



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

Title: **Aerial Apparatus Operations Guidelines**

Division: 9

Article: 4

Revised: 4/26/2021

Pages: 4

Approved by: _____

Brady Hansen, Fire Chief

PURPOSE

These guidelines shall give direction for aerial apparatus operations at fire emergencies. These guidelines at no time will supersede the manufacturers recommended practices for each specific apparatus.

SCOPE

The policy applies to all Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Members.

GENERAL POLICY

1. All members will participate in an annual Emergency Vehicle Operations training. Annual training will be documented and placed in each Member's personnel file.
2. The chock blocks provided with various pieces of apparatus shall be utilized whenever the apparatus is parked, except within the stations.
3. Members driving Fire/EMS vehicles shall observe the Basic Speed Rule and/or [WY Stat § 31-5-106](#) (never exceed a speed which is safe, reasonable and proper for existing conditions).
4. When backing apparatus, a designated backer shall serve as a guide to assist the driver and insure a safe backing operation. (See Division 9, Article 1).
5. Members driving Fire/EMS vehicles shall utilize defensive driving techniques.
6. Fire/EMS Members driving emergency vehicles shall use extreme caution when approaching and traversing street intersections in accordance with those guidelines found in this document.
7. Fire/EMS Members driving emergency vehicles shall use extreme caution on approach to the emergency scene.
8. Fire/EMS Members driving emergency vehicles shall utilize warning devices in accordance with those guidelines found in this document.
9. Seat belts shall be worn by all personnel in Fire/EMS apparatus.

SECTION I – DRIVING

1. Aerial apparatus will only respond if toned by the Emergency dispatchers or upon request of the Incident Commander and/or Battalion Chief responding.
2. Except in extenuating circumstances, aerial apparatus will only be driven and operated by personnel qualified and approved by their station captain. It will be the responsibility of that captain to make sure the Chiefs as well as his or her station subordinates know who is qualified to drive the apparatus.

SECTION II – APPARATUS PLACEMENT

Unless the aerial is the first on scene apparatus, they will be placed as advised by the IC or Operation

s.

A. Considerations:

1. The apparatus shall be parked on concrete whenever possible. Driveways are not adequate as they are typically only 4" thick. Dirt surfaces, unless directed by Ops or the IC, are to be avoided.
- n. Be certain to clear manhole covers, storm sewers, or any other concrete interruptions.
111. 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.
- IV. 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.
- V. Aerial Apparatus shall be responsible for their own water supply unless advised otherwise by the Ops or IC and should be placed where they have access to a water source.
- VI. Wheel Chocks will always be placed immediately after parking the apparatus in its desired location.

SECTION III- OUTRIGGER AND LADDER USAGE

1. The aerial ladders 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 course of the emergency.
2. The ladder should not be operated with winds above 30 mph. Wind reduces all limits.
3. Aerial water way drains will remain in the open position unless the waterway is being used.
4. Outrigger Deployment
 - A. A qualified operator shall be responsible for the deployment of the outriggers.
 - B. The Operator will not begin set up of the outriggers and ladder until they are certain no person is in physical contact of the apparatus within the deployment area.
 - C. Foot pads will always be used for the outriggers.
 - D. If the area where the outriggers are to be placed is icy, appropriate actions (sand or ice plates) shall take place before setting up.
 - E. Once they outriggers have been placed and leveled, safety pins will be put in each jack.
5. Ladder Deployment and Retraction
 - A. A qualified person will 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.
 - B. The ladder will not be taken out of the cradle until platform occupants are secured with ladder belts and other appropriate PPE

- C. The ladder shall never be extended with occupants on any ladder section.
- D. The ladder is never to be extended over the side of the apparatus where outriggers are not fully extended and fully deployed.
- E. The person at the turntable is responsible for knowing the limitations of the platform.
 - I. weight restrictions of the bucket with and without flowing water.
 - a. Ice that may accumulate on the ladder should be addressed immediately.
 - II. allowable areas of rotation when apparatus is short of straight jacked
 - III. allowable areas of rotation when apparatus is being used for negative angle operations
 - IV. weight restrictions that must be considered if apparatus is placed on a slope greater than 5%
 - v. any- body obstructions (open generator doors, extended spotlights, etc) that may inhibit platform movement
- F. Aerial platforms are self-supporting and should never be rested on building ledges, roofs, etc. This will NOT increase weight loading capabilities and may actually crease the ladder.
- G. The ladder will never be retracted without the water way drain valve being checked to ensure that it is open.

SECTION IV – USE OF STACKED TIPS

- a) 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.
- b) Protect the nozzle not being used by placing it on the holder in the aerial platform.
- c) Common uses for the smooth bore stacked tips are extended reach, penetration and the greatest advantage is Gallons Per Minute.
- d) Better streams can be produced with better water sources, two water sources may be needed to create optimal streams.
- e) 80 psi nozzle pressure may be difficult to achieve with local hydrants.
- f) Automatic nozzle will be left in place for normal emergency response.
- g) The automatic nozzle will create a good stream even with an inadequate water source.
- h) 20 pounds of residual pressure (from water supply) should always gauge ability to produce gpm,s

- i) It is a WATCH OUT to set up in the dirt! This applies to highly packed, condensed, or frozen dirt! Understanding that at times it is imperative, however, to do so it is accepting a risk that can be mediated.
- j) DO not hydro mine surfaces when training. Damage to hillsides, parking areas will need to be mitigated.
- k) The truck should be stored after each use only when a thorough check has been achieved to ensure readiness for service.

SECTION V-RETURN TO SERVICE

1. Checking the status of the breathing air cylinder should be included in the return to service duties of aerial apparatus.
2. Only those properly trained on the re-filling of breathing air cylinders can take part of these operations
3. Oiling of the waterway shall occur after each use on an emergency scene.