



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Aerial Apparatus Operations**
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PURPOSE

These guidelines shall give direction for Jackson Hole Fire/EMS (JHFEMS) aerial apparatus operations at emergencies. These guidelines at no time will supersede the manufacturers' recommended practices for each specific apparatus.

SECTION I – GENERAL

1. Members shall operate vehicles with due regard for the safety of all persons.
2. The chock blocks provided with various pieces of apparatus shall be utilized whenever the apparatus is parked, except within the stations.
3. Driver shall perform a safety walkaround the vehicle prior to driving. Driver should start the vehicle and then perform a 360 around the vehicle looking for open compartment doors, loose equipment, or any hazards with the vehicle or surroundings.
4. When backing apparatus, a designated backer shall serve as a guide to assist the driver and ensure a safe backing operation. (See JHFEMS Backing Apparatus Protocol – Division 9, Article 1).
5. Members shall utilize defensive driving techniques.
6. Members shall utilize extreme caution when approaching and traversing street intersections.
7. Seat belts shall be worn by all members when vehicles are in motion.
8. Emergent Driving will follow JHFEMS Apparatus Ops, Driving Protocol (Division 9, Article 5)

SECTION II – DRIVING

1. Aerial apparatus will only respond if toned by the Emergency Dispatchers or upon the request of the Incident Commander (IC) and/or Duty Officer responding.
2. Except in Extenuating circumstances, aerial apparatus will only be driven and operated by qualified personnel and approved by the Station Captain. It will be the responsibility of the Captain to make sure the Chiefs as well as station subordinates know who is qualified to drive apparatus.

SECTION III – APPARATUS PLACEMENT

Unless the aerial is the first apparatus on scene, they will be placed as advised by the IC, Group Supervisor or Operations.

Apparatus Placement Considerations:

1. The apparatus shall be parked on concrete whenever possible. Driveways are not adequate as they are typically only 4" thick.
2. Dirt surfaces, unless directed by Ops or the IC, are to be avoided. It is a watchout to set up on dirt. This applies to highly packed, condensed, or frozen dirt! Understanding that at times it is imperative, however, to do so, it accepts a risk that can be mediated.
3. Be certain to clear manhole covers, storm sewers, or any concrete interruptions.
4. Unless it is clearly evident that the apparatus will have to be short jacked or straight jacked, the aerial will park with enough space for both outriggers to be deployed on a concrete surface.
5. The apparatus will be placed where, ideally, the chassis can be leveled so the angle of the turntable does not exceed a 5% grade, so load reductions of the platform are not required.
6. Aerial apparatus shall be responsible for their own water supply unless advised otherwise by Ops or IC and should be placed where they have access.
7. Wheel chocks will always be placed immediately after parking the apparatus in its desired location.

SECTION IV – OUTRIGGER AND LADDER USAGE

1. Outrigger deployment:
 - i. A qualified operator shall be responsible for deployment of outriggers.
 - ii. The operator will not begin setup of the outriggers and ladder until they are certain no person is in physical contact with the apparatus within the deployment area.
 - iii. Footpads will always be used for the outriggers.
 - iv. If the area where the outriggers are to be placed is icy, appropriate actions (sand or ice plates) shall take place before setting up.
 - v. Once the outriggers have been placed and leveled, safety pins will be put in each jack.
2. Ladder Deployment and Retraction:
 - i. The aerial ladder shall not be used within 25 feet of electrical transmission lines. The only exception to this would be by the direction of the IC and only in life-or-death situations. In that event, time permitting: the power company shall be contacted to discontinue service to those lines during the emergency.
 - ii. The ladder should not be operated with winds over 30 mph. Wind reduces all limits.
 - iii. A qualified person shall remain at the turntable whenever the ladder is in use. Use of the secondary controls in the platform will not be permitted without a person at the turntable.
 - iv. The ladder will not be taken out of the cradle until platform occupants are secured with ladder belts and other appropriate PPE.
 - v. The ladder shall never be extended with occupants on any ladder section.
 - vi. The ladder is never to be extended over the side of the apparatus where outriggers are not fully deployed.
 - vii. The person at the turntable is responsible for knowing the limitations of the platform.
 - a) Weight restrictions of the bucket with and without flowing water.
 - b) Ice that may accumulate on the ladder should be addressed immediately.
 - c) Allowable areas of rotation when apparatus is short or straight jacked.
 - d) Allowable areas of rotation when apparatus is being used for negative angle operations.
 - e) Weight restrictions must be considered if apparatus is placed on a slope greater than 5%.
 - f) Any- body obstructions (open generator doors, extended spotlights, etc.) that may inhibit platform movement.

- viii. Aerial platforms are self-supporting and should never be rested on building ledges, roofs, etcetera. This will not increase weight loading capabilities and may crease or damage the ladder.
- ix. The ladder will never be retracted without the water way drain valve being checked to ensure that it is open. Aerial waterway drains will remain in open position unless the waterway is being used.

SECTION V – USE OF STACKED TIPS

1. Located in the aerial platform the tip can easily be installed by unplugging the sensor wiring and threading the tips on after removing the automatic nozzle.
2. Protect the nozzle not being used by placing it on the holder in the aerial platform.
3. Common uses for smooth bore stacked tips are extended reach, penetration, and the greatest advantage is Gallons Per Minute (GPM).
4. Better streams can be produced with better water sources, two water sources may be needed to create optimal streams.
5. 80 PSI nozzle pressure may be difficult to achieve with local hydrants.
6. Automatic nozzle will be left in place for normal emergency response.
7. The automatic nozzle will create a good stream even with an inadequate water source.
8. 20 pounds of residual pressure (from water supply) should always gauge ability to produce GPM's.
9. Do not hydro mine surfaces when training. Damage to hillsides & parking areas will need to be mitigated.

SECTION VI – RETURN TO SERVICE

1. Checking the status of the breathing air cylinder should be included in the return to service duties of the aerial apparatus.
2. Only those properly trained on the refilling of breathing air cylinders can take part in this duty.
3. Oiling of the waterway shall occur after each use on an emergency scene. See JHFEMS Aerial Device Cleaning protocol (Division 9, Article 8).
4. The Truck should be stored after each use only when a thorough check has been achieved to ensure readiness for service.

Electronic Operation's Manual

