

Australian Deployment Handbook

January 2007

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Australia Statistics & Facts

Australia comprises a land area of about 7,692,030 square kilometres. A land mass that is almost as great as that of the United States of America (8,035,928 square kilometres, excluding Alaska), about 50% greater than Europe (excluding the former USSR) and 32 times greater than the United Kingdom.

Australia is divided into six states (Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia) and two territories (Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory). The capital of Australia is Canberra, which is located in the Australian Capital Territory.

Population

Australia's population today is just over 20.3 million people. The country's vast openness means it has the lowest population density in the world - only two people per square kilometre.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics produces population estimates for the Australian Government and people. On 5 July 2006, they estimated that the resident population of Australia is projected to be: 20,574,072. This projection is based on the estimated resident population at 31 December 2005, and assumes growth since then of:

- one birth every 2 minutes
- one death every 3 minutes and 56 seconds
- a net gain of one international migrant every 4 minutes and 47 seconds leading to an overall total population increase of one person every 2 minutes and 12 seconds

Demographic population profiles are available on the Bureau of Statistics website at www.abs.gov.au.

Government

There are three levels of Government in Australia: Federal, State and Local. The six Australian colonies federated in 1901 to form the Commonwealth of Australia.

Both the State and Commonwealth systems of government derive from the British Westminster system, although many features of the Commonwealth Constitution (including the federal structure) are based on the United States Constitution.

Under the Australian Constitution, the legislative power of the Commonwealth of Australia is vested in the Parliament of the Commonwealth, which consists of the Queen, the Senate and the House of Representatives.

In the Commonwealth Parliament the Upper House is known as the Senate and the Lower House as the House of Representatives. The Senate is comprised of twelve members from each State and two members from each of the Territories. The members of the House of Representatives represent electorates, each based on a

population size of approximately 80,000 voters. Currently, the House of Representatives contain 150 members, the Senate 76.

Other Information Regarding the Australian Assignment

General Information About Australia:

<https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/as.html>

General Information on the State of Victoria:

<http://www.visitvictoria.com/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_%28Australia%29

Who will you working for in Australia?

This fire assignment will be to the State of Victoria, Australia. You will fly from the U.S. to Melbourne, the capital of Victoria. You will be working for the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE), which is the main state land management agency. Here is the main website for current firefighting activities involving DSE:

<http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/>

The State of Victoria has a single volunteer fire fighting organization, the Country Fire Authority (CFA). You will also be working with CFA firefighters. This is their website:

<http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/>

Other fire fighters from other Australian states may also be on the fireline. In 2003, U.S. firefighters worked with several states and New Zealand firefighters.

What Support/Information you will receive from DSE:

When you arrive in Australia you will be given an extensive orientation on fuels, weather, and topography. You will also receive briefings on the various State and volunteer organizations involved in the firefighting efforts.

The State of Victoria uses an Incident Command System very similar to the U.S. system. You will be provided with information on the similarities and differences.

Deployment Information

All fire fighters no matter what department or agency must obtain and secure the following items:

Passports:

PASSPORTS ARE REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL. All firefighters **MUST** have a current Official or personal passport that will **NOT** expire while they are in travel status to Australia (30 day assignment plus travel).

Forest Service: Foreign Travel Proposal. 6500-1 Each employee traveling to Australia **MUST** fill out this form and send it to Sandy Farber with a cc to Terry Edgell at Lotus Notes: Sandy Farber/WO/USDAFS, Terri Edgell/NONFS/USDAFS. The electronic version of the 6500-1 can be accessed at:
http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/im/forms/fs_forms/index.htm

DOI - Foreign Travel Certification Form DI-1175:

This is a Departmental form which must be completed and submitted to the DOI employee's International Office which, after gaining agency approval, submits the 1175 to the Department for approval. The signing of this form by the Department gives the employee approval to travel internationally on official DOI business. Employees should carry a copy of the DI-1175 as part of their official travel orders. Copies of the DI-1175 must also be submitted with travel vouchers for reimbursement. **NO INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SHOULD BEGIN UNTIL THE EMPLOYEE HAS A SIGNED COPY OF THE 1175!**

Visas:

VISAS ARE REQUIRED FOR TRAVEL. Australia visas are available online through Carlson/Wagonlit and FedTraveler

Airline Tickets:

All agency employees traveling to Australia on a resource order will purchase a fully refundable, roundtrip airfare to Melbourne, Australia. Your return date should be booked for 33 days from your departure date.

The international portion of the flight must be on a U.S. flagged carrier airlines (United, Delta, Continental, etc.,). A codeshare flight is allowed if the ticket is issued by a U.S. flag carrier. Both Carlson and FedTraveler are aware of this requirement.

Country Clearance from the State Department:

Obtaining "Country Clearance" is different than obtaining a Visa. Country Clearance is the permission given by the U.S. Ambassador to Australia to enter Australia as an official of the U.S. Government. Ambassadors have the authority and responsibility to coordinate all official U.S. activities in their assigned country. The Country Clearance request explains why the individual is requesting to come into the country, whom he or she will meet and work with, and specify how long the individual will be in the country.

NIFC/NICC will coordinate with the DOI and Forest Service International Offices to obtain Country Clearance.

The following information is needed when a Country Clearance request is submitted:

- Transportation information, including date of both arrival and departure (estimated);
- Point of contact in Australia name, address, and phone number;
- Locations where individuals will be staying including address and phone number.

Travel Authorization:

DOI employees: Each person needs a separate Travel Authorization which is to be completed at the home unit for the trip to Australia. Do not use the annual blanket Travel Authorization. Obtaining the Travel Authorization is the employee's responsibility.

USDA employees: All employees will complete a 6500-2 and submit to the ASC. A spreadsheet will be completed at NIFC for all Forest Service employees who will be traveling to Australia. This spreadsheet will begin the process for issuing a travel authorization and insuring your government credit card is activated for international use; however, you will need to submit the 6500-2 form as well.

This ASC website provides instructions for the FS-6500-2 and its routing:

<http://fsweb.r3.fs.fed.us/asc/bfm/programs/financial-operations/travel/how-to-pages/createTravelAuthorization.php>

Other Administrative Information

Pre-Deployment requirements:

1. Review and accept (by signature) the “*United States Fire Personnel Standards of Conduct for International Deployment*”. See Appendix I. This signed document must be faxed to NICC prior to departure. Fax to: (208) 387-5414. Bring the original document with you on the deployment. These documents will become part of the final documentation package for this deployment.
2. Before accepting this assignment, review the “*Expectations for Australian Fire Support 2007*” document to ensure your understanding of the assignment and willingness to accept. See Appendix II.

Subsistence/Per Diem/Camp Rate:

DSE will provide you with lodging and most meals. If for some reason meals are not provided, you can voucher for those days when you incur expenses for meals. Otherwise you will receive the normal camp rate of \$3 per day. For overseas per diem rates please see:

<http://www.state.gov/m/a/als/prdm/78350.htm>

Flying in Uninspected/Uncarded Aircraft:

Firefighters may find it necessary to fly in Australian aircraft in unpredictable situations. It should be noted that the State of Victoria has a very professional and safe aviation management operation. However, flights fall outside the normal aviation management regulations. Both Department of Interior and Agriculture employees are allowed to fly in foreign aircraft.

DOI Departmental Manual 350 1.2 states that: “The DM350-354 series does not apply international DOI operations. However, DOI employees should attempt to follow DOI aviation policies to the extent practical. In all cases, DOI employees are expected to use good judgment and common sense.”

USDA employees should have a statement attached to their Travel Authorization from the Washington Office or their Regional Aviation Officer approving flying in Australian aircraft that are uncarded and uninspected.

Coding your time:

Code your time to the fire code identified on your resource order just like any other fire assignment.

Work/Rest Guidelines:

Work/rest guidelines have been established by the State of Victoria, seven days on followed by two days of R&R. Daily hours should be managed just like on a U.S. fire. The total deployment will be approximately thirty-three days, including travel, training, and debriefing.

Communicating Home:

NOTE: Access to phone service and email will be quite limited. Do not expect to have daily access to communication services. Please make family members aware of this.

DO NOT BRING YOUR GOVERNMENT CELL PHONE. It probably won't work anyway and if it does it is very expensive to use. Obtain/use your Government issued calling card to call home. Also, you must activate the card for international access. The same rules apply for calling home from Australia as they do on any fire assignment. If you cannot obtain a Government issued calling card or do not/cannot get international access on your Government issued calling card, purchase a commercial calling card with international capability. Recoup the cost of the calling card when you fill out your travel voucher.

If applicable, the traveler can set up a user account with a no or low-cost subscriber prior to departing the states. Yahoo, Hotmail, Gmail or AOL can offer free or low-cost solutions. However, access to those accounts from Australia might only be accessible during R & R days.

Personal Cell Phones:

If you want to bring your personal cell phone, do so at your own risk. And remember it won't work in Australia unless it has a SIM card for the Australia system. Do not expect reimbursement for call made from a personal cell phone. Another option is to rent a phone at the airport upon arrival in Australia.

Radios:

DO NOT TAKE ANY GOVERNMENT RADIOS. If you need communications equipment, it will be issued to you in Australia.

Laptops:

DO NOT BRING LAPTOPS. If you need computer support for your position, Australia will provide it to you

Medical Support:

Just like on a U.S. fire assignment, DSE as the hosting agency, will be responsible for insuring any immediate medical attention needs and support.

