



**National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute**  
Managed By The U.S. Forest Service

3265 East Universal Way, Tucson, Arizona 85756  
Phone 520-799-8787 • Fax 520-799-8785 • [www.nafri.gov](http://www.nafri.gov)

**To:** Aerial Wildland Firefighting Aircraft Vendors

**Date:** September 21, 2011

**Subject: National Aerial Firefighting Academy (NAFA) Course Announcement**

The National Aerial Firefighting Academy (NAFA) is a training course for personnel directly involved in the aerial suppression/retardant delivery on wildland fires. The intent is to provide participants with information needed to safely and effectively work together in the congested airspace over a wildland fire. The course provides a look into the "other pilot's" job, which provides an important perspective needed to achieve the same goal; safe and effective fire suppression.

This letter is to inform you of this course session being held at the National Advanced Fire and Resource Institute (NAFRI) in Tucson, Arizona, January 10 - 13, 2011. The course starts on **Tuesday January 10 at 0800 and will go through noon on Friday January 13.**

**Desired target group**

- Airtanker pilots, including water scooping and Modular Airborne Firefighting Systems (MAFFS) pilots
- Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT) pilots
- Type I and Type II Helicopter pilots
- Very Large Airtanker pilots
- Agency Air Tactical Group Supervisors
- Agency Leadplane pilots
- Agency Dispatchers

**Course Objectives**

- Enhance aviation firefighting effectiveness and safety by integrating tactics, operations, and experience into aerial firefighting training. To educate both agency and contract personnel using expertise from both sectors.
- Gain a basic understanding of the current aviation program, dispatching system, fire terminology, fire behavior and the Incident Command System aviation organization.
- Assess personal conditions environment and comprehend the application of risk management in the daily use of aviation resources.
- Identify the concepts and tools that could be useful in improving job performance.
- Increase awareness of Human Factors involved in aerial firefighting.
- Implement Crew Resource Management principles during the fire simulation exercise.
- Recognize and improve skills, strategies and techniques to aid in the application of retardant or foam and define coverage levels of retardant application.
- Learn new skills in low level flying, tactics and strategies, fire size ups and target identification.
- Recognize opportunities and impediments involving mixed types of aircraft.

There is no tuition fee for this course, class size is limited and priorities are given to vendors who have contracts with federal agencies. If you have pilots employed with your company that would benefit from this training, submit a nomination form for each person to NAFRI by November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011; attention Donna Kreiensieck, NAFA Course Coordinator.

Each participant will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the course.

Please submit the attached nomination form by November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The fields with the \*\*\*\* are the only fields that need to be filled out.

You may email this form to [dkkreiensieck@fs.fed.us](mailto:dkkreiensieck@fs.fed.us), or fax to 520-799-8785, please put "NAFA Course" in the subject line and attach completed nomination form(s). **Please provide direct contact information (email address) for the nominee**, so we may send information directly to the student from NAFRI. Mailings routed through a company address may not be received by the participant in time to meet deadlines.

Additional information is available on our web site; [http://nafri.gov/pages/description\\_nafa.htm](http://nafri.gov/pages/description_nafa.htm)  
Nearby Hotel listings and maps are available at: <http://www.nafri.gov/pages/locationandlogistics.htm>

If you have any questions concerning this course, please contact Donna Kreiensieck, Course Coordinator at (520) 799-8745, email; [dkkreiensieck@fs.fed.us](mailto:dkkreiensieck@fs.fed.us). We look forward to having you at NAFRI.



For  
MERRIE M. JOHNSON  
Director