



Interagency Aviation Information Bulletin



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Subject: 2020 National Helicopter Coordinator (HLCO) Program

Area of Concern: Program Clairification

Distribution: All Aviation Users

Discussion: The USFS National Aerial Supervision Program has seven (7) National Helicopter Coordinator (HLCO) dedicated helicopter platforms in 2020. The primary mission intent is the focused development of the HLCO qualification/position within regions. This critical position provides airspace management during initial/extended attack and during large wildfires/all hazard incidents. These resources will increase Aerial Supervision tactical capacity and airspace coordination while providing a high frequency of training opportunities for prospective agency and interagency HLCO's.

Utilization:

HLCO is the primary mission and flight/mission profile however this should not preclude ordering the resource for airspace management as an Air Tactical Group Supervisor (ATGS) when staffed with this qualification. ATGS and HLCO mission profiles will be conducted in the fire traffic area according to *the PMS 505, NWCG Standards for Aerial Supervision* standard mission profiles, table 7; page 77.

The Seven (7) HLCO helicopter platforms will be staffed with a fully qualified HMGB or operate under a regionally signed HBM-14, 2 for 1 helicopter management request. In order to maximize training opportunities and maintain mission clarity these high-performance Type 3 helicopters are designated as limited-use Aerial Supervision aircraft. These aircraft meet endurance and performance required to operate anywhere in the nation in a training configuration (Pilot plus 2). ***Per the contract, deviation from this limited-use and non-utility flight profile to missions more typical of standard category operations such as; Unimproved Heli-spot landings, aerial ignition, Heli-spot approval, bucket work, cargo delivery, and passenger transport is not permitted.***

Training:

2020 HLCO training will be focused on qualified ATGS's that require an evaluation from a qualified HLCO to gain NWCG certification. The HLCO program staff (PM, AM, HLCO's) will work in conjunction with the hosting unit to establish the priority training opportunities associated with these resources. The Geographic Aerial Supervision Representative in coordination with the Geographic Area Training Representative will provide the Assistant HLCO Program Managers (AM) with a current list of priority HLCO trainee candidates for each Geographic Area. Typically, priority will be given to the hosting GACC trainees where platforms are currently assigned.

Coordination/Ordering Parameters:

All preposition resource orders will be ordered on a region-specific Washington Office Preposition order. Availability costs will be coded to WFSUC1 1325 for FY-20. The geographic area is responsible for any standby time or flight time associated with an incident. *Resource orders will be placed using the following example script through the hosting dispatch/ECC/GACC:*

Aircraft:

- Subject: Aircraft Request “**Region/GACC Surge HLCO Preposition**”
- Please place an order for the following; **Type III Helicopter – Limited Use**
- Special Needs: **HLCO Platform** (Name Request for Tail Number (example N555AS))
- Finance Code: Applicable Incident P Code or 1325 WGC0V920 or 1325 PWHEY820

Overhead:

- Subject: Overhead Request “Surge Aerial Supervision 2020”
- Please place an order for the following;
- Name: Smokey Bear
- Qualification: ATGS / HLCO / HMGB
- Ordering Point: CA-KNF
- Date and Time Needed: Sunday 6/24/2018 @ 0800
- Reporting Location: RDD
- Special Needs: Laptop, Cell, GOV/POV/RV is authorized. Staffing for H26HX (ATGS/HLCO Platform)
- Finance Code: Applicable Incident P Code or 1325 WGC0V920 or 1325 PWHEY820

As the 2020 field season continues, feedback is greatly appreciated. Please contact,

Shawn Walters, USFS National HLCO Program Manager (Detailed)

Cell: 208-315-7190

shawn.walters@usda.gov

Walter Bunt, USFS National Aerial Supervision Program Manager

Cell: 530-515-4016

walter.bunt@usda.gov

Steve Price, BLM NAO ATGS/HLCO Program Manager

208-863-8946

sprice@blm.gov

/s/ Paul Linse

Paul Linse

Branch Chief, Aviation Operations
USDA Forest Service

/s/ Keith Raley

Keith Raley

Chief, Aviation Safety, Training, Program
Evaluations and Quality Management
DOI, Office of Aviation Services