Personal Preparation Checklist:

The following is a checklist that each employee who is about to begin an international assignment should review to insure that the needs/requirements have been identified and addressed. Employees should be as individually mobile as possible. Limit your personal belongings to what you can carry. You will not be able to haul around roller suitcases. Pack light and be prepared to carry your gear. A target weight of 65 pounds is recommended.

Personal Items:

- Valid passport (Make two copies of picture page, leave one at home, take the second and put it in a place separate from your passport).
- Two extra passport photos.
- Government issued credit card. NOTE: Government credit cards should work in Australian ATMs. Check with whomever handles your credit cards to ensure you have international access. If you decide you will get money using a personal credit card, check with your bank to see if there are extra charges for using it.
- Personal health items (see below).
- Depending on your Government issued credit card, you may also want an adequate amount of U.S. currency/traveler's checks for length of assignment.
- Steel capped boots are a State of Victoria Health and Safety requirement. The US request for waiver has been denied. This safety requirement is not negotiable. DSE will provide these boots upon arrival in Melbourne.
- Nomex pants and shirts, hardhat, gloves, line gearyour normal stuff
- Sleeping accommodations will be provided throughout deployment and at incidents. You will not need to bring a tent or sleeping bag.
- Fire shelters. If you will be on a fireline assignment, you must bring a fire shelter with you and carry a fire shelter on the fireline at all times. Australia does not stock or require fire shelters, but it is still a requirement for US firefighters.
- Casual clothes for weather equivalent to Southern California in the summer.
- Toilet articles.
- Flashlight with spare batteries.
- Alarm clock.
- Pocket knife.....in checked baggage!
- Ear plugs.
- Moleskin.

Optional Items: (Brought at your own risk)

- Camera with batteries.
- Pocket size binoculars.
- Electrical adapters for appliances (AUS to US).
- Pocket calculator.
- Swapping items (pins, patches, buttons, pencils, stickers, etc.)

Personal Health Items and Medical Tips:

- Prescription medicine for expected length of stay, plus an extra 10 days supply.
- Medication for colds, allergies, diarrhea, athlete's foot, menstrual cramps, hemorrhoids, constipation, and headaches.
- Sun screen (15 or higher).
- Insect repellent.
- Antiseptic ointment.
- Lip salve.
- Vitamins.
- Small scissors.
- Tweezers.
- Soap/handwipes.
- Tobacco products. Cigarettes are sold in Australia, however, chewing tobacco is not.**

Liaison Staff and Functions

Chief Liaison:

The Chief Liaison is the lead representative for the U.S. contingent deployed to the State of Victoria in support of the Department of Sustainability and Environment's (DSE) fire suppression efforts. He/she reports to the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC). He/she is located at the DSE Emergency Coordination Center (ECC), International/Interstate Liaison Unit (ILU) in Melbourne. He/she is responsible for the following:

- Providing coordination, support, and overall leadership and direction for all U.S. firefighters
- Maintaining contact and coordination with NIFC-NICC
- Providing situation reports to NIFC-NICC as required
- Maintaining contact and coordination with the U.S. Consulate in Melbourne and the U.S. Embassy in Canberra
- Providing primary contact with DSE
- Works with DSE in accordance with the 2002 Wildfire Arrangement and the Arrangement's Annual Operating Plan
- Ensuring that all U.S. firefighters are properly oriented, trained, and equipped
- Ensuring that all U.S. firefighters receive assignments for which they have the required training, qualifications, and certification
- Identifying ways in which U.S. capabilities can be maximized to meet DSE requirements
- Coordinating activities with ECC-ILU staff
- Ensuring that all deployed U.S. firefighters adhere to the Code of Conduct

Coordination Liaison:

The Coordination Liaison is responsible for assisting the Chief Liaison with issues related to reporting, tracking, and coordination of U.S. firefighting efforts. He/she is located at the DSE Emergency Coordination Center (ECC), International/Interstate Liaison Unit (ILU) in Melbourne. Reports to the Chief Liaison. He/she is responsible for the following:

- Gathering information on issues related to the U.S. deployment
- Preparing situation reports and sending them to NICC
- Coordinating with NICC staff on issues related to the deployment/demobilization of U.S. firefighters
- Using the Resource Ordering and Statusing System (ROSS) for deployment/demobilization
- Establishing a tracking system at the DSE-ECC-ILC
- Coordinating activities with appropriate ECC-ILU staff

Regional Liaison:

The Regional Liaison provides the primary communications between the Chief Liaison and the field deployed U.S. firefighters. The Regional Liaison is stationed at the DSE regional headquarters within which U.S. firefighters are assigned. He/she reports to the Chief Liaison. He/she is responsible for the following:

- Monitoring the work location and activities of U.S. firefighters
- Monitoring that all U.S. firefighters are carrying out assignments for which they have the required training, qualifications, and certification
- Monitoring health and well-being of U.S. firefighters
- Providing situation reports to Chief Liaison in Melbourne
- Receiving and consolidating information from Field Liaison
- Preparing and forwarding situation reports to the Chief Liaison
- Identifying ways at the regional level in which U.S. capabilities can be maximized to meet DSE requirements

Field Liaison:

The Field Liaison is the main communications link between field deployed U.S. firefighters and the Regional Liaison. This link will be carried out by traveling around the region to incidents where U.S. firefighters are engaged in fire suppression efforts. He/she reports to the Regional Liaison. He/she is responsible for the following issues related to U.S. firefighters:

- Traveling to work locations in the field
- Tracking and updating the work locations
- Reporting to the Regional Liaison on location/activities/assignments
- Coordinating the timing/location/transport requirements for R&R
- Reporting any injuries/accidents or non-standard issues
- Assists with the coordination at the field level for injuries/accidents/emergency releases
- Monitoring the adherence to the Code of Conduct in the field

APPENDIX

I

United States Fire Personnel Standards of Conduct for International Deployment

1. *Introduction*

The National Multi-Agency Coordination (NMAC) Group “Standards of Conduct” have been prepared for United States fire personnel who may be deployed internationally...

These Standards establish the obligations of all fire personnel in relation to this assignment in support of fire suppression efforts for the State of Victoria, Australia. Fire personnel will be directly supporting the State of Victoria’s Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) which has fire management responsibilities on all state lands within Victoria.

2. *Purpose*

The purpose of the Standards is to assist those fire personnel deployed to know and understand their obligations and the behavior expected of them.

3. *Principles*

Six major principles underpin the Standards of Conduct. Fire personnel are expected to:

- (a) Act in accordance with their existing employment arrangements and disciplines;
- (b) Act with a spirit of service to DSE, and concern for the interest of the communities they work with;
- (c) Act with respect for the safety, health, religions, customs and rights of themselves, their colleagues, DSE and the communities they work with;
- (d) Maintain proper standards of personal integrity and conduct appropriate to the “best accepted practices” applicable in the area of deployment;
- (e) Perform their duties as ambassadors of the United States of America efficiently and effectively, and with utmost professionalism.
- (f) Participate as a team player for the benefit of the deployment as a whole.

5. *Responsibilities of Personnel*

- a) Personnel who are members of this international deployment must accept these Standards of Conduct as part of the selection process. They will be required to sign the last page of this document to confirm acceptance of the Standards.
- b) A Chief Liaison Officer will be designated for this deployment. He/she will be in charge of all. He/she will provide coordination, support, and overall leadership and direction for all U.S. personnel deployed on this assignment. He/she will be located at DSE’s Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) in Melbourne and work directly with DSE fire managers. He/she works directly for the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) Manager or her designee.
- c) Once in Victoria, all personnel will be required to attend DSE’s orientation before being deployed to a fire incident. Personnel assigned to specialist roles may be required to participate in a further period of training prior to being deployed. Copies of relevant

documents will be provided.

- d) Personnel will be required to carry out their assignment in an efficient and competent manner. Personnel will not seek assignments for which they are not deemed competent. They are to avoid behavior that might impair their fitness for duty.
- e) Personnel will be required to follow established shifts as identified in the Incident Action Plan. DSE work/rest guidelines will be followed. DSE guidelines meet or exceed those of the U.S. Rest and recreation (R&R) breaks will be organized and managed through the US Chief Liaison. The Chief Liaison will be supported by Regional and Field Liaisons and a Coordination Liaison.
- f) In addition to direct and indirect attack fire fighting tasks work could involve mop up, patrol or rehabilitation. Personnel will be required to carry out the work as tasked until the position is declared surplus to requirements and in all cases will accept allocated assignments. NOTE: Day to day duties may involve being assigned to a field station in preparation for initial attack.
- g) Personnel will be required to be familiar with DSE's incident management system, fireline terminology and work standards. Relevant reference material will be provided by DSE and the Chief Liaison.
- h) US Team Leaders/Liaisons will be appointed prior to an international deployment to work with DSE. The roll of these positions will be clearly defined and communicated to all personnel prior to deployment. Any issues or disputes that cannot be dealt with by DSE management team must be directed through the Chief Liaison. Personnel may not deal directly through their employers in their home country.
- i) Personnel will be required to attend briefings, including safety, prior to going on shift.

