



**To: Gary L Sterling
Team Leader, Aviation Medical Protocol Criteria Plan**

April 22, 2009

**/s/ Paul Bell
From: Paul Bell
Chair**

Subject: Task Order 0904-02, Task Group, Aviation Medical Protocol Criteria Plan

The PNWCG Steering Committee establishes this Task Group to develop a medical protocol plan to guide field personnel in making a decision of when it is appropriate to call for a helicopter with hoist capabilities to extract injured fire fighters. It is recognized that this is an Incident Management Issue however this team is charged with reviewing the entire medical process leading to the dispatch of aviation resources to identify potential shortcomings.

The plan should include at a minimum:

- A clear understanding of when it is necessary to call for aviation resources.
- A list of information that must be supplied on initial contact with the search and rescue dispatch so the correct aviation resource can be dispatched.
- A list of Regional contacts who must be informed if aviation resources are requested.

The steering committee encourages this team to work with Fire Operations Safety, Type 1 Incident Management, and Type 1 Medical Unit Leaders for operational considerations for this task order. Other expertise from the medical community may also be needed for this effort.

The Aviation Working Team (AWT), through Task Order 0810-06, has established the minimum criteria that must be met by a vendor, government, or military aircraft so they can be a viable resource in an emergency. Using those minimum criteria, the AWT compiled a file of all entities in the Pacific Northwest meeting the minimum hoisting criteria. That information was condensed into a one page brief that describes where the resources are located, and how to order them in an emergency. The PNWCG Steering Committee would like to have the information compiled by the AWT combined with the efforts generated from this task order into one package that clearly outlines all aspects of medical extractions using helicopter hoist capability.

Due Date: July 2009.

If you have questions, please contact your SC liaison Ken Snell (503-804-9786)