



# Course Catalogue

## Bushfire Centre of Excellence Training Products

Version V.1.2



# Document Control

## Document History

| Content Manager No.: |                                     |                |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
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| V.1.0                | Initial development                 | Sept 2021      |
| V.1.1                | Updated Fire Control Officer        | Dec 2021       |
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## Acknowledgement

Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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# Introduction

The Bushfire Centre of Excellence (BCoE) training team is focused on the development and delivery of bushfire and planned burning training and support material for the bushfire sector. Training is developed and delivered collaboratively with a range of relevant stakeholders.

Courses are delivered from the BCoE facility and in the regions where support is provided by the BCoE team. Courses are open to DFES volunteers and staff, local government volunteers and staff, staff from Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and other stakeholders in the sector, unless specifically stated.

This document has been developed to provide an overview of all published BCoE training products.

# DFES0420 Advanced Bush Firefighting

## Description

This course provides volunteer firefighters with advanced knowledge of the effect of fuel types, topography and weather on fire behaviour, and the considerations when using appropriate strategies to combat bushfires.

## Target Audience

Experienced firefighters with an interest in enhancing their bush firefighting skills and knowledge and potentially taking on more responsibility on the fireground.

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **3 years** of active operational experience.

Participants must also be on one of the following Training Programs:

- BFS Advanced Firefighter - Role Based
- VFRS Active Firefighter - Role Based
- VFES Active Firefighter - Role Based

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold:

- DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness
- DFES1023 Firefighting skills

## Key Subject Area

- Reporting procedures and resource preparation when responding to bushfire
- Impact of different fuel types on fire behaviour
- Major weather conditions and the effect on fire behaviour

## **Key Subject Area (continued)**

- Different suppression techniques for different fuel types
- General principles of backburning for different fuel types
- Mop-up techniques and patrols
- Precautions to be taken when fighting bushfires

## **Duration**

1 day (face-to-face)



# DFES1011 Assist with Planned Burning

## Description

This course covers the skills and knowledge required for volunteers to assist in planned burning activities in a safe manner.

Participation at a planned burn offers newer firefighters the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and experience on fire characteristics and behaviour in an environment with greater controls in place.

## Target Audience

Relevant personnel from the Bush Fire Service, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service who are involved in planned burning.

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **1 year** of active operational experience.

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold:

- DFES0995 Bushfire Safety Awareness and;
- DFES1023 Bush Firefighting Skills OR
- PUAFIR204 Respond to Wildfire or equivalent

## Key Subject Area

- Introduction to planned burning
- Preparation for planned burning
- Conducting the planned burn

## Duration

1 day (face-to-face)

# DFES1055 Bushfire Fundamentals

## Description

This course covers the knowledge required for personnel to provide incident support at bushfires.

It is not intended to replace DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness that volunteer firefighters and SES members complete as a part of their training program.

## Target Audience

- DFES corporate personnel
- Non-operational personnel on a DFES Pre-formed Team (PFT) roster and other rosters
- Utilities such as Western Power, Telstra, Synergy
- Lifelines such as Department of Families, St John
- Other agencies such as Department of Defence, WA Police Force, Indigenous Rangers, contractors

## Entry Requirements

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Key Subject Area

- Describe Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) and the role of WA fire agencies in bushfire response
- Bushfire characteristics and behaviour
- Bushfire safety and survival procedures

## Duration

1 day (face-to-face)

# **DFES0995 Bushfire Safety Awareness**

## **Description**

This course covers the skills and knowledge required for volunteers to identify characteristics and behaviour of fire, methods/strategies to operate safely (and survive) on the fire ground and considerations when selecting fire suppression strategies.

Bushfire safety awareness is made up of three modules and has been designed to be completed in the following order:

- DFES1020 Bushfire characteristics and behaviour
- DFES1019 Bushfire safety and survival
- DFES1021 Suppress bushfire\* (including RUI)

\*SES do not need to complete DFES1021 Suppress bushfire.

## **Target Audience**

Relevant personnel who are involved in bushfire operations, either as a firefighter or support capacity from the Bush Fire Service, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service and State Emergency Service.