6. *Standards of Personal Behavior*

- (a) Personnel are expected to maintain appropriate standards of personal behavior while at the workplace, incident camp, or accommodation sites.
- (b) Personnel are expected to ensure that their personal behavior outside the workplace and while in transit, on Rest & Recreation does not affect their fitness for duty, or reflect discredit on United States of America.
- (c) Behavior which is considered unacceptable includes:
 - (i) Use of illegal drugs while on this deployment.
 - (ii) Consumption of alcoholic beverage that renders the employee not fit for duty.
 - (iii) Discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, retaliation (participation and/or opposition), sexual orientation, political beliefs and marital and/or family status.
 - (iv) Falsifying records and/or giving false information.
 - (v) Driving while under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal drugs.

- (vi) Making statements or gestures to any colleagues that are derogatory, insulting or otherwise abusive. Making inappropriate comments to the media, governing bodies, co-workers or public.
- (vii) Refusal or failure to follow reasonable instructions from DSE overhead personnel.
- (viii) Unauthorized use or misuse of DSE vehicles.
- (ix) Failure to follow the “chain of command” and abide by “reasonable” instructions.
- (x) Raucous, aggressive, or destructive behavior.

7. *Media*

- (a) Personnel will not discuss fireline issues unless they are authorised to do so by the incident commander.
- (b) Personnel will not discuss deployment issues with, or provide information to, the media without prior approval of a U.S. Liaison Officer.

8. *Managing Misconduct*

The process for managing misconduct will be as follows:

The US Chief Liaison Officer in coordination and consultation with Regional and Field Liaisons and DSE fire managers will determine if the information concerning any misconduct is sufficient to result in the demobilization of any personnel. If an individual is released for misconduct, every effort will be made to charge the resulting demobilization travel costs to the individual's home unit. Any further action will be at the discretion of the individual's home unit.

INTERNATIONAL DEPLOYMENT BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT

I have read, understand and agree with the Standards of Conduct.

I agree to abide by the Standards throughout this international assignment.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Employer: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

APPENDIX

II

Expectations for Australian Fire Support 2007

Please read this before accepting an assignment for fire support to Victoria, Australia to insure your expectations for the assignment are realistic.

The current situation on January 11, 2007 is over 1 million hectares of forest land, (approximately 2.5 million acres) in the state of Victoria, Australia has burned in 2006-2007 fire season. The “normal” height of the fire season doesn’t begin until about now and lasts until March. Hot dry conditions are expected over the next week and additional lightning storms are in the forecast. The ongoing large fires are largely contained at this time with a few areas of the perimeter with potential to “breakaway” under extremes of temperature and wind.

By the time US firefighting support arrives in Melbourne the large ongoing fires are likely to be contained or controlled. US resources may be placed at various outposts to assist with initial attack of new fires or otherwise be used in a “severity type” role to bolster the local resources. US personnel should be prepared for the following possibilities:

- There is no guarantee that there will be hotline or active fire assignments for the US firefighters deployed to Australia.
- US firefighters are not guaranteed more than 8-hours/duty day. Actual hours worked is the rule.
- All fireline personnel are required to wear steel capped boots in Victoria. Boots will be issued upon arrival at Melbourne during the orientation. This is a legal requirement and is non-negotiable.
- Smokeless tobacco is NOT available in Australia. Individuals who use smokeless tobacco products will need to bring sufficient quantities for the entire length of the deployment. Customs rules may limit the quantity of tobacco products brought into the country.
- All US personnel will be required to agree to and sign the Code of Conduct for Deployment to Australia, which specifies expectations in greater detail.

APPENDIX

III

U.S. Wildland Fire Support to Victoria, Australia Talking Points

January 2007

- Victoria, Australia is engaged in a very severe fire season due to ongoing multi-year drought. Fire activity has been earlier and higher than normal so far this season. Victoria is receiving assistance from other Australian States, New Zealand and Canada. Their continued need for assistance has caused them to request U.S. support.
- Wildland fire suppression efforts in Victoria are being directed by two agencies; the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE); and the Country Fire Authority (CFA). DSE is a State of Victoria agency with responsibility for wildland fire management on approximately 20 million acres. CFA with over 1200 fire brigades statewide is responsible for fires (wildland and structure) on all private lands in Victoria other than metropolitan Melbourne.
- U.S. support is being coordinated through the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho. NIFC is the U.S. center for wildland fire suppression providing coordination and support to wildland fires on federal, state, tribal, and local jurisdictions.
- To date the U.S. has sent 6 wildland fire personnel to Victoria Australia. Two individuals are infrared specialists assisting with infrared line-scanning operations. They have been assisting Victoria since the middle of December. The other four personnel are wildland fire managers who will work with DSE and CFA to determine potential requirements for additional U.S. support and serve as U.S. liaisons if U.S. resources are deployed.
- Potential requests for U.S. support include high and mid level incident supervisors and specialists. Exact needs will be refined over the next 5-7 days and will be dependent on incident resource requirements as well as on current and predicted weather.
- The relationship with Victoria is based on the 2002 Wildfire Arrangement between the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior and DSE. The general procedures for implementing the Wildfire Arrangement are spelled out in the Annual Operating Plan.
- This is the second time under the Wildfire Arrangement that U.S. firefighters have been requested by Victoria. Thirty-six U.S. firefighters assisted Victoria in 2003.

- Australian and New Zealand fire fighters have assisted U.S. wildland fire fighting efforts in 2000, 2002, 2003, and 2006. In 2006 almost 120 Australian and New Zealand fire fighters came to the U.S. to help in fire suppression efforts.
- If requested, U.S. fire personnel will assist Victorian wildland fire incident commanders by providing skilled specialists in critical areas where resource needs have surfaced during the course of a lengthy and active Victorian fire season.
- Australian and U.S. wildland fire fighters share a common system for managing wildland fires called the Incident Command System (ICS) along with similar training regimens and physical fitness requirements. Localized differences and terminology are being reviewed to insure U.S. firefighters will be up to speed on those differences.
- Once in Victoria, U.S. firefighters will receive an orientation. Topics will include a briefing on fire behavior in Australian fuel types; fire weather patterns; regulations specific to Victorian firefighting; fireline safety; and more.
- Firefighters in Victoria encounter some of the most dangerous wildfires in the world. They are highly skilled in meeting many of the same challenges U.S. firefighters face, including wildland fires in urban interface areas, fighting fire under difficult terrain and weather conditions, and integrating aerial and ground resources on fires. U.S. firefighters should fit well into the Victorian system.
- U.S. firefighters are looking forward to the opportunity to reciprocate the assistance they received from Australia 4 out of the last seven years.
- U.S. firefighters will be prepared to assist Victoria for approximately 30 days.

APPENDIX

IV

Glossary of Terms used in Australia

4WD Operator	Person who can drive a 4WD vehicle.
Accredited Fire Skill	A recognised fire skill that an individual has received accreditation to perform.
Accreditor	An individual authorised by a relevant organisation to issue accreditation.
Advance Burn	A prescribed fire that reduces fuel through a forest area before felling operations. It is intended to improve the safety of timber harvesting operations and as a silvicultural tool to protect lignotubers and standing trees.
Aerial Suppressant Mixing and Loading Crew	Crew member who is responsible for the storage and handling of aerial suppressants, the preparation, operation and maintenance of specific aerial suppressant mixing/delivery equipment and the loading of aerial suppressants into firebombing aircraft.
Air Base Manager	Person responsible for the management of an airfield or helicopter base.
Air Operations Manager	Person responsible for overall coordination of air and air support activities and for ensuring that air operations properly service the fire suppression strategy.
Aircraft Officer	Person responsible for providing the operational and logistic support necessary for a safe, effective and efficient aircraft operation.
Aircraft Refuelling Crew - Hot	Crew members responsible for the storage and handling of aviation turbine fuels, the preparation, operation and maintenance of specific Departmental aircraft refuelling equipment and the loading of aviation turbine fuel into helicopters.
Anabatic Winds	Winds that occur when the surface of the earth heats during the day by solar radiation, which leads to the heating of air in contact with the soil. This warm air has a tendency to rise and continues to warm as it moves over further hot ground.
Anti-cyclone (High)	An area of relatively high atmospheric pressure . In the southern hemisphere, pressure gradients and the earth's

rotation will cause air to move in an **anti-clockwise direction** around the anti-cyclone.

Appliance	A firefighting vehicle, usually equipped with a pump and water supply.
Area Fire Coordinator	Person responsible for coordinating all preparedness and suppression response activities in an Area. (Applies only to the West area of Victoria and part of the Port Phillip Region). See also Regional Fire Coordinator.
Area Management Plan	Management plan prepared by the Department or Parks Victoria for specific areas such as national parks, state parks, state forests, regional parks and other areas of public land.
Assembly Area	A designated location used for the assembly of emergency affected persons. The area may also incorporate provision for community welfare and recovery.
Assessment	The process of determining if an individual has the prescribed skills, knowledge and experience needed to acquire a specific capability.
Assets and Values	Recognised features of land that have community value. Includes buildings, infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.), regenerating forests, forest produce (sawlogs, pulpwood, firewood, honey, etc.) conservation values (vegetation types, flora, fauna habitat, recreational, cultural, historical, archaeological, landscape, water quality, soil conditions, etc).
Assign	A resource is allocated to a specific role within a crew or team.
Attended Fire	A fire that is staffed.
Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC)	The national body representing urban, rural and land management agencies within Australia and New Zealand with the responsibility for the protection of life and property from fire and other emergencies.
Australian Interservice Incident Management System (AIIMS)	A nationally adopted structure to formalise a coordinated approach to emergency incident management. The major sub-system of AIIMS is the Incident Control System (ICS).
Automatic Dispatch	The act of automatically dispatching resources when a predefined trigger is activated.
Back (of fire)	The section of the perimeter opposite to and generally upwind (or downslope) from the head of the fire.

