Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0. |

| AHCMAR3XX | Monitor ocean conditions and marine environmental quality  |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor ocean conditions using sensors, sampling and laboratory analysis, and monitor biological markers in marine environments. It does not include diving for scientific purposes (see AHCLPW305 Perform diving for scientific purposes)The unit applies to individuals who work in a marine conservation and management role under broad supervision and takes responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and for solving problems.No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Marine (MAR) |

| 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 marine water monitoring operations | 1.1 Determine marine water and environment monitoring objectives and applicable operating procedures from monitoring plan1.2 Determine sensors, sampling equipment, support equipment and materials required for monitoring operations1.3 Identify personnel required for monitoring operations and source of expert advice1.4 Determine schedule for monitoring activities within operational constraints 1.5 Identify and resolve logistical issues for monitoring activity1.6 Identify partner organisations and clarify requirements for transporting, processing and analysing samples 1.7 Prepare a plan and timeline for a marine water monitoring program |
| 2. Prepare to monitor ocean conditions and marine environmental quality | 2.1 Confirm permission for marine monitoring program has been approved and notify stakeholders2.2 Assemble, check and test monitoring and support equipment prior to deployment2.3 Maintain, repair or replace faulty equipment2.4 Prepare equipment and materials for transport to sampling site2.5 Identify and source consumables required for monitoring program2.6 Identify hazards, assess risk and implement controls according to work health and safety procedures2.7 Review operating and emergency procedures for the marine monitoring work plan and brief personnel |
| 3. Monitor ocean conditions and marine environmental quality | 3.1 Transport equipment and consumables to monitoring location3.2 Prepare marine water monitoring equipment for deployment according to work place and biosecurity procedures3.3 Deploy equipment and implement monitoring procedure3.4 Record marine water monitoring data3.5 Monitor program and implement and record adjustments according to program requirements |
| 4. Conduct post-monitoring operations | 4.1 Secure and download recorded data4.2 Secure label and store samples for transport4.3 Clean, service and maintain marine water monitoring equipment according to workplace and biosecurity procedures4.4 Organise repair or replacement of faulty equipment4.5 Store marine water monitoring equipment4.6 Conduct a debrief session on performance of monitoring program 4.7 Maintain records and report activity and incidents according to workplace procedures  |

| Foundation SkillsThis 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 record monitoring data and information using industry specific language following workplace formatting
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| Numeracy | * Use basic computations to determine scheduling and timing of ocean monitoring activities.
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| Unit Mapping Information |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCMAR3XX Monitor ocean conditions and marine environmental quality  | New | New | No 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 AHCMAR3XX Monitor ocean conditions and marine environmental quality |
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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 planned and implemented an ocean monitoring program for conditions and environmental quality using sensors, sampling and laboratory analysis according to workplace procedures.There must also be evidence that the individual has:* scheduled monitoring activity within operating constraints, including:
* seasonal effects
* prevailing weather conditions
* tides and currents
* human impact
* obtained and assembled equipment and consumables for monitoring ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* assemble, checked and tested monitoring and support equipment
* conducted a risk assessment prior to monitoring activity
* monitor ocean water quality, including:
* temperature,
* salinity,
* turbidity,
* contaminants
* flow
* monitor biological indicators and markers in marine environments which must include, sediment quality and indicator species
* cleaned, maintained, repaired or replaced water monitoring equipment
* briefed and de-briefed personnel on monitoring ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* transported equipment and consumables for monitoring ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* stored equipment and consumables for monitoring ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* recorded, secured and stored data
* secured, labelled and stored samples for transport according to partner organisation requirements.
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| 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:* drivers of local and regional ocean circulation and conditions, including:
* ocean current systems,
* weather patterns,
* tides,
* seasonal changes, including freshwater inflows
* extraordinary storms, temperature events and sources of marine pollution
* factors that impact on local and regional ocean conditions, including:
* season
* weather
* tides
* currents
* human impact
* the basic physics of the underwater environment and the interplay of factors such as depth, pressure, temperature, water chemistry, flow and light penetration
* biological markers and indicators of marine system health
* equipment and techniques used for monitoring ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* techniques and processes used for taking, storing, processing and transporting ocean water samples
* sampling risks associated with contamination and storage
* planning monitoring operations for ocean conditions and marine environmental quality
* computer hardware and software systems that support monitoring
* techniques for cleaning and maintaining marine water monitoring equipment
* maritime regulations for commercial survey work on vessels
* risk assessments and safety considerations for conducting marine monitoring
* biosecurity measures for marine monitoring techniques and equipment
* operating and Emergency procedures for marine monitoring work
* types of contaminants affecting water quality, including:
* hydrocarbons
* plastics and microplastics.
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| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions: * physical conditions:
* skills must be demonstrated in an ocean environment
* resources, equipment and materials:
* access to a vessel for transport to an ocean environment
* use of specific tools and equipment for monitoring
* use of specific items of personal protective equipment
* specifications:
* use of specific workplace procedures and processes for monitoring in an ocean environment
* use of manufacturer’s operating instructions for monitoring equipment
* use of workplace instructions
* relationships:
* team members
* supervisor
* timeframes:
* according to time frames specified in monitoring program schedule

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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