



Learner Assessment Guide
Unit Standard 3293
Lead ground support for air operations at vegetation fires
(Level 4, Credit 4, Version 3)

Level Descriptor

Level	Process	Employing	Responsibility
4	Carrying out processes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require a wide range of scholastic skills • Offer a considerable choice of procedures • Are employed in a variety of familiar and unfamiliar contexts 	Employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad knowledge base incorporating some theoretical concepts • Analytical interpretation of information • Informed judgement • A range of sometimes innovative responses to concrete but often unfamiliar problems 	Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In directed activity • Under broad guidance and evaluation • With complete responsibility for the quantity and quality of output • With possible responsibility for the quantity and quality of the output of others

Descriptors:

Credit 4 - will require approximately 40 - 48 hours of learning, practice or experience and assessment for a person with no previous knowledge or experience.

Version 3 - This document has been prepared based on version 3 of the Unit Standard.

Elements:

1. Demonstrate basic knowledge of aircraft requirements in relation to vegetation fire fighting.
2. Choose landing sites for fixed and rotary wing aircraft.
3. Lead ground support operations at vegetation fires.

Prerequisites:

Unit 20388, *Work safely with aircraft at emergency incidents*, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

People seeking credit for this unit standard must have prior competence in supervisory management skills.

Assessment Conditions:

Assessment against this unit standard may take place under real or practical simulated conditions.

Aircraft used must be those normally available to the learner's Fire Authority.

Resources:

- Maps / aerial photos
- Fire plan
- National Aircraft Operations forms
- Site for real or simulated fire
- Airbase and/or airstrip/helipad
- Support resources (tankers, filling crews etc.) relevant to real or simulated situation
- Communications equipment
- A minimum of two aircraft

“Best Practice with use of Fire Retardant” NRFA circular
http://www.nrfa.org.nz/circulars/_docs/Cir2000-17.pdf

Special Notes:

Compliance with the providers Health and Safety policy and procedures is mandatory.

People seeking assessment against this unit standard must have experience in working with air operations at incidents.

Assessment Brief Instructions:

The assessor may use pre-course, on course, post course or workplace written or oral assessments as evidence towards gaining the knowledge based components of this unit. The assessor will evaluate the relevance of the evidence against the unit standard. The lists below provide an outline of the assessment components a learner should expect to encounter in achieving this unit.

This unit may be assessed in three ways:

As a theory test and a simulation; or

A real fire or simulation with oral questions from the assessor to cover knowledge components; or
Logs, IAP, maps, attestation from real fires with oral questions from the assessor.

Assessment against this unit must be performed using at least two aircraft.

This Learner Assessment Guide is simply a guide and does not determine the sufficiency or validity of evidence the assessor must evaluate using assessment best practice criteria.

LEARNERS SHOULD ALWAYS REVIEW THE REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THE UNIT STANDARD DOCUMENT PRIOR TO REQUESTING ASSESSMENT.

Learners may need the support of an Officer or supervisor/manager to provide a suitable level of authority to set up and monitor a trail evacuation, and to endorse any formal reporting requirements.

Assessing Element 1: Demonstrate basic knowledge of aircraft requirements in relation to vegetation fire fighting

Learner will demonstrate knowledge of aircraft requirements (for the aircraft used at the fire or simulation) in relation to vegetation fire fighting by:

Consulting pilots about performance characteristics and fire fighting capabilities relative to the conditions and nature of the work on the day. Must cover:

- passenger capacity
- cargo capacity
- load capacity
- fuel type and consumption rate
- landing and take off requirements

Identifying logistics requirements for aircraft in consultation with pilots or their ground crews. Must cover:

- site delivery times
- ground based support
- aviation fuel (and if the pilot is providing own ground support complete with fuel)
- water and additives

Explaining the aircraft operations communications plan and protocols, including:

- air to ground and
- incident management (command) systems

Assessing Element 2: Choose landing sites for fixed and rotary wing aircraft

Learner will choose landing sites for fixed wing aircraft and helicopters making use of existing airstrips/helipads, suitable roads for use as airstrips, and temporary helipads.

Learner will ensure that the existing airstrips/helipads allow the safe operation and servicing of aircraft and must cover:

- aircraft capabilities
- safety of personnel
- delivery of water and additives
- access for support staff and vehicles

Learner will identify suitable roads for use as airstrips and must include details about:

- length
- side clearance
- end clearance
- visibility
- hazards to aircraft
- surrounding terrain
- road traffic control

Learner will identify temporary helipads for the safe operation and servicing of aircraft including:

- terrain influence
- weather influence
- flight hazards
- aircraft capabilities
- personnel safety
- delivery of water and additives
- access for support personnel and vehicles

Assessing Element 3: Lead ground support operations at vegetation fires

Learner will lead ground support for air operations at a real or simulated fire.

Learner will maintain safety and welfare of the ground support staff by:

- monitoring personnel safety and welfare needs
- allocating tasks
- conducting a safety briefing for crews
- monitoring crew performance

Learner will take corrective actions where necessary.

Learner will establish communications with pilots and ground crew and maintain these throughout the operation.

Learner will monitor fire behaviour in regards to safety of ground crew and aircraft for:

- current situation
- predicted situation

Learner will conduct assessments of the resources to achieve the objectives throughout the operation for:

- current situation
- predicted situation

Learner will ensure the use of resources is recorded as required by organisation.

Learner will identify situations requiring additional support and communicate these to incident management in accordance with the IAP. Must consider:

- aircraft operations (extra people, fuel, catering, radios, etc)
- heavy machinery (clearing landing sites, temporary airstrips, etc.)
- water carriers (tankers)

Learner will ensure public are controlled and prevented from interfering with safety and operations.