Backburning	A fire control action, where a fire is ignited along the inner edge of a fire control line to consume the fuel in the path of a wildfire, producing a burnt area to expand the depth of the fire control line. As distinct from Burning Out.
Battleboard	A visual tool for the management of the status of resources.
Blacking Out	The process of extinguishing or removing burning material along or near the fire control line, felling stags, trenching logs to prevent rolling, and the like, in order to make the fire safe. See also Mopping Up.
Branch	Same as nozzle.
Breakaway	The points at which a fire, after it has been contained, escapes into unburnt areas across a fire control line or fire edge.
Breeching	A device used to divide one hose line into two or collect two hose lines into one.
Brigade	A unit of personnel, including officers, crews and sub brigades.
Broad Area Burning	A prescribed burn conducted over a relatively large area (generally in excess of 40 hectares).
Broad vegetation Type	A broad-scale (1:250 000) grouping of vegetation types according to land systems and assigned on the basis of existing vegetation and other biophysical parameters, such as geology, rainfall, elevation and soil type.
Bulk Water Carrier	A large tanker used for replenishing water to firefighting tankers or other storage.
Buoy Wall Tank	See Floating Collar Tank.
Bushfire	No longer in use, now called Wildfire.
Campaign Fire	A fire of a size and/or complexity that requires substantial firefighting resources, generally requiring several days or possibly weeks, to suppress.
Candle	The ignition or flare-up of a tree or small clump of trees that ignites foliage and elevated fuels, from the bottom to the top.
Capability	A skill or attribute of a person which is formally recognised.
Catering Officer	Coordinates food and drink for all personnel at the incident, including menu planning. Ensures food hygiene and OHS standards are adhered to.
Chaining	The process of clearing or levelling vegetation (usually mallee or scrub) by dragging a heavy chain or cable between two large bulldozers.

Chainsaw Operator- Cross Cut	Person with industry endorsement who is competent to operate a chainsaw with cross cut skills only.
Chainsaw Operator – Faller Advanced	Person with industry endorsement who is competent to perform all reasonable chainsaw operations required of them.
Chainsaw Operator – Faller Basic	Person with industry endorsement who is competent to perform basic falling and cross cut chainsaw operations.
Chainsaw Operator – Faller Intermediate	Person with industry endorsement who is competent to perform cross cut and have up to an intermediate level of experience in falling.
Chief Fire Officer	Responsible for fire planning, prevention and operations within the Country Area of Victoria.
Chief Officer	Responsible for fire planning, prevention and operations on all private land within Victoria.
Chimney	A dead, hollow tree (stag) with fire burning on the inside which may cause flames and embers to be emitted from the top of the tree, depending on the fire intensity.
Chopper Roller	Forest Mulcher, mechanical fuels treatment machinery.
Clear-felling	A silvicultural system whereby all merchantable trees, apart from those to be retained for wildlife habitat, are removed.
Coarse Fuel	Fuel of large diameter, such as logs and large branchwood, or of a peaty nature, that ignite and burn more slowly than fine fuels. By default, therefore, coarse fuels are dead fuels greater than 6mm thick and live fuels greater than 2mm thick. See also Fine Fuels.
Commenced (works status)	Used of work that has started, and contractors and/or departmental personnel who have been deployed.
Communications Logistics Officer	Person responsible for installing and maintaining communications equipment and providing technical advice on communications systems. Also responsible for distributing and recovering communications equipment.
Communications Planning Officer	Person responsible for preparing plans for an effective incident communications network, including links with other agencies involved in the incident.
Community Recovery	

Committee	A committee which may be convened after an emergency to provide a management forum for the recovery process in respect of an affected area or a specific community.
Contained (incident status)	Indicates that the spread of the fire is halted even though it may still be burning within the perimeter or control lines. Such a fire may still require continuous suppression action (eg. completion of fire control lines) before it is “under control”.
Containment Time	Time taken from the report of a fire to the fire being contained.
Control	The overall direction of response activities in an emergency situation. Authority for control is established in legislation or in an emergency response plan, and carries with it the responsibility for tasking and coordinating other agencies in accordance with the needs of the situation. Control relates to situations and operates horizontally across agencies.
Control Agency/ Authority legislative	The agency, service, organisation or authority which, by authority, is responsible for the control of an incident.
Control Point	The area used as a location for administration and command by the personnel managing the control, operations, planning and logistics of a type one incident.
Controlled	See Under Control.
Conventional Mode	The operation of radio terminals in a non-trunked mode, so that they are able to listen to, receive from and transmit to other radios that are operating on the same conventional channel. Also referred to as simplex mode.
Country Area of Victoria	A legislative term defined by Section 3 of the <i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i> , it includes all that part of the State outside the Metropolitan Fire District that is not Fire Protected Area.
Country Fire Authority (CFA)	The agency responsible for fire prevention and suppression in the Country Area of Victoria.
Country Fire Authority Fire Incident Management Class	Refers to a fire incident within CFA jurisdiction and where CFA is the combat agency. Also applies to a fire within NRE jurisdiction where CFA has been designated as the combat agency under delegation or agreement.

Coupe	A defined forest area in which timber harvesting takes place.
Critical Incident	A fire scenario based on a likely major fire situation in a planning area which would fully utilise local resources (people and other) in meeting NRE's fire suppression performance criteria.
Crown Land	Land which is, or is deemed to be, unalienated land of the Crown. It includes: a) land of the Crown reserved permanently or temporarily or set aside by or under an Act; b) land of the Crown occupied by a person under a lease, licence or other right; c) land of the Crown managed by a public authority other than NRE or the Secretary; and d) land of the Crown which is, or is part of, a national park or a park within a meaning of the <i>National Parks Act 1975</i> .
Default	A pre-determined process that applies when no other plan has been initiated.
Defensive Strategy	A firefighting strategy used where a fire is too intense to be safely or effectively attacked or extinguished, and the protection of lives and assets is the priority.
Deliberate Fire	A fire resulting from a person placing burning material to cause ignition. The intent of the person may have been to cause harm or destruction to life or property (arson – criminal offence) or to modify fuels and/or vegetation for land management purposes (summary offence). See also Arson.
Delivery Hose	Hose made in various diameters of canvas or synthetic construction and used to deliver water under pressure. Delivery hose may or may not be internally lined with rubber or plastic. See also Suction Hose
Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)	A Victorian Government Department responsible for balancing the development and protection of Victoria's natural and cultural resource base, including resource and industry development, land identification, and the protection, conservation and management' of Victoria's natural and cultural environment.
Deploy	Resources are allocated to command units within an Incident or within a Support Unit.
Disband (crew)	A crew or team is broken up. The act of disbanding a crew also transfers management of the individual resources back to the NRE line reporting organisation, or other specified

organisation, unless the individuals are immediately re-formed into a crew, or are dispatched.

Division	A portion of the fire perimeter, comprising two or more sectors. The number of sectors grouped in a Division should be such as to ensure effective direction and control of operations. Divisions are generally identified by a local geographic name.
Division Commander	Person responsible for implementing the Incident Action Plan appropriate to the division.
Dry Firefighting	The suppression of a fire without the use of water. This is normally achieved by removing the fuel by the use of hand tools or machinery.
Dual Mode Radio	A two-way radio capable of operating on both conventional radio frequencies and the trunk radio network.
Dugout	An enclosed shelter intended to provide protection from fire, usually constructed by excavation in the ground.
Edge Burning	The perimeter burning of an area. This practice can be used prior to large scale prescribed burning to strengthen buffers and to reduce mopping-up operations.
Ember Attack	Fire brands spotting ahead of the main fire. This term is commonly used by media to warn civilians of the potential for spot fire ignitions around properties ahead of the fire.
Emergency Area	May be declared if the most senior police officer present, acting on the advice of the control agency, believes it is necessary to exclude the public from an area due to the size, nature or location of an emergency. This is done to ensure public safety, the security of evacuated premises or the safety or efficiency of emergency workers.
Emergency Management Team Emergency	The team which enables an incident controller's response strategy to be carried out by support agencies through their own commanders. It also assists the emergency response coordinator to determine resource acquisition needs, and to ensure a coordinated response to the emergency. See also State Emergency Response Plan.
Relief	The provision of immediate shelter, life support and the necessities of life to people affected by, or responding to, an emergency. It includes the establishment, management and provision of services to emergency relief centres.
Excision	The changed designation of land that was once Fire Protected Area to Country Area of Victoria.
Facilities Officer	Person responsible for organising, maintaining and demobilising facilities such as the Base Camp, Control Centre, Operations Point, Staging Area, accommodation, ablutions, catering facilities and storage sites.

Fall Back Fire Control Line	A fire control line at a distance from the fire perimeter which is the next control line should the fire cross the previous fire control line.
Fingers	Long narrow slivers of fire which extend beyond the head or flanks.
Fire Access Road	A track constructed and/or maintained for fire management purposes which is generally of a standard adequate for all-weather use by two wheel drive vehicles.
Fire Access Track	A track constructed and/or maintained for fire management purposes which is not generally of a standard adequate for all-weather use by two wheel drive vehicles.
Fire Crew	Two or more firefighters organised to work as a unit with a nominated crew leader.
Fire Danger Index (FDI)/ Rating	A relative number denoting an evaluation of rate of spread, or suppression difficulty for specific combinations of fuel, fuel moisture and wind speed. In general the Mk 5 McArthur Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) is used to calculate the fire danger index in forest areas.
Fire Edge	Any part of the boundary of a fire at a given time. The entire boundary is termed the Fire Perimeter.
Fire Ground	The area in the vicinity of the wildfire and fire suppression operations, and the area immediately threatened by the fire. It includes burning and burnt areas; constructed and proposed fire control lines; the area where firefighters, vehicles, machinery and equipment are located when deployed; roads and access points under traffic management control; tracks and facilities in the area surrounding the actual fire; and may extend to adjoining area directly threatened by the fire.
Fire Refuge	A community fire refuge is a building where people may seek shelter from the danger of wildfire. A building or space constructed or designated as a fire refuge should have consideration given to its vulnerability to wildfire, parking for users, availability of water, telephone and electric power, and location and accessibility in relation to its service area.
Firebombing	The technique of dropping a suppressant or retardant from specialist aircraft to suppress a wildfire.
Firebombing Base	A facility located at an airfield which provides logistical and operational support to a fire bombing operation.

Fireline Sector	A defined section of the fire control line able to be clearly described in a Wildfire Control Plan.
First Attack	The suppression work undertaken in the initial response to an incident.
Fixed Radio	A two-way radio installed in a permanent location such as an office, depot, fire tower, visitors centre.
Float driver	Person who drives and operates a float vehicle under all road conditions to deliver and collect an item of plant at the fire ground.
Floating Collar Tank	A flexible, self-supporting, open-top tank used as a portable water or retardant reservoir or as a dip tank for helitanker operations. See also Gated Relay Tank.
Fuel Age	The period of time lapsed since the fuel, eg. logging slash, was last burnt or created.
Fuel Management Zone 1	An area managed to provide the highest level of strategic protection to human life, property and highly-valued public assets and values.
Fuel Management Zone 2	An area managed to provide strategic corridors of sufficient width and continuity to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> achieve a substantial barrier to the spread of wildfire by reducing its spread, intensity and the potential for spot fire to develop; <input type="checkbox"/> to reduce damage caused by the wildfire; and <input type="checkbox"/> to create areas to assist in making fire suppression safer and more effective.
Fuel Management Zone 3	An area managed to provide an irregular mosaic of areas of fuel reduction complementing works in Fuel Management Zones 1 and 2 in reducing the severity of wildfires.
Fuel Management Zone 4	An area managed to provide for the use of prescribed burning in the active management of flora and/or fauna, particularly for species and/or communities which have critical fire regime requirements not adequately catered for by the broadly-defined fuel or ecological management objectives.
Fuel Management Zone 5	An area managed to provide for the exclusion of prescribed burning (other than post-harvest regeneration burns), for at least the period of the relevant Fire Protection Plan, from areas of vegetation in which there would be a high potential for

	economic, ecological or cultural loss if they were subject to prescribed burning.
Gated Relay Tank	An open top tank supported by rigid “gates” used as a portable water or retardant reservoir or as a dip tank for helitanker operations. See also Floating Collar Tank.
Gazetted Airshed	An “Air Quality Control Region” declared by proclamation in the Victoria Government Gazette.
General Firefighter	The minimum level of endorsement under NRE's Fire Training Management System for personnel involved in firefighting operations.
Going Fire	A fire is expanding in certain directions. There is reasonable evidence (eg a smoke sighting, a report has been received from the public) to suggest that a fire exists and is expanding.
Ground Observer	Person responsible for providing information from the fire ground to assist with the planning of suppression operations.
Ground Support Officer	Person who coordinates the provision of transport for personnel, equipment, supplies and food. Delivers fuel, and provides mechanical maintenance and a traffic control plan, and ensures plant and vehicle security.
Group Calls	A radio call in trunk mode that can be joined by more than two units.
Gum Bark	Smooth bark that is shed from particular eucalypt species each year, often resulting in firebrands.
Head Disposal Burning	Localised or patch burning of tree tops (heads) resulting from harvesting operations, without aiming for continuous burn cover. Used for both fire protection and seedbed creation. Also called tops disposal burning.
Helicopter Underslung Waterbag	A PVC container of approximately 200 litre capacity designed to be slung under a helicopter that can be use to transport water to a fire ground.
Hose Bandage	A means of affecting a temporary repair to a canvas or synthetic hose.
Hose Strangler	A crimping device for stopping the flow of water in a hose.
Hover Exit	The direct transfer of specialist fire personnel and equipment from a hovering helicopter to the ground. Used where ground vegetation or terrain prevents a helicopter from conducting a full skid landing.

Hover Exit Crew	Crew who performs transfers from hovering helicopters to the ground with equipment.
Incendiary Bombardier	Person responsible for the operation, servicing, handling and storage of aerial incendiary equipment and materials.
Incendiary Capsule	A 'ping pong' ball sized polystyrene capsule containing potassium permanganate that ignites after it is injected with ethylene glycol.
Incident Channel Network	Open channel radio system based on 51 strategically located repeater sites. The network is based on conventional repeaters with trunk and telephone interconnection.
Incident Control Centre	The location where the Incident Controller and various members of the Incident Management Team provide overall direction of response activities.
Incident Control System (ICS)	A command structure to systematically and logically manage emergency incidents including wildfires, from small, simple incidents to large, difficult or multiple situations. It is designed to develop in modular fashion from the top (Incident Controller) downwards.
Incident Controller	Person responsible for the overall management of all fire activities, including the development and implementation of strategy, and the ordering and release of resources.
Incident Type One	<p>A small, simple fire (or group of fires) which is controlled with local resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> May include other agencies. <input type="checkbox"/> Incident Controller probably undertaking more than one function. <input type="checkbox"/> Second shift unlikely to be required. <input type="checkbox"/> Equivalent to AIIMS ICS Small Incident – 0 to 5 hectares with no complex problems.
Incident Type Two	<p>A developing, or developed fire of medium size or complexity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Expected that the incident will be controlled within 24 hours. <input type="checkbox"/> Resources from other locations are involved. <input type="checkbox"/> Controller may be undertaking more than one function but will normally have delegated at least the Operations function. <input type="checkbox"/> Equivalent to AIIMS ICS Medium Incident – 5 to 20 hectares (or much larger if there is little complexity).
Incident Type Three	<p>A large or complex fire where resources from a range of locations are involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Normally but not necessarily involve several agencies. <input type="checkbox"/> Normally expected to exceed 24 hours.

□ Equivalent to AAIMS ICS Large Incident.

Junction Zone	An area where two edges (or flanks) meet and interact, generally accompanied by greatly increased fire intensity.
Katabatic Winds	Winds that occur in mountainous areas on cloudless nights when the land surface loses heat by radiation and the air in contact with the land cools, becomes denser and is forced downslope by gravity. This colder air drains down hillsides and is funnelled into gullies and valleys.
Lightning Activity Level	A numerical rating of one to three, keyed to the start of thunderstorms and the frequency and character of cloud-to-ground lightning forecast or observed on a rating area during the rating period.
Logistics Officer	Person responsible for the management and activities of the Logistics Section of an Incident Management Team. Coordinates the provision of facilities, services and materials in support of an incident.
Low Pressure System	Atmospheric circulations that rotate clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere . Generally associated with stronger winds, unsettled conditions, cloudiness and rainfall.
Marginal Mile	See Marginal 1.5 km
Marginal 1.5 km	Area of land that is within 1.5 kilometres of State forest, protected public land or national park which has not been excised from the Fire Protected Area. Previously called Marginal Mile.
Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs (MPT) Numbering	A 10-digit numbering system used to identify a specific radio while in trunked mode. It consists of a 3-digit prefix, a 4-digit fleet number and a 3-digit unit number.
Multi Agency (CFA) Fire Incident Management Class	Used where the fire incident is being managed under NRE/CFA multi agency incident management agreement, and CFA is the agreed lead agency in overall control.
Multi Agency (NRE) Fire Incident Management Class	Used where the fire incident is being managed under NRE/CFA multi agency incident management agreement, and NRE is the agreed lead agency in overall control.

