

Emergency Helicopter Extraction Short-Haul

"Taking care of our own."



What Is FS Emergency Helicopter Extraction Short-haul

The movement of an injured or ill person, by a specially configured helicopter, who could have an increased likelihood of an injury progression and/or mortality due to a significant time delay.

WHY FS SHORT-HAUL?

It will create a standardization of procedures and equipment for all interested parties.

Gives agencies an additional tool to enhance emergency medevacs/extraction for personnel.

Greatly improves response time in emergency situations thereby increasing survivability of those ill or injured.

National Short-Hall Sub- Operations Committee AKA- Ops. Group

Chair- Dave Crumb
Co-Chair- Curtis Coots

Voting Members

- ▣ R1- Crumb
- ▣ R2- Paxson
- ▣ R3- McDonald
- ▣ R4- Markason
- ▣ R5- Coots
- ▣ R6- Scholl
- ▣ R8- Finley
- ▣ R9- Edge

Outside Expertise

The heavy hitters:

- ▣ Gary Brennan- OAS Inspector Pilot with a wealth of Short-Haul experience.
- ▣ Scott Guenther- Park Service Short-Haul Program Operations.
- ▣ Steve Frick- USFS, LE&I Short-Haul Program Operations.
- ▣ Jennifer Symmonds- USFS Medical Director.
- ▣ Gary Morgan- Safety Enterprise Team

Knowns:

- ▣ Evaluation in 2015, potentially two bases.
- ▣ Implementation will begin in 2016.
- ▣ B3 A-Star is the model that will be used during evaluation the period.
- ▣ 250 foot haul line as the base.
- ▣ There will be a spotter on board the helicopter.
- ▣ There will be an attendant on the line.
- ▣ EMT Basic will be the qualification recommended for the attendant.

Knowns cont'd:

- Short-Haulers will not have dual roles as rappellers.
- Costs of equipment and training for short-haul and medical will be covered by WO.
- Minimum crew size will be seven, (10+ desired).
- Three EMT's/crew minimum recommended (five+ desired).

Current Practices

- Initial push was by IHCs' and the IMTs'. Strong desire & need for extraction plans that involve helicopter support.
- Regions attempting to start programs without National oversight.
- Helitack and IHC crews have developed their own procedures and purchased EHE/Short-haul equipment.
- Some IMT's have developed extrication plans on their own without oversight.

The Need To Standardize

The absence of a prescribed process for Emergency Helicopter Extraction has the potential to result in an unsafe & hastily improvised rescue operation.

A guidebook and plan will be implemented similar to the National Rappel Operations Guide, DOI Short-haul Handbook, and LE&I Helicopter Short-haul Guide.

Current short-haul programs lack standardization.

Current Product Users

- Utility companies (thousands per day)
- USFS Law Enforcement (8,200 in one year)
- National Park Service
- Military
- Local Agencies
 - LE & Fire



Configuration is different for type of resource needs/wants

Key Points

- ▣ Only a limited number of Exclusive Use Bases would have FS Short-haul capabilities as a resource for emergency medevac missions.
- ▣ Used only to extract injured person(s) after a thorough risk assessment has been completed deeming short-haul as the appropriate method to get patient to definitive care.
- ▣ Transportation of injured person by FS Short-haul will be from extrication site to nearest suitable helispot or appropriate ground unit.

Who Is FS Short-haul Applicable To?

- Local agency personnel performing all types of fieldwork
- Initial attack fire suppression personnel
- IMTs' providing large fire support

Required Personnel

- Short-Haul Spotter (on board helicopter)
- Short-Haul Attendant (on the line and to rig patient for extraction, EMT Basic qualified).
- Short-Haulers
- Pilot qualified to Short-Haul Flight Test Standards.



Equipment Evaluation (on going)



EQUIPMENT COMPONENTS

Belly Band System. In accordance with FAA regulation: (CFR Title 14) **Part 133.35 Class D** provides for human cargo to be carried, as long as a secondary back up system is used in conjunction with the cargo hook, in the event of an inadvertent primary hook release, the “belly band” will support the long line and human load.



