

# LANTw75 - SQA Unit Code H2PP 04

## Contribute to the management of forest and moorland fire fighting



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### Overview

This standard is for individuals who contribute to the management of forest and moorland fire fighting activities. This is aimed at those who work in forestry, farming, game or environmental conservation on either a full- or part-time basis

You will be able to carry out the following activities:

- contribute to the development of fire plans and fire maps
- contribute to the planning of fire fighting on the ground
- contribute to the practical requirements associated with safe fire fighting of forest and moorland operations
- supervise individuals and teams in support of forest and moorland fire fighting operations
- evaluate the effectiveness of fire fighting activities

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

- P1 assess vegetation **fire hazards and fire risks** to inform fire management planning
- P2 contribute to the development of forest fire plan and maps
- P3 liaise and communicate with relevant people to confirm proposed fire plan
- P4 contribute to the preparation of checklists of resources available
- P5 contribute to the establishment of fire fighting **contingencies**
- P6 collect and confirm information relating to the known and anticipated risks to people, property and the environment
- P7 plan action to lead and support your team's response to incidents
- P8 develop your objectives through risk assessment
- P9 determine initial action against available resources, using a realistic assessment of their suitability for operational use
- P10 develop initial attack plans which provide sufficient flexibility to meet the known and anticipated needs of the incident
- P11 make appropriate adjustments to your plans based on initial assessments of incidents
- P12 confirm your objectives and deploy your resources to meet priority needs
- P13 ensure that your decisions continue to minimise risk and maximise progress towards your objectives
- P14 redeploy your resources to meet the changing priorities of incidents
- P15 actively seek information to update plans and progress action to meet your objectives
- P16 operate within the agreed level of your responsibility and authority
- P17 ensure that your role and responsibilities relating to incidents are clear and understood by others
- P18 confirm the final status of incidents and agree any further action with relevant people
- P19 identify any unresolved risks and hazards and take action to minimise these within operational constraints
- P20 make your resources available for redeployment at the earliest opportunity
- P21 evaluate and report on the effectiveness of fire fighting operations

### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **Health And Safety**

- K1 how to make and apply decisions based on the assessment of risk
- K2 how to apply practices that maximise the health, safety and welfare of yourself and others in the workplace
- K3 hazards and risks of the workplace affecting people and the environment
- K4 fire risk assessment techniques and systems

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **Organisational**

- K5 the purpose of and how to interpret forest or estate fire plans, maps, symbols and other company working practices and industry good practice
- K6 the fire fighting resources available within the organisation, specialist fire brigade equipment, and fire group (locality)
- K7 your own role in planning and contributing to fire fighting plans
- K8 the role of the fire brigade, land managers and fire groups and how to identify and communicate with the incident commander
- K9 how to access, interpret and provide relevant information, including feedback
- K10 the information on your team required by the fire brigade on arrival at fireground

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **Personal and Interpersonal**

- K11 how to communicate clearly and effectively with the range of people
- K12 how to solve problems, make decisions and plan for contingencies when managing forest and moorland fire fighting

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **Technical**

- K13 how weather, fuels and topography conditions affect the spread, intensity and nature of fires
- K14 the operations likely to occur in the three phases of fire fighting knockdown, containment, mop up and patrol
- K15 which of the three main fire fighting strategies to choose in different fire situations: direct attack, indirect attack and flanking attack
- K16 the importance of key fire information for resource planning
- K17 the capabilities and limitations of personal and operational equipment
- K18 the role of helicopters in fighting forest and moorland fires
- K19 the potential impact of forest and moorland fire fighting activities on the environment
- K20 how to contribute to the initial attack planning of the following types of

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fires covering: heather or shrub fire, grass fire, lop and top fire, forest fire

**Scope/range  
related to  
performance  
criteria**

Assess the potential **fire hazards** and **fire risks** in terms of:

- 1 fuels
- 2 slopes
- 3 potential ignition sources
- 4 history of fires
- 5 water points
- 6 existing and potential firebreaks
- 7 assets needing protection

Contribute to establishing **contingencies** to deal with:

- 1 changes in weather/fire behaviour
- 2 breaches of control line
- 3 accidents
- 4 problems with equipment

### Glossary

**Fire behaviour:** the manner in which fire reacts to the variables of fuel, weather and topography described in terms of fire intensity and rate of spread

**Topography:** shape of the land, especially slope and aspect

**Fire weather:** predicted climatic conditions covering period of burn, especially wind, air temperature and relative humidity

**Fuels:** the type, quantity, arrangement, distribution, and moisture content of the vegetation. Can be: ground (peat), surface (heather and litter layer) or aerial (trees) fuels

**Fire type:** ground fire, surface fire or crown fire; most common type is surface fire

**Fire intensity:** the pulse or rate of energy release, that travels upwards from the fire

**Head:** the front of the fire showing the greatest rate of spread

**Heel:** the rear of the fire near the origin

**Flank:** the sides of the fire

**Control line:** all constructed or natural barriers and treated fire edges used to control a fire

**Direct attack:** fire suppression activity directly on the fire

**Indirect attack:** fire suppression activity away from the fire edge, e.g. backburning

**Flanking attack:** most common direct attack strategy, that starts suppression activity from heel round flanks to head

**Fire Support Office:** Forest District Office, Estate Office or company office where logistic support for fire suppression effort is organised

**Wildfire:** a fire that is not being controlled

**Fire hazard:** the potential exposure of people or assets to danger from the behaviour of the fire

**Fire risk:** the potential for a fire to start

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### Contribute to the management of forest and moorland fire fighting

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