

Guide for Work/Rest Policy and Length of Assignment for VIPR Resources

D.6.7 WORK/REST, LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENTS, AND CREW CHANGE OUT

Work/rest and length of assignment guidelines are in place to ensure the health and safety of employees. Contractors shall ensure that their personnel adhere to the work/rest guidelines (minimum 2:1 work to rest ratio (for every 2 hours of work or travel, provide 1 hour of sleep and/or rest within a 24 hour period)).

Hours worked that exceed 16 hours in a 24-hour period must be approved by the IC or Agency Administrator. Documentation shall include mitigation measures used to reduce fatigue.

LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENT:

To mitigate exceeding length of assignment guidelines and manage the days of rest, the Government must:

- a) Request the Contractor to provide replacement personnel. Replacement personnel are subject to the work/rest and length of assignment guidelines and must arrive at the incident fully rested. The Government will not pay transportation cost for replacement personnel.
- b) Equipment does not need a break in assignment, only the operators do. Contractors can replace qualified operators to keep the equipment operational and on shift as long as they coordinate with Finance, Plans, etc., therefore, can be assigned to an incident **beyond 30 days**. The reference, "Release resources after a 14-day assignment or follow length of assignment extension guidelines as stated in Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook." in D.6.7 -- WORK/REST, LENGTH OF ASSIGNMENTS, AND CREW CHANGE OUT applies to Fallers, Mechanic with Service Truck, and Medical Services.
- c) With the Government's agreement, the contractor may choose to have their personnel remain at the incident base camp and not be placed on shift to allow proper rest. The time is not compensable when the Contractor is off shift in compliance with the length of assignment provisions. Refer to **D.21.8.3(d)**.

D.21.8.3(d). No payment will accrue when the contractor is off shift in compliance with the mandatory "Work/Rest" and "Length of Assignment" provisions.

Comments:

- Contract timber fallers can be ordered as a Single (1 faller) or Module (2 fallers). Fallers should follow Overhead/Employee guidelines for the sake of determining the length of assignment or extension options. For example, an individual faller order (O#) should not be left open to swap alternates or relief fallers.
- Single EMTs and Paramedics should follow Overhead/Employee guidelines for the sake of determining the length of assignment or extension options. For example, an individual EMT/Paramedic order (O#) should not be left open to swap alternates or relief EMTs/Paramedics.
- A Mechanic with Service Truck may **NOT** swap or replace mechanics while assigned to an incident. A mechanic may be extended in accordance with length of assignment guidelines stated in the NWCG Interagency Standards for Incident Business Management.
- All contracted resource operators are required to follow these guidelines, including attendant and support staff for hand washing trailers, support trailers, etc. VIPR resources are service agreements with operators tied to the resources, also under hire 24/7.