DROPPED 5/23/03

NWCG CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT ISSUE PAPER #37
ICS HELICOPTER TYPES
September 24, 2002

BACKGROUND

The Incident Command System (ICS) resource typing of helicopters and air tankers as described in the Fireline Handbook (PMS 410-1, January 1998) on page A-28 and on page A-31 of the proposed Fireline Handbook update is incorrect.

CURRENT STATUS

Presently S-270 Basic Air Operations and S-271 Interagency Helicopter Training Guide are being revised.

Resource typing of helicopters and air tankers in the Fireline Handbook (1998) and the proposed Fireline Handbook update do not match helicopter typing in the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), January 2002, and the current air tanker retardant capacity outlined by the Interagency Air Tanker Board and included in the Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations, 2002 (Red Book).

The IHOG recognizes three types of helicopters (Type 4 is included in Type 3).

The Interagency Air Tanker Board has increased the minimum gallons for Type 3 air tankers to 800 gallons and Type 4 is 799 gallons and below.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended the IOS Working Team adopt the IHOG (January 2002) and Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations (2002) resource typing since these have already been approved on an interagency basis and are circulating in approved documents.

Attachment 1 includes the IHOG and Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations typing chances that should be included in the revision of the Fireline Handbook.

Approving these changes (Attachment 1) will allow the S-270 Basic Air Operations and S-271 Interagency Helicopter Training Courses to include the most current resource typing approved by the IOS Working Team and be completed as scheduled.

ACTION REQUIRED

Approve Attachment 1 which includes the IHOG and Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations typing chances for helicopters and air tankers and include these changes in the revised Fireline Handbook.

APPROVED / DENIED
(circle one)

Bob Leaverton, IOSWT Chair

Date

cc: Training Working Team

Issue Dropped 5/23/03

This issue will be addressed from the development unit to the BLM representative on the IOSWT. S-270 was finalized and reflects the aviation community stance of 3 types.

Attachment 1 – Current Helicopter and Air Tanker Resource Types as approved by the Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG), January 2002, and the Interagency Air Tanker Board and included in the Standards for Fire and Aviation Operations, 2002 (Red Book).

Resource	Components	Standards for Type			
		1	2	3	4
Helicopters	Passenger Seats	15+	9-14	4-8	
	Maximum Gross takeoff/landing Weight (lbs)	12,500+	6,000 to 12,500	Up to 6,000	
	Capacity, gallons (min)	700	300	100	
	Examples:	Bell 214 S-70 S-64	Bell 204, 205, 212	Bell 206 SA-315 MD-500	
Air Tankers	Capacity, (gallons) (min)	3,000	1800	800	~~799 and below~~ 100
	Examples:	C-130 P-3 DC-7	DC-4, 6 SP-2H P2V	S-2 CL-215	Thrush, Air Tractor
Helitanker	- Fixed Tank - Air Tanker Board Certified - ~~600~~ 1100 Min. Gal. Capacity				