



Learner Assessment Guide Unit Standard 3297 Manage air operations at vegetation fires (Level 6, Credits 8, Version 4)

Level Descriptor

Level	Process	Employing	Responsibility
6	Carrying out processes that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Require a command of wide-ranging highly specialised technical or scholastic skillsInvolve a wide choice of standard and non-standard procedures, often in non-standard combinationsAre employed in highly variable routine and non-routine contexts	Employing: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Specialised knowledge with depth in more than one areaThe analysis, reformatting and evaluation of a wide range of informationThe formulation of appropriate responses to resolve both concrete and abstract problems	Applied: <ul style="list-style-type: none">In managing processes within broad parameters for defined activitiesWith complete accountability for determining and achieving personal and/or group outcomes

Descriptors:

Credit 8 - will require approximately 80 - 96 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. Plan and implement air based vegetation fire suppression strategies.
2. Monitor fire ground activities and fire behaviour.
3. Manage aerial operations at a vegetation fire.
4. Liaise and report during a vegetation fire operation.

Prerequisites:

Recommended: Unit 14563, *Supervise the operation of aircraft at vegetation fires*.

Assessment Conditions:

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

Resources:

The references for this unit standard include Civil Aviation Rules Part 91 *General Operating and Flight Rules* and Part 133 *Helicopter External Load Operations*, available at <http://www.caa.govt.nz> or from The Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand, PO Box 31 441, Lower Hutt.

Special Notes:

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

Assessment Brief Instructions:

Assessing Element 1: Plan and implement air-based vegetation fire suppression strategies

The learner ensures strategies are developed in liaison with the incident management team in accordance with the requirements of the incident action plan.

This must include:

- airspace restrictions
- aircraft capabilities
- ground support for aerial operations

The learner ensures aerial operational requirements are identified and secured with sufficient lead time in accordance with the incident objectives.

This must include:

- aircraft
- landing sites and ground support

The learner ensures safety and welfare of personnel and servicing of equipment are allowed for in the strategy in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Communications systems are established before aerial operations commence in accordance with the incident communications plan.

Aircrew and ground personnel are briefed on the overall fire suppression strategy in accordance with the incident action plan.

This must include:

- strategy
- tactics
- safety issues

Assessing Element 2: Monitor fire ground activities and fire behaviour

The learner ensures progress of fire suppression activity across the whole fire ground is monitored in regard to the air operation requirements.

Candidate ensures weather conditions and fire behaviour are monitored and reported to the Operations Manager and/or the Incident Controller in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Assessing Element 3: Manage aerial operations at a vegetation fire

The learner ensures management of the air operation allows the objectives to be achieved safely and with least expenditure of resources in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's requirements.

Candidate ensures coordination with ground activities promotes personnel safety and the effectiveness of the overall operation in accordance with the incident action plan.

Candidate ensures requests from aerial operations are coordinated and actioned in time for operations to continue with minimal down time in accordance with the incident objectives.

Crew and equipment transfers permit movement to be made safely and with least loss of time and interference with the suppression activity in accordance with the incident action plan.

Candidate ensures recording of aerial management activities provides for costing action in accordance with the fire and rescue service provider's policy.

Assessing Element 4: Liaise and report during a vegetation fire operation

The learner ensures communications with aerial operations personnel and the incident management team are maintained for the duration of the operation in accordance with the incident command structure and the communication plan. Communication of situation reports to the Operations Manager allows continuity of fire control action in accordance with the incident objectives.