Notifiable Incident	<p>Any incident resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> the death of a person; <input type="checkbox"/> a person requiring medical treatment within 48 hours of exposure to a substance; <input type="checkbox"/> a person requiring immediate treatment as an in-patient in a hospital; <input type="checkbox"/> a person requiring immediate medical treatment for a serious injury. <p>It is also a dangerous occurrence which poses an immediate risk to a person's health and safety.</p>
NRE Fire Incident Management Class	<p>The fire incident is within NRE jurisdiction and NRE is the combat agency. Also applies where the fire is under CFA, MFSEB or other jurisdiction by delegation or agreement.</p>
Occupied Crown Land	<p>Crown land which is subject to an occupation right, eg. a lease or licence which affords exclusive use of the Crown land to the licensee.</p>
Operations Officer	<p>Person responsible for directing and supervising all work within the Operations section of an Incident Management Team.</p>
Operations Point	<p>A location where the Operations Section of the Incident Control System has effective access to subordinate fire control line commanders for administration and command purposes.</p>
Parallel Attack	<p>A method of suppression in which a fire control line is constructed approximately parallel to and just far enough from the fire edge to enable firefighters and equipment to work effectively and safely. The line may be shortened by cutting across unburnt fingers. The intervening strip of unburnt fuel is normally burnt out as the control line proceeds, but may be allowed to burn out unassisted where this occurs without undue delay or threat to the line.</p>
Plant Operator FAD (D4)	<p>Operates a first attack dozer (FAD) to construct mineral earth breaks.</p>
Plant Operator _ D4	<p>Operates a dozer (greater than a D4), generally to construct mineral earth breaks.</p>
Positioned	<p>Resources temporarily moved to a location as part of a state of readiness.</p>
Private Property – 'In'	<p>Private Property inside the 1.5 km margin of a Fire Protected Area.</p>
Private Property –'Out'	<p>Private property outside the 1.5 km margin of a Fire Protected Area.</p>
Pulsation	<p>Flareup.</p>

Pumper	A firefighting vehicle equipped with a large capacity pump, small water tank and hose. Generally intended to be operated when stationary, from reticulated or static water supplies. (A CFA style appliance not used by DSE.)
Quick-Fill Pump	A high volume water pump used for filling water-holding apparatus.
Rakehoe	A hand tool used for dry firefighting consisting of a handle and a metal head with one pronged edge for raking and one sharpened edge for cutting, chipping and scraping down to mineral earth.
Rappel Pack	A canvas pack designed to be slung under a helicopter that contains predetermined equipment for a specific task, ie. cutting a helipad or first attack.
Ration Pack	Pack of high energy, light weight, long shelf-life food designed to provide short term energy to firefighters should other forms of food not be available.
Recovery	The post-fire phase where damaged assets are salvaged, repaired or replaced; sites disturbed by fire suppression operations are rehabilitated; the natural response of the ecosystem is monitored, and managed if necessary; health and safety issues arising from the fire suppression operation are addressed; and new information learned from the incident is incorporated into the planning for future wildfire events.
Redeploy	To move a resource from one command unit to another within an Incident or Support Unit
Register	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The act of the Incident Controller or Support Unit manager, or their delegate recording the arrival of resources that have been dispatched, and confirming the management of those resources; 2. The act of the destination management unit recording the arrival of resources that have been released, and confirming the management of those resources.
Ribbon Bark	Long streamers of bark that may peel from some eucalypt species, and that form fire brands, many of which are conducive to very long distance spotting.
Safe (incident status)	The stage of fire suppression when it is considered that no further suppression action or patrols are necessary.
Safe – False Alarm	Mistaken or hoax report with clear evidence that the report was in error or malicious.
Safe – Not Found	The fire has not been located, and it is expected that no further action or patrol will be required.

Sector	A specific area of a fire under the control of a Sector Commander who is supervising a number of crews.
Sector Commander	Person responsible for implementing the Wildfire Control Plan for a specific portion of the fire perimeter. Includes the allocation of resources within the sector, reporting on progress of command operations, status of resources and management of all personnel on that sector.
Sector Deployment Order	A document that provides specific instructions and details resources for operations personnel involved in the combat of an incident.
Senior Officer	Person holding the most senior position in either CFA or NRE attending the incident.
Situation Officer	Person responsible for assembling and analysing data on fire behaviour, including the preparation of maps, and developing projection and forecasts of future events, developing tactics and strategies, and documenting the Wildfire Control Plan for fires. They may require the expertise of technical specialists.
Slasher	A handtool used for wildfire fighting consisting of a slightly curved blade fixed to the end of a wooden handle.
Smoker	An isolated small burning item such as a log, stump or tree, in an area of fire otherwise blacked out.
Stag	A large, old tree, either dead or with significant dead upper branches. Often hollow with an opening at ground level. Once alight, a stag represents a major hazard.
Step-up Method	A method used by a team of firefighters to construct a firebreak in which each firefighter completely constructs a section of the firebreak, after which the entire team ahead of that firefighter 'steps up' to the next section.
Stringybark	A rough bark tree that produces flaky fragments of bark that may result in massive amounts of firebrands which can cause long distance spotting.
Tail Fire	Backing Fire.
Tanker	A mobile firefighting vehicle equipped with a water tank, pump and equipment for spraying water and/or foam on wildfires. See also Tanker– Heavy; Tanker – Mid-Range; and Tanker – First Attack Unit.
Tanker – Heavy	A firefighting unit often on a 4 x 4 chassis with a large water tank (over 2000 litres), a pump, a number of lengths of hose and a range of equipment to assist with wildfire suppression.
Tanker – Mid-	

Range	A vehicle equipped with a tank of capacity 1000 to 1500 litres and pump designed for rapid initial attack and the patrol of fires.
Tanker – First Attack Unit	A firefighting unit often on a 4 x 4 tray body vehicle with a small water tank (400 litres), a pump and length of hose.
Tongues	See Fingers.
Torch	Flashlight.
Trunked Mode	The operating of a radio on the trunk radio network. Using trunked mode, private calls can be made between radios or to the telephone network.
Trunk Telephone Interconnect (TACT UNIT)	Equipment used to transfer a call to/from a trunk radio into the PSTN network (public telephone network).
Turn out Time	See Response Time.
Ute	Utility vehicle
Under Control - 1 (incident status)	The complete perimeter of the fire is secured, no breakaway is expected and continuous patrol/blacking out is still required.
Under Control – 2 (incident status)	The complete perimeter of the fire is secured, and no breakaway is expected. Control line quality or depth is such that only patrol is required. In most circumstances this status will mean reversion to non – emergency Award provisions.
Watch Outs	A series of predefined situations developed to alert fire ground personnel to potentially hazardous situations.
Willy willy	Dust devil

**APPENDIX
V**

WILDFIRE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE AUSTRALIAN PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America, on the one hand, and the Australian Participating Agencies, on the other hand (hereinafter referred to as the "Participants");

CONSIDERING that through an ongoing informal relationship, the Participants have had exchanges on firefighting issues since 1964;

CONSIDERING the authorities given to the United States Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to enter into such arrangements by the Emergency Wildfire Suppression Act as Amended, U.S. Public Law 100-428, 42 USC, Section 1856m;

CONSIDERING that in the summer of 2000, firefighters from Australia provided able assistance to the U.S. during its worst fire season in over 50 years, and;

RECOGNIZING that it is desirable and in the public interest to formalise the provision of mutual assistance in fighting fires and to share information about suppression and management of fires;

The Participants Have Reached the Following Understandings:

I Purpose

The purpose of this Arrangement is to provide a framework for one Participant to request and receive Wildfire Suppression Resources from the other Participant and to encourage cooperation on other fire management activities.

II Definitions

For the purposes of this Arrangement:

1. "Australian Participating Agencies" means the State Governments, Statutory Corporations and other corporate entities of Australia who have signed this Arrangement.
2. "Receiving Participant" means the Participant receiving Wildfire Suppression Resources.

3. "Sending Participant" means the Participant furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources.
4. "Wildfire" means any forest, range or bush fire.
5. "Wildfire Suppression Resources" means personnel, supplies, equipment, and other resources required for pre-suppression and suppression activities.

III Understanding

1. A Participant should immediately consider the request of the other Participant for Wildfire Suppression Resources, and, to the fullest extent practicable, promptly approve such request.
2. The Requesting Participant should reimburse the Sending Participant in accordance with Part IV.
3. A Participant may obtain, as appropriate, the participation of its state, regional, local, private or tribal/aboriginal fire organisations in the implementation of this Arrangement, subject to its national or state laws and regulations.
4. The Receiving Participant may organise, task, and direct the Sending Participant's Wildfire Suppression Resources as necessary to meet the Receiving Participant's fire suppression objectives effectively and efficiently.
5. Activities contemplated under this Arrangement are subject to the availability of funds.
6. The Sending Participant should have the right to withdraw some or all of its Wildfire Suppression Resources as necessary at the Sending Participant's discretion. Notice of intent in this respect should be communicated to the Receiving Participant.
7. The Sending Participant should provide all the safety equipment required to meet its regulations. Should additional equipment be required by the Receiving Participant, the Receiving Participant should supply it at the Receiving Participant's expense.

IV Reimbursement

1. Except for the costs set forth in Part V of this Arrangement, the Sending Participant should be reimbursed by the Receiving Participant for the costs incurred by the Sending Participant in furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources for, or on behalf of the Receiving Participant. The costs may include the cost of premiums to purchase death and personal injury insurance for the employees of the Sending Participant, as more fully described in the Annual Operating Plan provided for in Part VII of this Arrangement. The specific costs and procedures

for reimbursement should be set forth in the Annual Operating Plan, which should be a binding contract.

V

Cross-Waiver of Claims and Assumption of Liability

1. In the Annual Operating Plan, the Receiving and Sending Participants should include provisions by which each Participant and each component of that Participant intends to waive its claims against the other Participant and each component of that Participant for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of activities undertaken pursuant to the Annual Operating Plan.
3. The Annual Operating Plan should contain provisions whereby the Receiving Participant agrees to assume all liability for the tortious acts or omissions of the Sending Participant's personnel sent to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant.

