



**POLAR
TOURISM**
Guides Association
guiding guiding

POLAR QUALIFICATION

Navigation Skills for Polar Operations

2022 Edition

DEFINITIONS:

- Scope:** Outlines who the test is for.
- Element:** Outlines the overall **skill set** to be tested.
- Range:** The **specific skills** to be examined. An examination **may or may not** include all of the range items. It is at the discretion of the Assessor if the Assessee shows confidence and ease in other range items as to whether they examine them or not.
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- SCOPE:** **Navigation Skills** is for field staff/guides working in any area where known, or simple walks/longer treks, ski tours, skidoo excursions, landings or zodiac cruises are undertaken. It is a basic safety management competency that all field staff/guides should have.

- PREREQUISITES:** Nil

- CROSS CREDIT:** Any internationally recognized qualifications that include these components to the level of the Scope or higher. See Cross Credit Matrices.

Special Notes: Elements 1 and 2 are required to achieve the PQ.

ELEMENTS & PERFORMANCE CRITERIA:

Element 1 – Demonstrate knowledge of navigation tools

1.1 Maps and/or charts are interpreted for information

Range – Lat/long, distance units and measuring distance, water depths and small boat hazards, scale, datum information, contour lines and legend.

1.2 The use and limitations of navigation tools and environmental navigation strategies are explained:

Range: Map, chart, compass, GPS, smartphone, mud-map, and wind/wave direction relative to destination.

1.3 Electronic navigation aids and systems are described in terms of their use and function

Range: GPS, electronic charts, depth sounder, and AIS.

Element 2 – Navigate in poor visibility

2.1 Basic use of standard or digital handheld compass

Range: Take a bearing to a set point, follow a bearing in poor visibility, and communicate bearing to others to use in grid or magnetic.

2.2 Use handheld GPS or Smartphone to problem solve and manage a location change

Range: Check GPS settings for consistency with ship, create a waypoint, return to that waypoint in limited visibility, and enter coordinates given to create a waypoint.

DATE	REVIEWERS
2015	Prepared by Graham Charles
8/5/2017	Graham Charles, Alex McNeil, Phil Wickens
14/5/2018	Qualifications Review Meeting
20/5/2019	Qualifications Review Meeting
26/3/20	Qualifications Review Meeting
2021	Qualifications Review Meeting
2022	Qualifications Review Meeting