



## OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 09/2025

File: D01691

April 2025

### STATE AERIAL FIREFIGHTING AIRCRAFT END DATES

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#### Key Message

Aerial fire suppression aircraft will cease operations for the 2024/2025 southern bush fire season, as detailed below.

#### What's happening?

A managed approach has commenced to reduce the number of aerial fire suppression aircraft based on a detailed risk assessment process. End dates for aerial fire suppression aircraft are listed below. Some dates are dependent upon review of seasonal conditions and updates will be announced if necessary.

#### What does it mean for me?

Operational personnel should familiarise themselves with the dates on which aerial fire suppression services will cease.

Aerial firefighting mobilisation according to automatic and enhanced response zone procedures will continue as per each Region's High Threat Period until either the end of the High Threat Period or the cessation of the relevant aerial firefighting services, whichever occurs first; reference [Operational Circular 06/2025](#).

#### Further Information

Further information on aerial firefighting is available at [DFES Aviation Services](#), or by contacting Air Operations Manager [Adam Whitford](#)

**CRAIG WATERS AFSM**  
**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS**

| Target Audience: All Operational personnel involved in Bushfire Operations   |             |  |                   |     |
|--|-------------|--|-------------------|-----|
| A  | B           | C  | D                 | Vol |
| O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year. |             |  |                   |     |
| OC-09-25   | Issue Date: | Contact:   | Aviation Services |     |
| Page 1 of 1  | Apr 2025    | <a href="mailto:adam.whitford@dfes.wa.gov.au">adam.whitford@dfes.wa.gov.au</a> |                   |     |

## 2024-25 Southern Bushfire Season Aerial Firefighting Fleet

| End date          | Resource by base   | Type and capacity or radio callsign | Hours of operation  |
|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>JANDAKOT</b>   |  |                                     |                     |
| 14/04/2025        | 3 x SEAT/bomber  | AT 802 with 3,150 L                 | 0600 - 1800         |
| 14/04/2025        | Air Attack supervision <sup>R</sup>                                | Air Attack 1                        | <b>0630 – 1800*</b> |
| 14/04/2025        | Air Attack supervision <sup>FW</sup>                               | Air Attack 6                        | <b>0630 – 1800*</b> |
| 22/04/2025        | 2 x Helitaks   | Bell 214B with 2,650 L              | 0900 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | 2 x Helitaks   | Bell 214B with 2,650 L              | 0900 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | Air Attack supervision <sup>R</sup>                                | Air Attack 5                        | 0900 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | Air Attack supervision and utility (all hazards) helicopter        | Air Attack 7                        | 0900 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | Aerial Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) <sup>R</sup> | Air Intel                           | 0900 - 1800         |
| 25/09/2025        | Line scanner and strategic ISR <sup>FW</sup>                       | Firescan 125                        | 0900 - 1800         |
| <b>GINGIN</b>     |  |                                     |                     |
| 12/04/2025        | 2 x Helitaks   | Black Hawk with 4500 L              | 0900 - 1800         |
| <b>SERPENTINE</b> |  |                                     |                     |
| 30/04/2025        | 2 x Helitaks   | Black Hawk with 4500 L              | 0900 - 1800         |
| <b>BUNBURY</b>    |  |                                     |                     |
| 14/04/2025        | 3 x SEAT/bomber  | AT 802 with 3,150 L                 | <b>0630 – 1800*</b> |
| 14/04/2025        | Air Attack Supervision <sup>FW</sup>                               | Air Attack 2                        | <b>0630 – 1800*</b> |
| <b>BUSSELTON</b>  |  |                                     |                     |
| 31/03/2025        | 2 x Helitaks   | Bell 214B with 2,650 L              | 0900 - 1800         |
| 31/03/2025        | Large Air Tanker (LAT)   | C -130H with 15140 L                | 1000 - 1800         |
| 31/03/2025        | Birdog AAS <sup>FW</sup>   | Birdog 125                          | 1000 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | National Large Air Tanker  | C -130H with 15140 L                | 1000 - 1800         |
| 30/04/2025        | National Birdog AAS  | Bird Dog 123                        | 1000 - 1800         |
| <b>MANJIMUP</b>   |  |                                     |                     |
| 14/04/2025        | 2 x SEAT/bomber  | AT 802 with 3,150 L                 | <b>0630 – 1730*</b> |
| 14/04/2025        | Air Attack Supervision <sup>FW</sup>                               | Air Attack 3                        | <b>0630 – 1730*</b> |
| <b>ALBANY</b>     |  |                                     |                     |
| 14/04/2025        | 2 x SEAT/bomber  | AT 802 with 3,150 L                 | <b>0630 – 1730*</b> |
| 14/04/2025        | Air Attack Supervision <sup>FW</sup>                               | Air Attack 4                        | <b>0630 – 1730*</b> |

R: Rotary wing platform/helicopter **FW**: Fixed wing platform/aeroplane

\*Times in **BOLD** will all change to 0700 – 1730 on the 10/04/2025

**All aircraft locations are nominated bases and start times are based on state and regional risk assessments**