VI

Entry of Personnel and Equipment

1. The Participants intend to work together, with the involved agencies of their respective governments, to process appropriate legal documentation, within the applicable laws and regulations of both countries, and to otherwise facilitate entry to and exit from its territory of all personnel engaged in wildfire suppression pursuant to this Arrangement.
2. Each Participant should undertake all reasonable steps and use its best efforts, within applicable laws and regulations of both countries, to facilitate the admission and exit of all supplies, equipment, aircraft, vehicles, specialised machinery, or other equipment whether owned or contracted, that are used or intended for use in wildfire suppression or transport of wildfire suppression equipment or personnel pursuant to this Arrangement without entry fees and without payment of any duties or taxes imposed by reason of importation.

VII

Annual Operating Plan

1. An Annual Operating Plan should be concluded and executed between the Participants as a binding contract.
2. The Annual Operating Plan should:
 - (a) identify designated points of contact responsible for fire suppression;
 - (b) set forth specific criteria and procedures for approving requests for Wildfire Suppression Resources;

- (c) establish procedures for efficient and timely communication of relevant information between designated points of contact;
 - (d) identify the necessary procedures and legal documentation that are to be completed with agencies of the governments to allow entry into each country of Wildfire Suppression Resources;
 - (e) specify the conditions, costs and procedures for the reimbursement, as deemed appropriate, of the Sending Participant for the furnishing of Wildfire Suppression Resources;
 - (f) include terms consistent with Part V, a cross-waiver for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this Arrangement or the Annual Operating Plan;
 - (g) establish equivalent standards for qualifications, including physical fitness, training and experience;
 - (h) provide for withdrawal rights of the Sending Participant.
 - (i) provide for the Receiving Participant to assume all liability for the tortious acts or omissions of the Sending Participant's personnel sent to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant.
3. The Participants should use their best endeavours to complete a review of the Annual Operating Plan by 15 May in each year. Until the review is completed, the last Annual Operating Plan should continue to apply.

VIII Status of Personnel

1. Except as provided in clause 3 of this part, any service performed in furtherance of this Arrangement by an employee of a Participant should constitute service performed on behalf of that Participant.
2. Except as provided in clause 3 of this part, the performance of a service under this Arrangement by any employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of one Participant should in no case render such person an employee, contractor, subcontractor or agent of the other Participant.
3. For the purposes of tort liability any employees, contractors, subcontractors or agents of the Sending Participant sent to fight fires in a foreign country under this Arrangement are considered to be employees of the Receiving Participant. The only remedies for acts or omissions committed while fighting fires shall be that provided under the laws of the host country and those remedies shall be exclusive remedies for any claim arising out of fighting fires in a foreign country. Neither the Sending Participant or any organisation associated with the firefighter shall be subject to any tort action pertaining to or arising out of fighting fires.

IX
Other Areas of Cooperation

1. This Arrangement constitutes a reaffirmation of the importance of engaging in cooperative fire management activities. This Arrangement is intended to encourage and strengthen other cooperative fire management activities, through the sharing among the Participants of personnel, fire management techniques, skills, and innovations. The objective of these activities is to improve the fire fighting capabilities and knowledge of each Participant, resulting in the provision of more effective fire fighting assistance to one another when necessary. Each Participant should bear all of its costs and expenses of participating in these other cooperative activities, unless otherwise mutually arranged.

X
Provisions of Mutual Aid

1. Through this Arrangement, the Participants may provide mutual aid in furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources for lands and other properties for which the Participants normally provide Wildfire Suppression Resources.
2. This Arrangement outlines potential exchanges of wildfire suppression resources between the Participants. The specific terms of an exchange, some of which are referenced in this Arrangement, should be detailed in the Annual Operating Plan provided for in Part VII of this Arrangement.

XI
Dispute Settlement

1. Any differences that arise in the interpretation or application of the provisions of this Arrangement or any Annual Operating Plan concluded pursuant hereto should be resolved by the Participants by means of negotiations and consultations.

XII
General Provisions

1. This Arrangement supersedes any previous arrangement or understanding between the parties.
2. Activities under this Arrangement commence upon signature and continue until 15 May 2010. After that date this Arrangement continues from year to year until it is terminated.
3. This Arrangement may only be modified by mutual written consent of the Participants.
4. A Participant or Participating Agency may withdraw from this Arrangement at any time, providing reasonable written notice to the other Participants. Withdrawal from this Arrangement should not affect the implementation by the withdrawing Participant or Participating Agency of any fire suppression initiated

prior to the provision of notice of that Participant's or Participating Agency's withdrawal. Withdrawal of a Participant does not terminate this Arrangement as to the remaining Participants.

5. This Arrangement may be terminated with reasonable written notice to the other participants:
 - a) upon the withdrawal from this Arrangement of both the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America; or
 - b) upon the withdrawal of all of the Australian Participating Agencies, or
 - c) with the mutual consent of all the Participants.
6. The termination of this Arrangement should not affect the implementation of any fire suppression initiated prior to such termination.

**APPENDIX
VI**

Annual Operating Plan
for the
Wildfire Arrangement
Between the
Department of the Interior and the Department of
Agriculture of the United States of America
and the
Australian Participating Agencies

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Annual Operating Plan

I. Purpose

This Annual Operating Plan is prepared pursuant to Part VII of the United States and Australia Arrangement signed in 2002 that provides for wildfire suppression assistance and other fire management activities between Australia and the United States.

II. Contract

This Annual Operating Plan constitutes a binding contract between the parties made in consideration of the mutual obligations set out in it. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture of the United States of America enter into this contract under the Emergency Wildfire Suppression Act as Amended, U.S. Public Law 100-428, 42 USC, Section 1856m.

III. Definitions

For the purpose of this Annual Operating Plan:

"Australian Participating Agencies" means the State Governments, Statutory Corporations and other corporate entities of Australia who have signed this Annual Operating Plan.

"Plan" means this Annual Operating Plan.

"United States" means those agencies of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Interior involved in wildfire suppression activities and responsible for receiving Australian Participating Agencies Wildfire Suppression Resources or sending U.S. Wildfire Suppression Resources to Australia.

"Receiving Participant" means the Participant receiving Wildfire Suppression Resources.

"Sending Participant" means the Participant furnishing Wildfire Suppression Resources.

"Wildfire" means any forest, range or bush fire.

"Wildfire Suppression Resources" means personnel, supplies, equipment, and other resources required for pre-suppression and suppression activities.

IV. General Procedures

A. Requests for Wildfire Assistance

1. Requests for wildfire assistance from the United States will be made by the Chairman of the Forest Fire Management Group (FFMG) to the Manager, National Interagency Coordination Center, (NICC) at the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) in Boise, Idaho, USA.
2. Requests for wildfire assistance from the Participating Agencies of Australia will be made by the Manager, at NICC, to the Chairman of the FFMG. Such requests will only occur when all U.S. civilian capabilities for the type of Wildfire Suppression Resources requested have been exhausted.
3. For billing and reimbursement, or other correspondence, the designated official for the United States will be the Manager, NICC, and for Australia, the designated official will be the Chairman of FFMG or his/her delegate.
4. To minimise delays at points of entry for Customs and Immigration clearances, NICC or FFMG will, 24 hours prior to mobilisation, supply to customs at the Point of Entry (PoE) all transport and arrival information, in the forms specified, containing but not limited to the following details:

Personnel: The full name, country of citizenship, date and country of birth, personal identification number (eg. Social Security Number), passport number, home base and departure point.
Equipment: The item, quantity and serial numbers, carrier and bill of lading number, country of manufacture.
5. Customs Declaration forms will be completed for presentation to customs at the PoE.

B. Personnel

1. Reimbursement for personnel expenditures incurred while performing services under the Plan will be on the following basis:
 - (a) The United States sending wildfire suppression resources to Australia:
 - (1) All United States salary costs to include overtime and relevant allowances submitted for payment will be reimbursed by the Australian Participating Agency in accordance with salary schedules in existence within the United States.

- (2) The costs of travel, lodging, meals and other expenses normally approved by the United States, will be reimbursed by the Australian Participating Agency when not provided by the Australian Participating Agency.
 - (3) Travel costs (airline tickets, and local transportation) may be billed separately to the Australian Participating Agency.
 - (4) Upon the production of receipts the cost of travel, lodging, meals, vehicle rentals, communication equipment, and other approved expenditures shall be reimbursed when the Australian Participating Agency cannot provide these services through their procurement methods. Lodging and meals will be reimbursed at the rate provided for in the United States travel regulations.
 - (5) Australian Participating Agencies will pay for all immediate medical treatment and any associated costs resulting from an injury incurred in the course of firefighting duties whilst on assignment.
- (b) Australian Participating Agencies sending wildfire suppression resources to the United States:
- (1) All Australian Participating Agency salary costs including overtime and any other relevant allowances submitted for payment by the Australian Participating Agencies will be reimbursed by the United States in accordance with salary schedules and/or union contracts in existence within the Australian Participating Agencies.
 - (2) At the time of the request for assistance, the Australian Participating Agencies may be reimbursed at a daily flat rate agreed to by the Australian Participating Agencies and the United States that is established and documented prior to the mobilisation of wildfire suppression personnel by the Australian Participating Agencies. The daily rate is in lieu of itemised salary costs, overtime and relevant allowances for wildfire suppression personnel of Australian Participating Agencies.
 - (3) The costs of travel, lodging, meals and other expenses normally covered by the Australian Participating Agencies, will be reimbursed by the United States when not provided by the United States.