Short-Hauler and Spotter Harness



Government Furnished Short-haul Line (250' standard)



Types of Extraction Devices

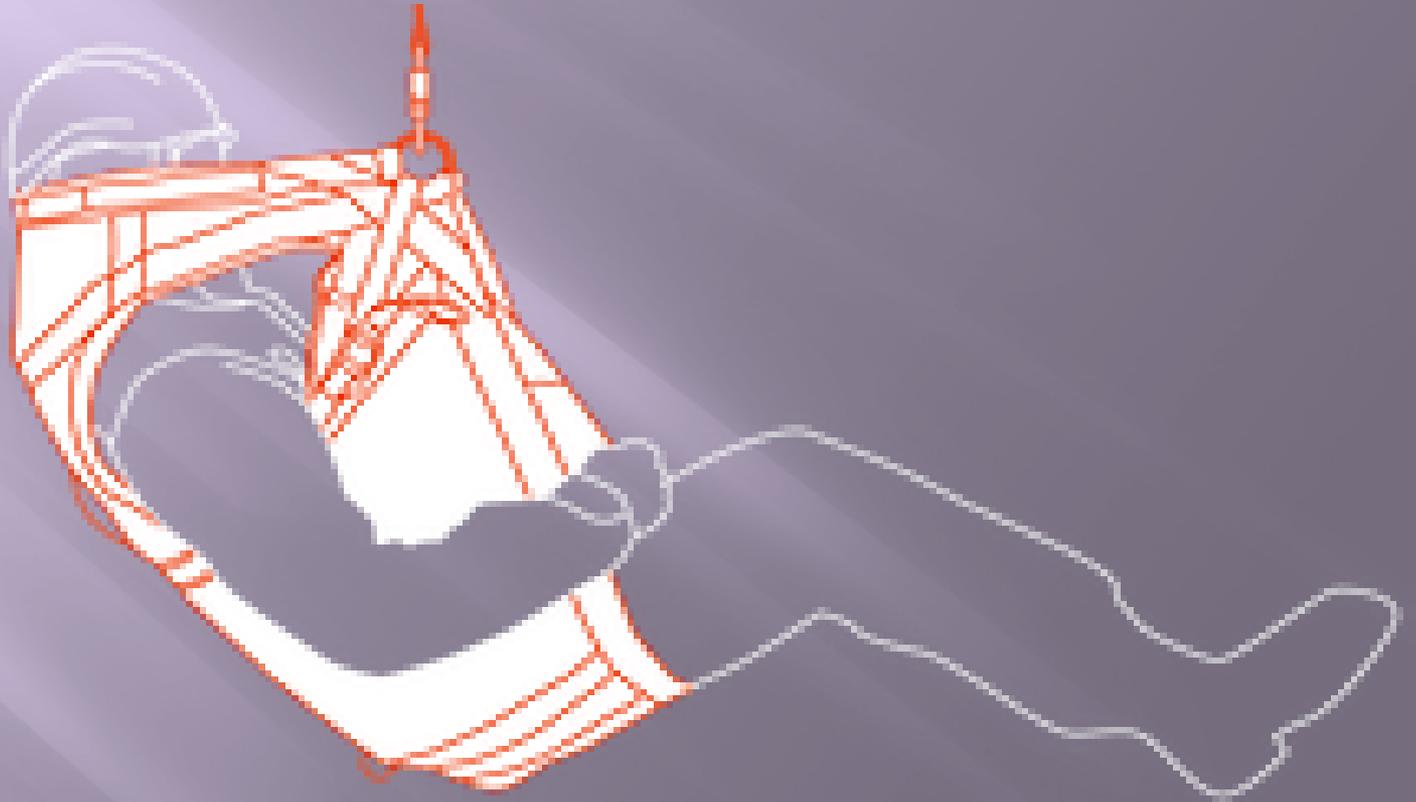
TRAVERSE RESCUE
STRETCHER



BAUMAN BAG



Extraction Devices Continued



Wrap Up

- ▣ 2015 Evaluation period begins.
- ▣ 2016 Implementation begins.
- ▣ 2016 R1 Type 3 contract solicitation.
- ▣ 2014 R1 needs to determine needs and location for future programs.

