Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 3	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0.
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 2.0.
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

AHCARB306	Undertake aerial rescue
Application	This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to perform an aerial rescue where an injured or unconscious person is safely brought to the ground from a tree or elevated work platform (EWP) working closely with other members of a team. It is likely to be undertaken in emergency situations ensuring the safety of others. The unit applies to individuals who work under broad supervision and take responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and for solving problems. All aerial rescue work performed must comply with current industry standards, including Minimum Industry Standard 304 Aerial Rescue by Arboriculture Australia. Legislation, regulations and by-laws relating to the treatment and removal of trees apply nationally and in some states, territories and jurisdictions.
Prerequisite Unit	HLTAID003 Provide first aid AHCARB307 Use advanced climbing techniques
Unit Sector	Arboriculture (ARB)

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*
1 Plan for aerial rescue	1.1 Confirm emergency communication system is working 1.2 Confirm emergency services contact numbers are documented 1.3 Select, prepare and check first aid equipment and rescue kit 1.4 Position rescue and first aid equipment for easy access 1.5 Clarify own role in rescue situations 1.6 Confirm first aid, rescue personnel, equipment and rescue plan procedures with work team prior to undertaking rescue 1.7 Select, check and use personal protective equipment 1.8 Communicate with work team during operations using communication method for the site and activity being undertaken
2 Assess and respond to an aerial emergency situation	2.1 Follow emergency response protocol according to workplace and industry procedures 2.2 Stop all work activity and ensure other workers are aware of the incident 2.3 Attempt communication with casualty 2.4 Activate emergency plan and request assistance from work team and public in accordance with rescue plan 2.5 Obtain emergency assistance 2.6 Inspect site and tree for hazards associated with rescue, assess risks and implement controls 2.7 Assess if rescue can be conducted safely within work team capability 2.8 Seek assistance from emergency services when safe rescue is not possible

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.*
3 Access tree to undertake rescue	3.1 Select low-risk access methods to access tree and undertake rescue 3.2 Maintain inspection of tree for above-ground hazards during ascent and throughout the rescue 3.3 Maintain communication with casualty and ground crew 3.4 Select and install suitable anchor points before reaching casualty 3.5 Install redirects to ensure good rope angle when reaching casualty
4. Inspect casualty condition and system integrity	4.1 Ensure rescuer is secure before approaching casualty 4.2 Assess the stability of casualty in tree and secure if deemed unstable 4.3 Assess seriousness of condition of casualty according to first aid procedures and risk assessment 4.4 Assess integrity of casualty's climbing system to determine its suitability for lowering the casualty 4.5 Administer first aid above ground according to first aid procedures and risk assessment 4.6 Apply first aid protocols for casualties with possible neck or spinal injuries and await expert medical attention 4.6 Maintain communications with ground crew
5 Lower casualty to ground	5.1 Inform casualty of lowering procedure 5.2 Prepare casualty for descent in accordance with first aid, rescue plan and risk assessments 5.3 Select and implement rescue technique relative to rescue and emergency situation and casualty condition 5.4 Descend tree safely in a controlled manner 5.5 Lower casualty safely to ground with support of ground crew according to emergency conditions
5 Complete rescue operations	5.1 Administer first aid on ground according to casualty condition until emergency services arrive 5.2 Transfer responsibility of casualty to emergency services on their arrival 5.3 Isolate equipment involved in incident for potential investigation and prevent reuse until checked 5.7 Complete incident report and notify affected parties according to organisational procedures and regulatory requirements

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.

Skill	Description
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Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCARB306 Undertake aerial rescue Release 3	AHCARB306 Undertake aerial rescue Release 2		Equivalent unit

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 AHCARB306 Undertake aerial rescue**

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 conducted an aerial rescue for each of the following scenarios:
- pole top rescue
- pick off rescue
- rescue where casualty must be lifted, moved or transferred to an alternate climbing system

