

Pinion Pine Fire

Standard Operating Procedure
2012/13 revision



17 - STANDARD ON HELICOPTER LANDINGS

PURPOSE: 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 and such.

Once the landing zone has been determined, the LZ commander will advise dispatch of operating frequency to be used (VFIRE21). The LZ command 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 face and eye protection. SCBA will be optional to LZ commander discretion. The LZ crew will respond with one engine or attack vehicle. One preconnect 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 suppress flying debris.

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

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.

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