Participants must be on one of the following Training Programs:

- BFS Bush Firefighter
- VFRS Probationary Firefighter
- VFES Foundation Firefighter
- SES Role Based Training

## **Entry Requirements**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## **Key Subject Area**

- Safety and survival procedures for self and others
- Factors that influence bushfire behaviour
- Fire characteristics
- Strategies to suppress bushfire
- Relevant documentation

## **Duration**

2 days (face-to-face)\*

\*For SES members, the training can be completed in 1 day.



# DFES1000 Crew Leader

## Description

The purpose of this course is to provide volunteer firefighters with the knowledge and skills to work autonomously in leading their crew and/or controlling an emergency incident (safely, effectively and efficiently) using the principles of the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIIMS).

## Target Audience

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **3 years** of active operational experience.

Participants must also be on one of the following Training Programs:

- BFS Advanced Firefighter - Role Based
- VFRS Active Firefighter - Role Based
- VFES Active Firefighter - Role Based

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold:

- DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness
- DFES1023 Firefighting skills
- DFES0420 Advanced bush firefighting

## Key Subject Area

- Procedures to prepare for crew tasks
- Techniques to lead a crew to perform tasks
- Duties to conclude tasks

## Duration

1 day (face-to-face)

# DFES0408 Fire Control Officer

## Description

This course has been developed to provide Fire Control Officers (FCOs) with an understanding of:

- The relevant legislation relating to FCOs
- Permits to Burn.

The participants will have the skills and knowledge required to ensure that a high standard of Local Government fire prevention and protection is maintained, to assume control at fires, and to encourage compliance with the requirements of the Bush Fires Act 1954, Bush Fires Regulations 1954, Fire Brigades Act 1942, Fire and Emergency Services Act 1998, Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 and Local Government Laws.

## Target Audience

Personnel appointed or likely to be appointed to the role of FCO. It is optional for personnel including Bushfire Risk Management Officers, Bushfire Risk Planning Coordinators and Community Emergency Services Managers.

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **5 years** of active operational experience.

Volunteers may access this course as part of one of the following Training Programs:

- BFS Leadership
- VFES Training Program Specialist Courses
- VFRS Training Program Specialist Courses

## Entry Requirements

It is recommended that student have completed:

- DFES1055 Bushfire fundamentals, OR
- DFES1056 Rural fire awareness, OR
- DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness, OR
- Equivalent basic bushfire training

## Key Subject Area

- Legislation - Acts and Regulations
- Bush Fires Act and Bush Fires Regulations
- Role of FCOs
- Judicial process
- Permits to burn

## Duration

1 day (face-to-face)



# DFES1052 Fire Weather 1

## Description

This course covers knowledge and skills required to assess and interpret weather information in relation to its impact on fire behaviour. It includes collecting, interpreting, analysing and recording weather information.

## Target Audience

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **5 years** of active operational experience and undertake one of the following roles:

- Sector and Divisional Commander, Operations Officer, Incident Controller, Planning Officer or Intelligence Officer or those preparing to undertake these roles.
- Duty Officer, Regional Duty Coordinator, Fire Control Officer or Fire Weather Officer.
- Fire behaviour analysts/modelling and prediction officers.

It is also optional for Crew Leaders, Lieutenants and Senior Firefighters.

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold one of the following:

- DFES0420 Advanced bush firefighting OR
- DBCA Firefighting crew leader OR
- PUAFIR303 Suppress wildfire or equivalent

## **Key Subject Area**

- Describe methods to collect weather information
- Interpret weather information
- Interpret weather information for fire context
- Record and report weather information and potential fire impacts

## **Duration**

2 days (face-to-face)



# DFES1023 Firefighting Skills

## Description

This course covers the skills and knowledge required for volunteers to use equipment safely on the fire ground.

The recommended minimum standard for all personnel undertaking bushfire suppression or planned burning activities is the completion of both DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness and DFES1023 Firefighting skills.

This course is made up of five different modules:

- DFES1022 Introduction to map reading
- DFES1026 Introduction to communications
- DFES0996 Tools and equipment
- DFES1010 Ropes and ladders (optional\*)
- DFES0999 Crew protection

**Introduction to map reading** provides the skills to interpret and use maps.

**Introduction to communications** covers the skills and knowledge for volunteers to use basic communication systems, equipment and techniques used by fire agencies in Western Australia.

