

Section 7025
(October 2002)

7025	Air Operations
7025.1	Policy
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AIR OPERATIONS**7025****(October 2002)****POLICY****7025.1****(October 2002)**

Air attack and helitack base locations and aircraft deployment is designed to reduce the number of large fires through the capability of airtankers and helicopters to place retardants and personnel at the fire scene before ground forces arrive and to support these forces.

Aircraft initial response criteria have been established to deliver retardants to the fire scene (on state responsibility lands) within 20 minutes of dispatch and to provide follow-up aircraft as needed. This response criteria plan was developed to include the use of USFS and BLM aircraft.

Reference: [8340.1.1 CDF Aviation Management Handbook](#)

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT USE OF
STATE AIRCRAFT****7025.2****(October 2002)**

State aircraft may be used to assist local government entities without reimbursements, when it is determined that a fire is likely to exceed the local governments ability to control. Applicability will be based on the following guidelines:

- Resources may be made available prior to the declaration of a "local emergency".
- Resources should only be used for the time of the emergency. This is defined as the period of assistance needed to prevent imminent or perceived imminent threat to life and property.
- The closest resource concept shall apply.
- Federal aircraft are not a part of this mutual aid agreement and are billed as assist by hire rates.
- Refer to Local Government access to CDF Resources (Seven Points of Light) [7001.9.1](#)

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[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)