- (4) Travel costs (airline tickets, and local transportation) may be billed separately to the United States.
 - (5) Upon the production of receipts the cost of travel, lodging, meals, vehicle rentals, communication equipment, and other approved expenditures shall be reimbursed when the United States cannot provide these services through their procurement methods. Lodging and meals will be reimbursed at the rate provided for in the Sending Participants travel regulations.
 - (6) The United States pay for all immediate medical treatment and any associated costs resulting from an injury incurred in the course of firefighting duties whilst on assignment.
2. The Receiving Participant will detail any specialised expertise required for fire suppression or fire management assignments.
3. Prior to mobilisation, the Participating Agencies either sending or receiving wildfire suppression resources will agree to equivalent standards, training, fitness levels, and experience required for each position included in a request.
4. The United States National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Qualifications Handbook (310-1) will be used as the basis for establishing equivalent qualifications. For any request for a position not included in the NWCG 310-1, the Receiving Participant will send documentation outlining the major requirements of the position requested. NOTE: Because of limitations of delegating authorities within the U.S. Government, the positions of Incident and Deputy Incident Commander, Area and Deputy Area Commander will not be filled by Australian Participating Agencies personnel under this Annual Operating Plan.
5. All Participating Agencies under the Plan assigning wildfire suppression personnel to resource requests will certify that the personnel assigned will meet the requirements of the position ordered.
6. Sending Participant personnel will receive an adequate orientation session from their Participating Agency prior to deployment and another briefing from the Receiving Participant upon arrival. The latter will include a summary of the Receiving Participants operating guidelines. Prior to demobilisation, the Receiving Participant will debrief Sending Participant personnel.

7. The Sending Participant will provide all of the safety equipment required to meet its regulations. Should additional equipment be required by the Receiving Participant the equipment will be supplied at the expense of the Receiving Participant.
8. The Sending Participant and the Receiving Participant will provide for adequate liaison for the duration of the assistance. In making a request for wildfire suppression resources, the Receiving Participant will allow for the inclusion of a Team Leader, which the Sending Participant shall provide for the full duration of the period of assistance. The Team Leader supplied by the Sending Participant shall be responsible for:
 - (a) Operational liaison and coordination functions as required by the Receiving Participant;
 - (b) Health, safety, welfare and commissary needs of Sending Participant's personnel during non-operational periods of the deployment and
 - (c) Liaison and public relations coordination functions for the Sending Participant
9. Length of deployment, rest and rotation for personnel shall be identified prior to the commencement of the deployment to the Sending Participant. The Sending Participant shall adhere to rest, rotation, and length of deployment policies of the Receiving Participant (providing they do not conflict with the Sending Participant's policies and procedures in which case the Sending Participant's policies and procedures shall prevail).
10. All Sending Participant personnel shall carry with them two examples of identification (at least one of which must be photographic identification).
11. Any criminal conviction may prohibit mobilisation to the Receiving Participant's country. If an individual has been convicted of minor criminal offences, the individual may, at the discretion of the Receiving Participant, be required to undergo an interview process with the Receiving Participant's immigration office to determine whether the individual may be mobilised. All costs associated with the process will be borne by the individual or the Sending Participant. The Receiving Participant retains the right to refuse entry to any individual from the Sending Participant whom the Receiving Participant deems undesirable.

Nothing in this clause derogates from any powers of the U.S. or Australian customs and immigration authorities to refuse entry by any person to either country under relevant legislation.
12. Prescription drugs must remain in their original labelled container or be accompanied by a prescription.

13. Personal cargo weight for incident deployment shall be a total of 65 lbs. (29.5 kg), which includes a personal or deployment pack of 45 lbs. (20.4 kg) and a line pack of 20 lbs. (9.1 kg). Additional cargo must be identified and approved by the Sending Participant and the Receiving Participant.

C. Equipment and Supplies

1. Equipment provided to the Sending Participant by the Receiving Participant remains the property of the Receiving Participant.
2. Where considered necessary by the Sending Participant, specialised equipment may be accompanied by trained technicians and/or operators to ensure safe and efficient set up and operation of the equipment. All salary costs including overtime, and any other relevant allowances submitted for payment by the Sending Participant will be reimbursed by the Receiving Participant in accordance with salary schedules and/or union contracts in existence within the Sending Participant Agencies.
3. It is recommended that all equipment be registered with the respective Sending Participant's customs authority prior to mobilisation.
4. The cost of equipment refurbishing to the Sending Participant's specification is reimbursable by the Receiving Participant unless the Sending Participant agrees that the Receiving Participant will perform the work.
5. All transportation costs of equipment belonging to the Sending Participant will be reimbursed by the Receiving Participant.

D. Recall

The recall of resources from the Receiving Participant shall be made with a minimum of 24 hours notice. Recall will be in accordance with the procedures for requesting resources.

E. Personal Injury, Death, Damage to or Loss of Property, and Insurance Coverage

1. (a) All employees, contractors, sub-contractors or agents of the Sending Participant sent to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant pursuant to the Plan are, for the purposes of tort liability only, considered to be employees and agents of the Receiving Participant. The only remedies for acts or omissions committed while fighting fires shall be those provided under the laws of the jurisdiction in which assistance is provided to the Receiving Participant and those remedies shall be exclusive remedies for any claim in tort arising out of fighting fires in a foreign country. Neither the Sending Participant nor any personnel sent by it to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant or any organisation associated with such personnel shall be subject to any action in tort pertaining to or arising out of fighting fires.
- (b) The Receiving Participant agrees to assume any and all liability for the tortious acts or omissions of personnel sent to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant pursuant to the Plan including liability for all loss and damage suffered by any person as a result of such acts or omissions. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Receiving Participant's assumption of such liability extends to the payment of any damages or other amounts awarded, whether by a court or other person or body, to any person who has suffered or claims to have suffered loss and damage as a result of such acts or omissions, any amount paid or payable to such claimant in settlement of the claim, and all costs incurred in relation to the claim.
- (c) In the event that the Sending Participant or any personnel sent by it to provide wildfire assistance to the Receiving Participant are the subject of any claim by any person arising out of tortious acts or omissions committed or alleged to have been committed by them in the course of providing such assistance, the Receiving Participant will undertake at its cost the defence of such claim on behalf of the Sending Participant or its personnel, provided always that the Receiving Participant retains the right to compromise or settle any such claim on behalf of the Sending Participant or its personnel as in its sole discretion the Receiving Participant sees fit.

2. Subject to clause 1 of this Part, each Participant waives any claims against the other Participant and of each component of that Participant for compensation for loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring as a consequence of the performance of activities undertaken pursuant to the Plan.
3. (a) The U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture, self-insure employees of the United States Government while on official work assignments and on official travel status. Therefore, employees of the U.S. Government will not require additional insurance coverage under the Plan for activities conducted on behalf of an Australian Participating Agency.

(b) Prior to personnel of any Australian Participating Agency being deployed to the United States, Australian Participating Agencies will ensure that appropriate personal injury and death insurance coverage is in place for each of their personnel deployed in response to United States wildfire suppression resources requests. Additional personal injury and death insurance costs necessarily incurred by Australian Participating Agencies by reason of their deployment will be reimbursed by the United States.

F. Billing and payment

Billing procedures for emergency fire suppression assignments are as follows:

1. The billing and payment requests should be submitted directly to the designated official of the Receiving Participant as identified in IV.A.3.
2. Invoices for goods and services will be paid in the Receiving Participant's currency.
3. All interest charges will be forgiven for over-due accounts on Government-to-Government invoices provided payment is made within 6 months of the last date of the billing document being received by the Receiving Participant.
4. Billing will include the following:
 - (a) Cover letter with reference to specific resource request information;
 - (b) An original itemised invoice.
5. The Sending Participant will include backup documentation summarising listing of salary, supplies, travel, and equipment with dates, hours, and crew, equipment, or aircraft type. This will not be required for flat rate billing as provided in IV.B.1 (b)(2), except for

all travel, supplies and equipment expenses incurred by the Sending Participant.

G. Situation Reporting

The NICC Manager and the FFMG Chairman or his delegate will exchange daily situation reports throughout the period of the deployment of Australian or U.S. Participating Agency personnel. The report should include information on activities undertaken by deployed personnel, fire situations, problems encountered, and achievements. Monitoring and evaluating the changing conditions associated with the emergency will be the responsibility of the Receiving Participant.

H. Review, Amendment and Termination

1. The Plan shall be reviewed annually on or before 15 May by the Participating Agencies and updated and renewed as may be agreed between the Participating Agencies.
2. Any Participating Agency may terminate its participation in the Plan upon the expiration of reasonable notice in writing given to each other Participating Agency, such notice to be not less than three months.

I. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

1. Subject to clause 2 of this part, the Plan shall be governed by the laws of the United States of America.
2. Where wildfire suppression assistance is provided to a Receiving Participant pursuant to the Plan, all matters concerning the interpretation or enforcement of the Plan, and all questions, disputes or claims of whatever nature, arising out of or in relation to the provision of such assistance will be governed by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the Receiving Participant receives such assistance. Each Participant submits to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of courts exercising jurisdiction in that place and waives any right it might have to claim that those courts are an inconvenient forum.

J. Counterparts

The Plan may consist of a number of counterparts each of which when executed shall be an original and all counterparts together shall constitute one and the same instrument.