

# AIRCRAFT USED IN FOREST ACTIVITIES

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## **437-007-1200 Helicopter Operation.**

**(1)** Prior to daily operations, a briefing must be conducted. This briefing must set forth the plan of operation for the pilot(s) and ground personnel. Anytime a change in operating procedure is necessary, affected personnel must be notified in advance.

**(2)** There must be reliable radio communications available between the helicopter service areas, woods, landing and ground crews. In the absence of radio communication there must be a designated signal person.

**(3)** Personnel must get the pilot's attention and permission before approaching a helicopter that has the rotor blades turning.

**(4)** When approaching or leaving a helicopter that has the rotor blades turning, personnel must follow the specific company procedures established for the type and make of aircraft.

**(5)** Personnel must wear high-visibility hard hats. When personnel are exposed to rotor wash, the hard hats must be secured by a chin strap.

**(6)** Personnel are not required to wear hard hats when:

**(a)** Working in helicopter service areas to perform activities, such as refueling or maintenance.

**(b)** Filling buckets from dip-tanks or tankers.

**(c)** Loading seed, fertilizer or chemicals.

**(7)** The flagging and signing requirements of OAR 437-007-0510 and 437-007-0515 must be complied with when the helicopter flight path crosses a road(s).

**(8)** Riding the hook of a helicopter is prohibited, except in a life-threatening emergency.

**(9)** The drop zone must be large enough for the load(s) to be landed without endangering the landing crew.

**(10)** The landing crew must be in the clear until the:

**(a)** Load is placed on the ground.

**(b)** Chokers are released from the hook.

**(11)** The landing must be kept as free of debris as possible.

**(12)** Before any load is moved, personnel must be in the clear.

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## HELICOPTER OPERATION

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**(13)** When the helicopter is carrying a load or chokers, personnel must remain in the clear. Under no circumstances may personnel and occupied machines or vehicles be under a suspended load.

**(14)** If ground personnel need to lighten a load, they must remain in the clear until the load is stabilized.

**(15)** If a load must be aborted or lightened by the pilot, ground personnel must be in the clear before the pilot releases the hook.

**(16)** The yarding helicopter must be equipped with a siren to warn personnel of any hazardous situation.

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(4).

**Stats. Implemented:** ORS 654.001 through 654.295.

**Hist:** OR-OSHA Admin. Order 5-2003, f. 6/02/03, ef. 12/01/03.

# AIRCRAFT REFUELING/ MAINTENANCE AREA

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## 437-007-1205 Aircraft Refueling/Maintenance Area.

- (1) The helicopter refueling and maintenance area must be located so personnel are not exposed to the hazards created by yarding and log handling activities.
- (2) Unauthorized personnel are not allowed to be within 50 feet of an active refueling operation or fueling equipment.
- (3) The refueling area must be posted with "NO SMOKING" signs.
- (4) The following are prohibited within 50 feet of the refueling area or refueling equipment:
  - (a) Smoking.
  - (b) Open flames.
  - (c) Exposed flame heaters.
  - (d) Flare pots.
  - (e) Open flame lights.
  - (f) Operating pre-heaters.
- (5) At least one or a combination of portable fire extinguishers must be provided for each refueling and maintenance area. The minimum ratings of portable fire extinguishers must be equivalent to:

Category	Helicopter Overall Length	Minimum Combined Rating
H-1	Up to but not including 50 ft.	4A-60B:C
H-2	From 50 ft. up to, but not including, 80 ft.	20A-120B:C
H-3	From 80 ft. up to, but not including, 120 ft.	40A-240B:C

**NOTE:** Helicopter overall length, includes the tail boom and the rotors fully extended.

- (6) Personnel in the refueling area must be trained to effectively use fire extinguishers.
- (7) All refueling personnel must be knowledgeable about the specific procedure to be followed for the aircraft being fueled.
- (8) Before starting the refueling operation:
  - (a) Refueling equipment and the refueling nozzle must be electrically bonded to the helicopter.

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**(b)** All bonding connections must be electrically and mechanically firm to clean unpainted metal parts.

**NOTE:** The use of conductive hose is not acceptable to accomplish this bonding.

**(9)** Helicopters using Jet A type fuel may be fueled with the engine(s) running.

**(10)** Helicopters using Jet B type fuel or aviation gasoline must not be fueled with the engine(s) running.

**(11)** To control spills:

**(a)** Self-closing nozzles or deadman controls must be used and they must not be blocked open.

**(b)** Nozzles must not be dragged along the ground.

**(c)** Pouring or gravity flow of fuel is not permitted from containers with a capacity of more than 5 gallons.

**(12)** When a spill creates a fire hazard, the refueling operation must be immediately stopped until a competent or authorized person determines that it is safe to resume the refueling operation.

**Stat. Auth.:** ORS 654.025(2) and 656.726(4).

**Stats. Implemented:** ORS 654.001 through 654.295.

**Hist:** OR-OSHA Admin. Order 5-2003, f. 6/02/03, ef. 12/01/03.