

Crewing Arrangements for RFS Vehicles

The ACT Rural Fire Service Chief Officer has issued this standard operating procedure under Section 38(1) of the *Emergencies Act 2004* – A Chief Officer may determine standards and protocols.

Purpose

This standard operating procedure (SOP) specifies the crewing capacities of service vehicles for “mobile and available” status for operational response and during incidents.

Applicability

This standard operating procedure (SOP) is applicable to all personnel from the ACT Rural Fire Service (ACT RFS), as defined in the Emergencies Act 2004, engaging in firefighting operations.

Background

It is important to set the minimum crewing capacities on RFS vehicles to ensure they are available for effective operational response. A maximum is specified to ensure that there is enough room for all crew members to seek refuge within the vehicle cabin when a vehicle is threatened by a burn-over.

Responsibilities

Brigade members	Comply with crewing requirement for service vehicles.
Brigade Officers	Ensure crewing levels are adhered to.

Operating procedure

Crewing numbers

The following table lists the crewing capacities of service vehicles when their status is “mobile and available” for operational response and during operations.

Vehicle type	Minimum crew numbers	Maximum crew numbers
Light unit	2	2
Medium tanker	2	3
Single cabin tanker	3	3
Dual cabin tanker	3	5
Bulk water tanker	2	2

Vehicle type	Minimum crew numbers	Maximum crew numbers
Command vehicle	1	5


When vehicles are used for non-operational purposes (e.g. fetes, field days or displays) and are deemed “not available” via the Mobile data terminal (MDT), maximum crewing must not exceed the total number of seat belts fitted to the vehicles.

Document information

Version history

Author	Version	Version Approval Date	Summary of Changes
Andrew Stark	1.0	15/02/2011	Version 1.0
Rohan Scott	2.0	12/03/2020	Reviewed and updated
Steve Quinlan	2.0	27/03/2023	Administrative review

Approved by

Name	Title/Role	Signature	Date
Rohan Scott	CO ACT RFS		08/02/2024

Document Owner

Position	Section
RFS Director	Operations

Next review due: 01/02/2027

Related documents

Document name
2.2.15 Urgent Duty Driving Standard Operating Procedure
2.2.20 Burn-over Standard Operating Procedure

Signed documents will be scanned and filed in TRIM.