**Tools and equipment** covers the skills and knowledge for volunteers to use tools and equipment required to fight fires.

**Ropes and ladders** covers the skills and knowledge for volunteers to use ropes and ladders when required.

*\*Ropes and ladders is optional and may not be delivered as part of this course.*

**Crew protection** covers the skills and knowledge required to apply safety procedures and be responsible for personal safety and the safety of others at an incident.

## Target Audience

Relevant personnel who are involved in bushfire operations from the Bush Fire Service, Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service and Volunteer Fire and Emergency Service.

Participants must be on one of the following training programs:

- BFS Bush Firefighter
- VFRS Probationary Firefighter
- VFES Foundation Firefighter

## Entry Requirements

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Key Subject Area

### Introduction to Map Reading:

- Describe the use and features of a map
- Explain a range of maps
- Determine current location on a map
- Plan a route to the incident location

### Introduction to Communications:

- Communication systems
- Communication equipment
- Operating procedures
- Call signs and pro words
- Radio voice procedures

### Tools and Equipment:

- Hydrants, hoses, extinguishers
- Use hand tools and equipment
- Range of firefighting tools and equipment
- Purpose and use of firefighting tools and equipment
- Hand signals used by firefighters

## Key Subject Area (continued)

### Ropes and Ladders (optional):

- Knots
- Extension ladders

### Crew Protection:

- Wear or operate the relevant safety equipment to ensure crew protection
- Identify safety issues when wearing or operating the relevant safety equipment

## Duration

2 days (face-to-face)



# DFES0004 Machine Supervision for Bushfire

## Description

This course provides the knowledge required to supervise the use of machines used in bush fire suppression, employing them to best advantage whilst also maintaining safety.

## Target Audience

Personnel such as Crew Leaders, Task Force Leaders and Sector Commanders.

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **3 years** of active operational experience.

Participants must be on one of the following Training Programs:

- VFRS Active Firefighter - Role Based or Specialist Course
- VFES Active Firefighter - Role Based or Specialist Course
- BFS Specialist Course

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold one of the following:

- DFES1000 Crew Leader OR
- DBCA Crew Leader OR
- PUA FIR303 Suppress wildfire or equivalent

## Key Subject Area

- Machines in fire control operations
- Role of machine supervisors
- Machines used in fireline construction

## **Key Subject Area (continued)**

- Techniques for bushfire attack
- Location and construction of fire control lines
- Mop-up and rehabilitation
- Pre-planning and use of machines
- Briefings and monitoring performance

## **Duration**

1 day (face-to-face)



# DFES0009 Plantation Firefighting

## Description

This course is designed to enhance the knowledge and skills related to operating in plantation fuel types. It will provide an understanding of how fire behaviour varies with plantation age and which firefighting techniques are appropriate at each age of the plantation life cycle.

## Target Audience

It is recommended that personnel have a minimum of **3 years** of active operational experience.

Participants may access this course as part of the:

- BFS Training Program Specialist/Optional Courses
- VFES Training Program Specialist Courses
- VFRS Training Program Specialist Courses

## Entry Requirements

To access this course, personnel must hold:

- DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness, and
- DFES1023 Firefighting skills

## Key Subject Area

- Plantation fuel characteristics and life cycles
- Weather factors in plantations of different ages
- Plantation management practices
- Methods of fire suppression in plantation fires
- Hose lay and relay pumping in plantations
- Hand tools in plantations

## Duration

1 day (face-to-face)

# **DFES1056 Rural Fire Awareness**

## **Description**

This course covers the knowledge required for personnel to provide incident support at bushfires including bushfire response strategies.

It is not intended to replace DFES0995 Bushfire safety awareness that volunteer firefighters and SES members complete as a part of their training program.

## **Target Audience**

- Farmers/Pastoralists
- Rural Landowners/Managers

## **Entry Requirements**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## **Key Subject Area**

- Describe AIIMS and the role of WA fire agencies in bushfire response
- Bushfire characteristics and behaviour
- Bushfire safety and survival procedures
- Strategies to support bushfire response

## **Duration**

1 day (face-to-face)

