Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 6.0 |

| ACMAIM2X1 | Participate in small companion animal rescue during a major incident |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to safely participate in a team responding to small companion animals during major incidents.  The unit applies to individuals who work or volunteer to assist in small companion animal incident actions. They work with others to take responsibility for safety and respond to a range of incidents involving the rescue of small companion animals that may be compromised or distressed.  All work must be carried out to comply with Commonwealth, state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Animal Incident Management |
| Elements | Performance Criteria |
| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Respond to an incident involving small companion animals | 1.1 Assess incident and contribute to risk assessment to people and small companion animals  1.2 Participate in team briefing about incident action plan, objectives and own role  1.3 Confirm and clarify incident controller instructions about own role and tasks  1.4 Discuss behaviour risks and control strategies associated with small companion animal species at the incident  1.5 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for risk and response  1.6 Prepare requirements according to work health and safety (WHS) and biosecurity guidelines |
| 2. Carry out allocated role and duties | 2.1 Perform allocated tasks and role according to chain of commands  2.2 Monitor small companion animal behaviour and maintain situational awareness  2.3 Assist with minimising hazards, ensuring safety zones are maintained and escape routes identified |
| 3. Assist with basic small companion animal handling | 3.1 Observe and anticipate behavioural characteristics of small companion animal species and use appropriate handling methods  3.2 Approach small companion animals safely and in a manner that minimises stress and stimulation  3.3 Catch or contain small companion animals using safe handling and basic restraint and fear free controlling methods  3.4 Assist with communication and animal extraction according to role |
| 4. Assist with post-incident activities | 4.1 Assist with reuniting small companion animals to owners or moving animals to a safe holding area or handling deceased animals appropriately and according to instructions  4.2 Clean, decontaminate and store PPE and other equipment used at the incident  4.3 Report information required by relevant personnel according to incident action plan and regulatory requirements  4.4 Participate in incident debrief |

| 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 |
| Oral communication | * Listen attentively and ask questions to confirm or clarify information using appropriate technical terminology * Use clear, precise language and tone appropriate for situation and audience to work collectively as an effective team member |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMAIM2X1  Participate in small companion animal rescue during a major incident |  |  | Newly created |

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

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for ACMAIM2X1 Participate in small companion animal rescue during a major incident |
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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:   * participated in a team responding to two different incident scenarios involving small companion animals, taking on a different allocated role in each scenario. | |

| 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:   * major incident types including: * floods * fires * earthquakes * extreme weather events * participation role in incident action plan to relocate small companion animals, including: * methods, resources and transport requirements * contingency plans * incident risk factors * shelters * key features of incident management system, including: * chain of command and communication * basic principles of working in a team at an incident * incident risk factors and escalation processes * basic sequence and steps to follow in a small companion animal incident * incident zones (hot, warm and cold) and personnel allowed in each * safe zones related to animals * briefing and debriefing the incident, including critical incident stress monitoring * self-care techniques * factors affecting the movement of animals, including: * fitness to be moved or to travel * species-specific needs and behaviours * safe working practices around small companion animals * empathetic communication techniques with small companion animal owners * techniques, equipment and risks associated with a range of major incidents, including: * animals trapped – mud, deep holes, enclosed spaces, perched on ledges or cliffs * animals entangled * types of equipment and how to use, including: * equipment for safe rescue and transportation of small companion animals * personal protective equipment (PPE) * identification and disposal methods for deceased animals * containment requirements and design of holding areas and temporary shelter, including: * moveable barriers, fencing, ropes, cages, enclosures and specific equipment required to meet temporary housing needs of animals * separation between species (prey or predator) to minimise stress and recovery * separation from human activities * improvised equipment * quarantine and biosecurity requirements * when to seek appropriate animal first aid and veterinary care according to action plan * work health and safety (WHS) procedures * methods used to identify animals (with the availability of a microchip reader), and record keeping requirements * regulatory requirements, with exemptions if required * animal feed, including specialised feed for special requirements for different species and recently whelped litters * longer term housing options if needed * animal welfare practices. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions or an incident resources, equipment and materials: * regulations relating to major incident planning * animal welfare regulations * personal protective equipment (PPE) * animal mannequin/s, equipment and incident scenarios to address the performance evidence requirements * specifications: * workplace policies and procedures * relationships: * team members * small companion animals * small companion animal owners.   Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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