Title: Safe Work Instruction BFB

Fatigue Management

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Authorised By: BFAC

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SWI 04

THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCONTROLLED WHEN PRINTED

DO NOT use this machine/equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

 Description of Work:
 Firefighter's hours of work on the fire ground.

 Potential Hazards:
 Fatigue reduces the safety and effectiveness of individuals, increasing the risk of an accident occurring.

Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) Required (Check the box for required PPC):

Gloves	Face Masks	Eye Protection	Mask	Appropriate Footwear	Hearing Protection	Protective Clothing
	\boxtimes	\boxtimes		\boxtimes		\boxtimes

Safe Work Procedure Checklist:

Introduction

As part of its overall commitment to the safety and health of all Bush Fire Brigade Members the Shire of Bridgetown – Greenbushes will ensure there is a system in place to manage fatigue at local level fires.

Fatigue management is a shared responsibility, at all levels, including the individual.

For the purpose of managing firefighter fatigue, shift hours of work (time on fire ground) will be calculated as follows:

- A. Start Time is to be recorded from time of call out.
- B. Travel time is to be recorded against the shift.

Responsibilities

Crew resourcing is a Planning function of Incident Management.

The Incident Controller is to monitor and maintain records of personnel work periods. Time keeping is critical during extended incidents and must be established early to allow for effective crew rostering.

Crew Fatigue Planning

There are recognised difficulties in setting absolute timings on tasks during an incident.

All parties are to approach the issue in line with the priorities of preserving life and property. The durations of tasks may need to be adjusted to meet the specific circumstances.

Guidelines

Function	Guidance		
Fire Fighting	Initial responders are to be engaged in fire suppression duties for a maximum of 12 hours followed by an 8 hour break.		
Call outs after 18:00	It should be recognised by both the Incident Controller and individuals that responding after 18:00, that a firefighter may have been working for more than 12 hours prior the call out. A 12 hour shift in this circumstance may be inappropriate.		
	A decision to be operational for a full 12 hour shift needs to be made by the Chief / Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer and the individuals. Taking into account the estimated time of extinguishment and the value of the individual being on site.		
Travel Time	Travel time is recorded against the shift. Where personnel have been required to work in excess of a 12 hour shift or if personnel are too fatigued to drive home, alternative travel arrangements must be arranged by the IC.		