



US Forest Service Aviation TRAINING BULLETIN



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Subject: Aviation Training Requirements (Fire and Resource)

Distribution: All Aviation Activities

Discussion: Aviation training is an agency priority. In order to maintain a well-trained workforce that operates safely in a complex, hazard-filled environment, agency aviation users must be diligent in monitoring compliance with aviation training requirements.

Forest Service Line Officers, Unit Aviation Officers, Supervisors, Aviation Managers, Aviation Dispatchers, and other employees who use aircraft to accomplish agency missions shall satisfy minimum aviation training requirements. These aviation requirements are policy for both fire and non-fire (resource) personnel and those that manage and are responsible for oversight of programs that use aviation resources to accomplish program objectives.

Forest Service Policy FSM 5703.3 *All personnel involved in aviation operations must receive the appropriate training and meet the experience requirements specified in the fire and aviation management qualifications in FSH 5709.16, the Forest Service Fire and Aviation Qualifications Guide, the Interagency Wildland Fire Qualifications System Guide, and/or the Interagency Aviation Training Guide, prior to participating in aviation missions, operations, or projects.*

In an effort to provide oversight of these requirements, the National Aviation Training Program is planning quality assurance reviews for specific Regions and the Washington Office, in hopes of fostering a higher-level enforcement of compliance. Furthermore, it is imperative that our Forest Service personnel continue to improve our training standards and maintain their aviation training compliance as we move into our field and fire seasons.

For additional information or questions please contact your Regional Aviation Training Representative or Victoria Leshuk, National Aviation Training Program Manager, Victoria.leshuk@usda.gov.

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