



Learner Assessment Guide
Unit Standard 3296
Manage prescribed vegetation burning operations
(Level 5, Credit 6, Version 3)

Level Descriptor

Level	Process	Employing	Responsibility
5	Carrying out processes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require a wide range of specialised technical or scholastic skills • Involve a wide choice of standard and non-standard procedures • Are employed in a variety of routine and non-routine contexts 	Employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad knowledge base with substantial depth in some areas • Analytical interpretation of a wide range of data • The determination of appropriate methods and procedures in response to a range of concrete problems with some theoretical elements 	Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In self-directed and sometimes directed activity • with broad general guidelines or functions • With full responsibility for the nature, quantity and quality of outcomes • With possible responsibility for the achievement of group outcome

Descriptors: Credit 6 - will require approximately 60 - 72 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 knowledge of light up patterns and ignition techniques of vegetation fire behaviour.
2. Plan for prescribed burn of vegetation.
3. Prepare for prescribed burn of vegetation.
4. Manage implementation of vegetation burn plan.

Prerequisites: Recommended: Unit 4648, *Demonstrate knowledge of vegetation fire behaviour.*

Prerequisite: Unit 14564, *Demonstrate knowledge of the fire environment on vegetation fire behaviour, or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.*

Assessment Conditions: Assessment against this unit standard must take place using live fire.

A written burn plan and map must be produced.

Resources:

1. Ignition crew and lighting gear appropriate for burn plan.
2. Fire suppression equipment appropriate for burn plan.
3. Fire suppression crew/s appropriate for burn plan.
4. Communications equipment appropriate for burn plan.
5. Drinking water and crew welfare support.
6. Site for prescribed burn.
7. Fire permit and approved burn plan.
8. Resource consent where required.

Special Notes:

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

Compliance with the fire and rescue service provider's SOPs on safety and operation is also mandatory.

Compliance with the Rural Fire Authority requirements for fire permits and burn plans must be met. Burn plan must be approved by PRFO or person delegated to do so.

Experience as an initial Incident Controller, including understanding of CIMS, and ability to apply safe work practices and hazard management will be an advantage to a learner seeking assessment against this unit standard.

Knowledge of fire environment and fire behaviour is a critical requirement for this unit standard.

Sand table or table-top exercises are **not** adequate for proving competence against this unit standard.

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 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.

The learner will perform the role of Incident Controller / Operations Manager of a prescribed burn and will manage the implementation of the approved burn plan.

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 knowledge of light up patterns and ignition techniques of vegetation fire behaviour

Learner will demonstrate knowledge of light up patterns and ignition techniques by:

Identifying the potential impact of general and local weather influences on fire behaviour at the planned burn site (including the influence of land/sea breeze from bodies of water). This may be done by preparing an analysis of options arising from weather variables to support decisions made in the production of the burn plan.

Evaluating lighting patterns according to the weather, terrain, type of fuel, requirements of the burn situation, and safety considerations.

The analysis should identify the optimum weather conditions for ignition and the most suitable lighting pattern and ignition techniques to be used.

Assessing Element 2: Plan for prescribed burn of vegetation

Learner will prepare the burn plan, including a map, by:

Collecting and assessing relevant information including:

- inspection of burn area
- interpretation of topographical maps and/or aerial photographs
- legislative constraints
- risks to adjacent areas
- fire behaviour criteria
- weather conditions
- potential for fire escape
- suppression resources

Preparing a written burn plan using template as required by organisation, and including:

- communications
- deployment of resources
- control line action
- formation standards
- light up patterns and techniques
- firing sequences
- control of prescribed fire
- required levels of vegetation removal
- safety of - personnel, equipment, including anchor points and escape routes
- protection of exposures and surrounding area

Obtaining approval of the burn plan from within organisation.

Assessing Element 3: Prepare for prescribed burn of vegetation

Learner will prepare for the prescribed burn by:

Arranging for an inspection by a Rural Fire Officer and obtaining a fire permit where required by the Rural Fire Authority.

Obtaining updated weather forecasts.

Arranging support services as required for the burn (e.g. communications operators, log keepers, catering staff, mechanical support staff, fuel supplies, first aid staff etc).

Learner will prepare the crews by establishing:

- a communications system
- assigning tasks
- briefing crew leaders and command staff

Generic principles of CIMS should be followed and all staff must be briefed about the operation and any hazards or safety issues.

Assessing Element 4: Manage implementation of vegetation burn plan

Learner will manage the implementation of the burn plan.

Learner will ensure conditions of the fire permit are complied with prior to light up and that any other compliance requirements such as resource consents are met.

Learner will manage the burn by:

- Following the burn plan
- Maintaining communications with staff
- Keeping PRFO informed
- Deploying resources
- Monitoring crew performance
- Monitoring threat of escape
- Assessing burning operation against plan
- Making adjustments to plan as required by circumstances

Learner will manage mop up and patrol to ensure no breakout of fire.

Learner will ensure all documentation required by organisation is completed.