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National Wildfire
Coordinating Group



Aerial Supervision ATGS Refresher Training Exercise

PMS 505b

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This document supplements the *NWCG Standards for Aerial Supervision*, PMS 505,
<https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/505>.

ATGS Refresher Training Exercise

The Goal of the ATGS refresher training exercise is to ensure the safety of aviation operations is retained as it pertains to the ATGS position. The ATGS will demonstrate the following fundamental ATGS skills:

- FTA entry.
- Determine and assign FTA altitudes for incoming aircraft.
- Initial aircraft briefings.
- Maintain vertical and horizontal aircraft separation.
- Communication with air and ground resources.
- Situational awareness.

An ATGS Final Evaluator utilizing the Aerial Supervision Mission Evaluation form will evaluate this exercise.

Exercise Objective: Demonstrate Fundamental ATGS Skills Within 15 Minutes.

Exercise Elements and Role Players: IA fire with the following resources:

- Dispatcher
 - On scene:
 - IC.
 - One engine crew.
 - One hand crew.
 - En route:
 - 2 helicopters.
 - 2 airtankers.

Exercise Sequence:

ATGS receives aircraft dispatch form with resource information and altimeter setting.

ATGS launches from home base and establishes contact with dispatch.

ATGS initiates FTA entry procedures 12 miles from incident.

ATGS arrives on scene, makes contact with IC, and establishes objectives and priorities. Fire elevation is indicated on sand table.

Enroute aircraft (airtankers and helicopters) check in at 12 miles.

ATGS provides initial briefing.

Aircraft arrive on scene; ATGS provides tactical briefing based on incident objectives.

ATGS coordinates helicopter work and retardant drops.

ATGS ensures line clearance during helicopter and airtanker operations.

ATGS solicits feedback from IC regarding helicopter and airtanker operations.

ATGS gives departure briefing or additional instructions to airtankers and helicopters.

End of exercise.

Exercise Conclusion: ATGS and Evaluator Debrief Utilizing the Aerial Supervision Mission Evaluation Form.