



Learner Assessment Guide
Unit Standard 3290
Exercise initial response, command, and control for vegetation fire operations
(Level 5, Credit 4, Version 4)

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

Version 4 - This document has been prepared based on version 4 of the Unit Standard.

- Elements:**
1. Demonstrate knowledge of the initial command controller's obligations to health and safety at vegetation fire incidents.
 2. Demonstrate knowledge of initial response, command, and resource mobilisation at a vegetation fire incident.
 3. Size-up the situation and develop an initial incident action plan for vegetation fire situations.
 4. Implement initial incident action plan for vegetation fire incidents.
 5. Complete recording and reporting procedures.

Prerequisites: Recommended: 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 may take place under real or practical simulated conditions.

- Resources:**
1. Notebook/logbook and pen
 2. Fire fighting crew and equipment and site for practical, or sand table
 3. Maps, aerial photos

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

Experience as a Crew Leader at vegetation fires, including knowledge of the effects of the fire environment on fire behaviour, an understanding of CIMS, and the ability to apply safe work practices and hazard management will be an advantage to a learner seeking assessment 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. Attestation covering the learner's experience at exercises/real fires will add value to this.

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 two ways:

1. As a theory test and a series of practical tasks or tactical simulations; or
2. At a real fire or practical simulation in the field with oral questions from the assessor to cover knowledge components.

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 knowledge of the initial command controller's obligations to health and safety at vegetation fire incidents

The learner will demonstrate knowledge of the initial incident controller's obligations to health and safety at vegetation fires by:

- Defining the principles of risk management
- Explaining the allocation of tasks with respect to personnel competencies and equipment
- Explaining the process used to deal with identified hazards in accordance with the learner's own organisation Health and Safety policy (safe person concept) or safety briefing etc.

Usually assessed using oral questions or a written assessment. May be assessed using oral questions at a simulation or real fire.

Assessing Element 2: Demonstrate knowledge of initial response, command, and resource mobilisation at a vegetation fire incident

The learner will demonstrate knowledge of initial response, command, and resource mobilisation at a vegetation fire incident by:

- Describing the information required on initial activation; and
- Explaining the response and mobilisation requirements using the fire plan for the learner's organisation.

Usually assessed using oral questions or a written assessment using the fire plan as a reference or may be assessed using oral questions at a simulation or real fire.

Assessing Element 3: Size-up the situation and develop an initial incident action plan for vegetation fire situations

The learner will complete a size-up and situation analysis to cover:

- extent of fire
- hazards to personnel
- resources available
- fire environment factors
- assets at risk
- time and distance considerations
- communications
- personnel safety requirements

The learner may be asked to complete a situation report form (CIMS) as part of this process.

The learner will document operational objectives and tasks for the situation to meet own organisation's requirements. Information to be documented includes:

- organisation policy
- fire environment
- expected fire behaviour
- fire fighter safety
- Incident Action Plan

The learner may be asked to complete a National CIMS IAP form (available on the NRFA website).

Document resource requirements and productivity rates for the situation presented in terms of:

- resource type
- resource productivity

Describe factors that may alter the incident action plan.

Assessing Element 4: Implement initial incident action plan for vegetation fire incidents

The learner must implement the IAP by:

- Conducting a safety and operational briefing
- Allocating tasks to crews
- Establishing communications
- Deploying resources

The learner must manage hazards during this process.

The initial IAP must be reviewed and revised by the learner to cover:

- resource availability
- resource performance, and
- monitoring of fire behaviour

Security and preservation of the area of origin is managed for the situation given. The learner must show or explain a plan for doing this within the simulation or real event.

The learner must hand over control of the incident to another person, either the assessor or another learner acting as an incoming Incident Controller. (This can be at a real fire, field exercise or use tactical simulations in the classroom)

Assessing Element 5: Complete recording and reporting procedures

Continuous personal logs must be maintained by the learner by keeping a log sheet or notebook for recording all decisions and actions, and/or passing information to a log keeper by phone or radio.

The learner must complete reporting requirements of organisation as per fire plan, standing instructions, or SOPs.