



Pinion Pine Fire District

Standard Operating Procedure

Policy Title:	Helicopter Landing & Safety		
Policy Number:	335.10	Created:	2003
Section:	Emergency Response	Revised:	December 2018

Purpose: *To ensure the safe and proper helicopter landing procedure*

Scope: *All Personnel*

It has been established that once a helicopter has been activated, a landing zone will be required to be setup. The landing area should be on level ground if possible. The landing zone will be approximately 100' x 100' and will be clear of obstructions. When determining an area for a landing zone, it is necessary to take into consideration of all possible hazards such as tree limbs, overhead power lines or trash.

Once the landing zone has been determined, the landing zone commander will advise dispatch of operating frequency to be used (VFIRE21). The landing zone commander will also provide dispatch with a GPS heading and range to advise the helicopter crew if possible.

Personnel participating in the landing of the helicopter will be bunkered out and wear head and eye protection. SCBA will be optional to landing zone commander discretion. The landing zone crew will respond with one engine or attack vehicle. One pre-connect line will be pulled and charged prepared to apply foam if necessary. If the landing zone is in a field or in a heavily dusty area, then water will be applied to reduce brown out.

If at night, a landing zone kit should be utilized with wind indicator light into the wind. If possible, position apparatus headlights towards the LZ and into the wind to avoid blinding the pilot.

Once the landing zone has been established and is ready for landing, the landing zone commander will notify dispatch or if in direct contact with the helicopter, that the landing zone is ready. The landing zone commander will also notify if not on scene, EMS and any other personnel incoming to the landing zone.



Pinion Pine Fire District

Standard Operating Procedure

Once the helicopter is on the ground, all personnel and bystanders will stand clear of the helicopter. Only EMS and flight Crew will approach the helicopter unless otherwise advised to do so. Always approach and depart on the low side, and remain in the pilots view at all times.

The landing zone will remain established until the helicopter is off the ground and the crew is released by Incident Command.