



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Gamekeeping: Sporting Habitat Planning

Unit code: DN8L 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to develop the candidate's knowledge of sporting habitat management and to enable them to understand the requirements of game species within managed habitats. It also aims to enable them to develop knowledge of management planning strategies and the interpretation of all current legislation relating to the environment and complies with current codes of good practice.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Outline and interpret current legislation affecting habitat plans for game species.
- 2 Develop habitat plans for sporting and conservation interests.

Credit points and level: 1 HN credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: There are no formal academic requirements for this Unit. However it would be beneficial if candidates did have vocational experience in an appropriate discipline or had studied, or were studying related units.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Problem Solving* and *Communication* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: This Unit is part of the mandatory units for the HNC Gamekeeping with Wildlife Management. It may be used as a free-standing Unit for the purposes of continuing professional development.

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment: This Unit consists of one instrument of assessment a project which will result in the development of a habitat plan.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Outline and interpret current legislation affecting habitat plans for game species

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Identification of current legislation
- ◆ Requirement for legislation
- ◆ Interpretation of current legislation
- ◆ Effects of current legislation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain the importance of current legislation
- ◆ identify current legislation in relation to evaluating and analysing habitat requirements
- ◆ interpret legislation in relation to evaluating and analysing habitat requirements

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome will be assessed holistically with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Gamekeeping: Sporting Habitat Planning

Outcome 2

Develop habitat plans for sporting and conservation interests

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Habitat plans
- ◆ Compliance of plans with current legislation
- ◆ How plans are developed to enhance conservation
- ◆ Factors that may adversely affect the habitat plan
- ◆ Appropriate formats for planning

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ interpret and identify requirements of game species within habitats being developed for sporting and conservation interests
- ◆ comply with all current legislation and codes of good practice
- ◆ produce habitat plans

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment for Outcomes 1 and 2 is a project in the form of a habitat plan.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DN8L 34

Unit title: Gamekeeping: Sporting Habitat Planning

Superclass category: QA

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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is primarily intended to prepare candidates for the type of sporting habitat planning they may take up once employed within the game/sporting industry.

The candidates are likely to work predominately as individuals researching material appropriate to the game species/habitats involved. Candidates who do not have experience in habitat planning will be able to widen their knowledge and understanding whilst on work experience undertaking relevant gamebird management with various species of sporting birds.

Outcome 1 introduces the candidate to the identification and interpretation of legislation relating to sporting habitat planning. The Candidate should be able to demonstrate knowledge of strategies such as agricultural policies, grant schemes and other related subsidies.

Outcome 2 gives the candidate the opportunity to develop habitat plans. The candidate will require to identify and describe the habitat for game species in the context of woodland management policies, agricultural strategies, environmental requirements and conservation issues.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is likely to form part of a Group Award, which is primarily designed to provide candidates with technical or professional knowledge and skills related to a specific occupational area. It would be expected, however, that those who successfully completed the award would progress to work as an under/beatkeeper or a single-handed keeper. The emphasis on the delivery of this Unit is seasonally based. This should allow the Unit to be delivered in a way that enables the candidate to appreciate its relevance to the occupational area concerned.

The assessment of Outcomes 1 and 2 will be combined in the form of a project to develop a habitat plan.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Communication at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, however there is no automatic certification.

Open learning

It may be possible to deliver this Unit through Open or Distance Learning. For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance of Open and Distance Learning* (SQA,2000).

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Gamekeeping: Sporting Habitat Planning

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Gamekeeping: Sporting Habitat Planning

This Unit is designed to recognise the requirements of gamebird species within managed habitats within the UK. It primarily intended to prepare you for the role of under/beatkeeper or a single-handed keeper, but it can also assist you if you already hold such a position.

The Unit is about sporting habitat planning, legislation and codes of good practice.

The assessment for both outcomes will be combined into a single project where you will be required to develop a habitat plan.