There must also be evidence that the individual has:
- checked the communication system is functioning and the availability of emergency services contact details
- selected, checked and positioned the emergency rescue and first aid equipment for easy access and clarified personal and work team role in the rescue
- confirmed resources for rescue including; first aid equipment, personnel, equipment plan and procedures with work team
- selected, checked and used personal protection equipment
- communicated with work team during operations using agreed communications methods
- implemented emergency response protocols, stopped all work on the site and activated emergency rescue plan
- attempted to communicate with casualty and maintained communication throughout the rescue
- assessed the tree for hazards and risks and assessed rescue plan is within work team capability
- contacted and sought assistance from emergency services where safe rescue could not be performed
- accessed tree for low risk access methods and monitored above ground hazards during accent
- used access equipment to carry out rescue including:
    - selected and installed anchor points
    - installed redirects to achieve safe rope angle
    - secured rescuer
    - secured casualty
    - administered first aid above ground to determine casualty condition and safe decided rescue procedure
- demonstrated the procedure for securing and assessing a severe casualty situation including:
    - assessed casualty for neck or spinal injuries
    - communicated and obtained emergency services assistance
    - secured casualty awaiting emergency services support
- demonstrated the procedure for assisted rescue of casualty including:
    - informed casualty of lowering procedure
    - prepared casualty for descent in accordance with first aid, rescue plan and risk assessment
    - descended tree safely in a controlled manner
    - lowered casualty safely to ground with support of ground crew
    - applied first aid on ground
- isolated and secured equipment for potential investigation and before further use
- removed equipment used in rescue in a controlled manner
- cleaned and stored all equipment
- updated and maintaining records of aerial rescue according to workplace and regulatory requirements.

All aerial rescue work performed must comply with current industry standards, including Minimum Industry Standard 304 Aerial Rescue by Arboriculture Australia.

Knowledge Evidence

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:

Knowledge Evidence

- current industry standards, including Minimum Industry Standard 304 Aerial Rescue by Arboriculture Australia.
- emergency procedures for aerial rescues including:
    - dealing with emergencies
    - emergency protocol - STOP – A.I.D. – A.I.R. – LOWER – TRANSFER
    - working with emergency plans
    - accessing trees in emergency situations
    - accessing and utilising emergency services
- assessing site-specific safety in emergency situations including:
    - methods for identifying hazards
    - risk assessment systems
- safety and procedures when conducting a rescue near overhead power lines including:
    - basics of electrocution
    - power line types and insulation
    - approach distances and safety zones, voltage and arcing
    - tools, equipment, personnel and power line contact
    - personal protective equipment
- administering first aid in an aerial rescue environment including:
    - first aid procedures
    - contents and use of a first aid kit
    - first aid in an aerial environment
    - assessing neck and back injuries and procedures
    - first aid on the ground following rescue
    - importance of communication and reassurance of casualty
- communications in a rescue situations including:
    - emergency services communication systems
    - emergency services contact numbers
    - work team communication methods
- tools equipment and other resources required for aerial rescue including:
    - appropriate placement of rescue equipment
    - components of and use of rescue kits
    - rescue personnel, equipment and rescue plan procedures
- controlling risk to rescuer, victim and others during an aerial rescue
- climbing and rigging systems for aerial rescue including:
    - pole top rescue
    - pick off rescue
    - lifting moving or transferring casualties to alternate climbing systems
    - ropes, knots and equipment for rescue climbing and rigging systems
    - lifting and lowering systems
    - cleaning, storing and maintaining safety kits and equipment
- work health and safety reporting procedures for accidents, incidents and rescue operations including:
    - site and equipment security for investigations
    - mandatory records
    - workplace records
    - legislative responsibilities.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
    - access to aerial environments representing a pole top and tree canopy, where three types of rescue can be demonstrated as specified in the Performance Evidence
- resources, equipment and materials:
    - full arborists rescue kit, single rope technique (SRT) climbing kit, static and dynamic rope kit
    - lowering and friction devices

Assessment Conditions

- - rescue dummy
  - harnesses, rigging equipment, climbing spurs
  - emergency communications equipment
  - personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - first aid and emergency kits
  - rescue kit
  - climbing friction hitches
- specifications:
  - workplace and manufacturer instructions for safe operation, cleaning and storing of rescue equipment
  - access to current industry standards for aerial rescue, including Minimum Industry Standard 304 Aerial Rescue by Arboriculture Australia.
  - access to emergency rescue plans and procedures
- relationships:
  - client and work team.

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:
- arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed
- current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed.

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