Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 2 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

| AHCPMG304 | Use firearms to humanely destroy animals |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to euthanize animals using firearms and techniques appropriate for the type and mobility of the animal.  The unit applies to individuals who perform shooting activities either on food or from land based vehicles, under broad direction taking responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources.  Firearms licensing conditions apply to this unit. Specific approval should be sought through the relevant State or Territory Firearms licensing agency.  Appropriate firearms licences and training are also required for those involved in training and assessment against this unit.  Destruction of pest animals must comply with state animal cruelty legislation. In addition to legal responsibilities, all units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Pest Management (PMG) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1.Plan for the shooting job | 1.1 Map location and boundaries for the shoot in accordance with the pest management plan and monitoring program  1.2 Confirm location of habitats, habits and range of movement of target animal  1.3 Determine timing of the shoot based on the activity patterns of the target animal and estimate time required to complete the shoot  1.4 Identify hazards and risks and applied control measures associated with the shoot according to workplace safety procedures  1.5 Identify environmental and personal and public safety risks associated with the shoot  1.6 Identify and use suitable personal protective equipment and warning signs required for the job |
| 2.Prepare for the shooting job | 2.1 Confirm anatomy and physical features identifying location of vulnerable organs of target animal  2.2 Take precautions to minimise hazards and environmental risks associated with the shoot  2.3 Select vehicles, equipment and materials intended for use and check for serviceability  2.4 Ensure firearm licences and permits are current and applicable to purpose  2.5 Select firearm and ammunition types to comply with recommendations and workplace procedures for target animal  2.6 Ensure firearms, ammunition, and stowage for transportation meets licensing requirements  2.7 Check and prepare firearm and ammunition  2.8 Zero and test firearm according to work procedures  2.9 Stow firearm for transport according to lice requirements and workplace procedures |
| 3.Shoot animals | 3.1 Carry firearm safely with muzzle pointing in safe direction at all times according to industry best practice and workplace procedures  3.2 Load, discharge and unload firearm according to safety procedures  3.3 Aim firearm at vulnerable organ on the target animal and discharge firearm to kill using a single shot  3.4 Check each target animal to ensure it is dead prior to selecting the next target animal  3.5 Euthanize target animals that have not been killed cleanly in a humane manner  3.6 Handle carcases required for research or commercial use to minimise personal health and safety and biosecurity risks  3.7 Dispose of animal carcases not required for research or other purposes according to enterprise procedures to minimise biosecurity or public safety and health risks |
| 4.Clean and store equipment and material | 4.1 Clean and store carcases for research or commercial use  4.2 Clean and store equipment and materials  4.3 Clean, maintain and store firearms  4.4 Store ammunition safely  4.5 Report or record job completion |

| Foundation Skills  This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Writing | * Accurately completes organisational records and reports using clear language and industry terminology |
| Navigate the world of work | * Takes responsibility for following explicit and implicit licencing requirements, policies, procedures, codes of practice and legislative requirements |
| Get the work done | * Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks and workload * Makes routine decisions and implements standard procedures for routine tasks, using formal decision making processes |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals | AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Minor changes to Performance Criteria for clarity | Equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for AHCPMG304 Use firearms to humanely destroy animals |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has demonstrated that they have used a firearm to humanely destroy animals including:   * operated a firearm safely in accordance with statutory requirements * zeroed and test fired the firearm safely at a range under supervision at a distance that is commensurate with the target animals to be destroyed * stowed the firearm and ammunition safely for transport * cleaned, maintained and stored firearms safely and in accordance with statutory requirements * checked target animal is dead, and euthanize immediately, if signs of life, according to relevant animal welfare codes of practice * used personal protective equipment to handle carcases to ensure health and safety * identified health and safety risks and applied control measures according to work health and safety procedures * apply biosecurity measures when handling, transporting or disposing of carcases. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:   * pest management plan and their purpose * environmental hazards and risks associated shooting * safety hazards and risk management strategies associated with shooting * checking and preparing a firearm and ammunition * checking target animal for life after discharging the firearm * anatomy and physical features and vulnerable organs, or humane points on target animals * procedures for the safe handling of carcases required for research or commercial use * procedures for the safe disposal of animal carcases not required for other purposes * reporting and recording procedures required by the pest management plan * location and boundaries for the shoot * habitats, habits and range of movement of target animals * personal protective equipment required for the shoot * application of the 1996 National Firearms Agreement to the licensing, storage and use of firearms * firearm and ammunition types recommended for the target animal * State and territory gun control laws, acts and regulatory requirements relating to the use of firearms to humanely destroy animals * basic requirements for ensuring the welfare of animals described in the relevant Codes of Practice * prevention of cruelty to animals legislation applicable to destruction of animals * basic requirements for biosecurity in the context of destruction of animals. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in an outdoor field environment with pest animals or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * live pest animals, carcasses or targets * use of firearms * use of specific items of personal protective equipment * specifications: * use of specific workplace documents such as policies, procedures, processes, forms * use of operating instructions for firearms * licences and permissions to discharge firearms * use of workplace instructions * access to specific legislation and codes of practice for firearm use and animal welfare * timeframes: * checked animal for signs of life immediately after discharge of firearm.   Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.  In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:   * must possess firearms licences * appropriate experience in using firearms for pest control. |

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