

NFG APPENDIX 8

HELICOPTER OPERATIONS HANDBOOK

NIGHT NVG HELICOPTER

Go/No-Go Checklist

If any box in the right hand column is unchecked (item not accomplished), the entire flying operation is no-go.

A checkmark inside the box on the right column means all facets of the required statement are accomplished. An NA placed near the box indicates that this does not apply to non-wildfire single aircraft helicopter operations.

All required personnel in night operations, as depicted in Section 46.11, shall meet the personnel qualifications and training specified in Section 46.12. Additionally, they shall maintain annual currency and should conduct bi-monthly drills.

Requirements for Night Operations

	CK	
1. Night flying helicopter organization established (46.11, Exhibits 1,2, and 3)		
2. Helicopters have confirmed radio contact with ground crews Section 46.14, ex. 1)		
3. All fireline reconnaissance missions have been approved by the Incident Commander (46.1)		NA
a. A helitack crewmember shall be aboard		NA
b. Personnel (other than "a" above) carried during night flights shall be approved by the Incident Commander or designated representative		NA
4. Helibase located in an area of low uniform light intensity (except night helitorch)		NA
5. Fireline crews informed that drops are scheduled		NA
6. Essential support equipment and personnel are briefed, in place and operational before dark. (Helibase Manager, TOLC, Deck Coordinator, Parking Tender)		
7. Access paths cordoned off to eliminate the possibility of curious bystanders or livestock wandering onto the helibase		
8. Strict routes for personnel working under main rotor, for water tender, and fuel trucks are established		
9. Parking Tender has night landing wands (except night helitorch)		NA
10. Lighting for night operations established:		
a. Touchdown location		<u>NA</u>
b. Flight hazards marked when possible		
c. Night helitorch lighting kit installed and operational, if applicable		
11. Public address system available and operating to warn off unauthorized personnel		
12. Reconnaissance flight conducted in accordance with Sec. 46.1		

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13. Flight routs to and from fire area, check-in points, potential drop areas and Helibase or helispot traffic patterns mapped and posted		
14. Takeoff and Landing Coordinator is equipped with NVG (except night helitorch)		NA
15. Parking Tender has positive communication with all helicopters in use (Sec. 46.14)		
16. Only one Helibase established per zone established for night operation		NA
17. Each helicopter equipped with an assigned, unique visual night identification device for ground-to-air recognition (NA single aircraft)		
18. External load mirror removed or covered		
19. All NVG users have spare battery(ies) on person		
20. Airspace restriction established (FAR 91.137)		

The following personnel shall sign prior to each night's operation:

Prepared by _____
Helibase Manager _____
 Date/Time

Reviewed by _____
Night Air Attack Supervisor _____
(NA for non-wildfire single aircraft helitorch) Date/Time

Reviewed by _____
Pilot _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____
_____ _____

Approved by _____
Class I Fire Boss/Incident Commander _____
(Multiple Operations) Date/Time
Class II Fire Boss/Incident Commander
(Single Helicopter Operations)
Burn Boss (Non-wildfire helitorch)