or injury to marine mammals.

Range shovel, bucket, sheet, pillowcase;
evidence of two is required.

- 4.5 Work calmly and quietly around marine mammal.
- 4.6 Work within personal safe water level depths when responding to the stranded marine mammal.
- 4.7 Participate as part of a team when restoring marine mammal equilibrium.

Range includes but is not limited to – forming a human chain, using rescue pontoons.

Planned review date	31 December 2024
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	26 September 2019	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0228
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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.