



ACT Rural Fire Service
Standard Operating Procedure 3.6
Fatigue Management

3.6
Operational
Management

Purpose

Fatigue management under occupational health and safety regulations can be a major issue to overcome when rostering or allocating resources to work on a fire.

It is imperative that Incident Controllers ensure that shift lengths do not cause unacceptable fatigue of personnel.

Operating Procedure.

Where possible shifts should:

- Not exceed 24 hours during the transition from initial attack to ongoing suppression,
- Not exceed 14 hours on the fire ground during ongoing suppression operations,
- Ensure a minimum of 8 hours break between the end of a shift and the commencement of the next shift (all travel to and from the incident is to be included in the shift time of 14 hours),

Where possible driving should be managed following extended shifts as follows:

- No driving should occur after 16 hours continuous duty,
- No driving is to occur after 24 hours continuous duty.

ACTRFS will endeavour to ensure that the number of successive work periods undertaking fire-fighting activities does not cause unacceptable fatigue. The number of successive day shifts should not exceed 7, and the number of successive night shifts should not exceed 5, a minimum rest break of 24 hours must be provided after each shift rotation.

Maintained By: Manager, Operations

Approved By: Andrew Stark

Position: Chief Officer RFS

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Andrew Stark', written over a light green rectangular background.

Date: 15/02/2011

Cross Reference SOP/s:

Amendments: