



Technology & Development Status Report

Aviation Program

FY 2009



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PROJECT: **BAER Helo Operations** **CENTER:** **SDTDC**
Number: 3E31P03 **PROGRAM LEADER:** Carl Bambarger
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PROJECT OBJECTIVES

There is currently no national standard (outside the general guidelines in the IHOG and some older Tech Tip bulletins) set forth for the specific operational procedures and equipment to be used for the aviation support of BAER projects. Currently, aviation personnel are using a wide variety of equipment and procedures that range from standard helicopter equipment from fire caches to untested and unapproved equipment. Field personnel do not have a central source for finding approved methods and equipment to be used in BAER aviation operations. Many aviation personnel are performing unfamiliar missions relying largely upon "word of mouth" direction that has been passed down from project to project and using equipment designed for purposes other than the task at hand.

The overall goal is to develop a national standard for the specific equipment items to be used and operational procedures to be used in support of BAER operations. The information would be published for field use and the equipment would be stocked in a cache. A commercial source list could also be developed.

Changes to objectives: Changes to BAER objectives and funding, as well as advances in the understanding of postfire ecosystem regeneration, have led to rapid evolution in methods and equipment. Information dissemination in the form of Tech Tips will facilitate more rapid adoption of evolving techniques.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Draft Helimulching Tech Tip distributed for review March 2004
- Tech tip submitted for publication October 2004
- Sample Project Plans described in the Tech Tip are available at the SDTDC Aviation project home page:
- BAER Helo Operations: Sample project plans

Output:

Planned: Operational procedures
Specified equipment and sources

Actual: