

Updates to the 2014 Emergency Firefighter (EFF) Crew Management Guide

Updated: 3/3/14

In December of 2012, the Alaska Wildland Fire Operations Committee, acting under the authority and direction of the Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (AWFCG), chartered an interagency task group to make recommendations concerning the management of the Alaska Type 2 EFF Crew program. In February 2014, the AWFCG approved recommended changes to the EFF Crew Management Guide. The recommendations were developed with the following mission: *The mission of the Alaska Emergency Firefighter Type 2 Crew Guide is to promote a standardized, consistent, and equitable system for managing the Alaska Type 2 EFF program, which will create opportunity for Alaskan crews by meeting the demand for a safe, dependable and motivated work force for use on emergency incidents.*

1. New Cover & AWFCG Signature Sheet
2. Added brief EFF background/history to the Introduction (Pg. 7).
3. Added Mission Statement (Pg. 7)
4. Designated Crews (Pg. 8): *The following changes were made in order to promote equity among the villages and communities that provide crews, and to more accurately reflect the number of statewide crews actually available in any given season:*
 - a. The designated villages/communities that have traditionally provided fire crews remain the same (See Appendix A – Interagency Type 2 EFF Crew Source List), with the exception of 4 villages that have not fielded a crew in the last 10-15 years.
 - b. Villages/Communities can still be added or removed from the crew source list utilizing the procedures on pg. 8-9. New condition has been added that a Zone/Area must demonstrate a need for and the ability to properly train and administer the additional crew(s).
 - c. The statewide total number of crews (72) is no longer designated, as each village/community is no longer permanently allotted a designated number of crews.
 - d. The statewide number of crews available during any given fire season will be determined by how many crews Areas/Zones make available on the crew rotation list, utilizing the criteria in this Guide (Pg. 11-12 Crew Rotation).
5. General Crew Requirements (Pg. 9):
 - a. Added list of expectations for Alaska Type 2 EFF Crews.
 - b. Crew size moved to 18-20 personnel to meet national standards for Type 2 crews and increased production rates. Hiring unit will determine the crew size of crew during hiring process.
 - c. Crews will not be dispatched with less than 18 personnel (without approval from the receiving unit).
 - d. Zones/Areas have the option of designating up to 4 sawyers on a crew.
 - i. The hiring Area/Zone will determine how many Sawyers will be designated during the hiring process.
 - ii. Sawyers must be fully qualified as Faller-A (FALA)
 - iii. Sawyers can be paid at the FALA Rate (see Pay Rates, Pg. 27).
 - e. Used the number 15 as minimum crew size, rather than 75%, for an assigned crew to no longer be considered a crew and potentially be demobilized by the fire (IC still has the option to keep).

6. Crew Rotation List (Pg. 11-13): *The Rotation List has been completely reworked to in an effort to promote equity and accuracy.*
 - a. New criteria and procedures to list crews as 'available' (pg. 12)
 - b. Cut-off date (6/15) to status crews as available, after which they can still be added to the list, but will come in at the bottom of the list.
 - c. Unavailable crews and crews that are not able to fill an order due to lack of personnel will drop to the bottom of the list. (Pg. 13)
7. Crew Conduct and Discipline (Pg. 21)
 - a. Added "collection and/or transportation of wildlife" as an offense (pg. 21). This has also been added to the conditions of hire.
 - b. Added Guidelines for disciplinary actions matrix (Pg. 21)
 - c. FMO has full authority to alter penalties according to specific situations.
8. Crew Boss Training (Pg. 25)
 - a. Added "Areas/Zones will maintain a list of acceptable candidates who meet the prerequisites to be Crew Boss Trainees. Areas/Zones will work with the village/community governing body to choose the best candidate. Area/Zone FMOs have final approval on all candidates."
9. Emergency Commissary (Pg. 30)
 - a. Language regarding regular commissary was removed from the guide to reflect the current realities of Areas/Zones being able to provide these services.
 - b. Tobacco products were added to the list of items EFF are required to bring enough of.
 - c. Added "Areas/Zones are under no requirement to replace boots or other personal items, especially if they were unserviceable or poor fitting to begin with."
 - d. Added "If an EFF is mobilized with unserviceable footwear to the point of being a safety hazard or hindering the ability to work, this may be grounds for dismissal."
 - e. Added "If there are crewmembers that are found to be underprepared in regards to personal items, especially boots, **this should be documented in the crew evaluation**, and the Area/Zone should take steps to correct the problem before the next mobilization."