



National Fire and Aviation Executive Board

MEMORANDUM

To: NICC
GACCs

From: National Fire and Aviation Executive Board

Date: April 11, 2006

Subject: Helicopter Cost Efficiency Program

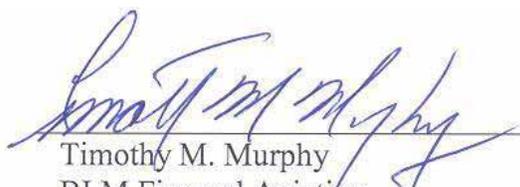
The Interagency Helicopter Operations Steering Committee has sponsored development of the Helicopter Cost Efficiency Program. Simply put, this tool allows the ordering individual/unit to specify the helicopter operating environment in terms of expected density altitude, mission, and loads. When the coordination center enters this data into the program, it identifies, by price priority, those Type 1 or Type 2 helicopters that will meet the user's requirements. This system has promise on two major fronts: better matching of helicopter with mission, and cost containment.

A great deal of effort from the helicopter community and others has gone into this effort. The National Interagency Aviation Council (NIAC) has endorsed this effort. The NFAEB concurs with this and directs the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and the Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs) to use this program for the 2006 Field Season for beta testing. This testing will help identify the utility of the program and any necessary adjustments that will need to be made when the program is evaluated after the 2006 Season.

The points of contact for this program will be either, Glenn Johnston, 387-5634 or Brad Gibbs at 387-5182.



Marc Rounsaville
USDA-Forest Service
Deputy Director of Fire and Aviation
Management



Timothy M. Murphy
BLM Fire and Aviation
Director (Acting)



Lyle Carlisle
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Fire Director



Brian McManus
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Fire Director (Acting)



Edy Williams-Rhodes
National Park Service
Chief, Division of Fire & Aviation
Management



Don Artley
National Association of State Foresters
Fire Director