Flathead County Sheriff (Two Bear Air) Air 1





- ▣ Flathead County Sheriff's Office and Two Bear Air have partnered to operate a Bell 429 rescue helicopter, born of a philanthropic partnership between Flathead County and Mike Goguen, of Whitefish.

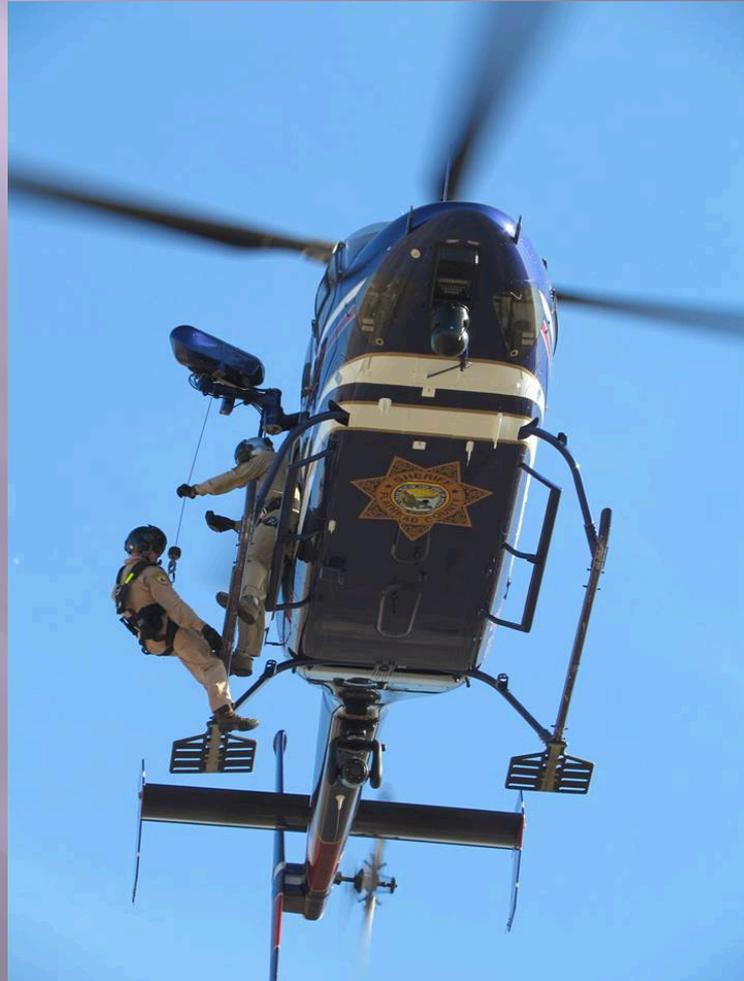
Year Around Coverage Based in Kalispell



Not to be ordered for standby,
just specific missions



Standard crew has 1 paramedic
and 1 EMT (hoist operator)



280 Foot Hoist Line



- ▣ Ordered through Flathead County Sheriff.
- ▣ No cost for rescue operations.
- ▣ Cruise speed 155 knots.
- ▣ Fuel range 320 knots.
- ▣ Twin engine, Cat. A performance up to approximately 4,000'.
- ▣ Good high altitude performance.

Specific Capabilities

- ▣ Night Vision (Aviation Specialties Unlimited – leaders in night vision technology),
- ▣ Aero Computers (mission management and mapping systems).
- ▣ FLIR (thermal imaging, night vision, and infrared camera systems).
- ▣ Goodrich rescue hoist.

Order for extraction capability.
Still need to order ambulance or
air med.

