



Today's discussion is from the
Aviation Category.

HELICOPTER LANDING AREA SAFETY

The following points should be considered when operating around an unimproved landing site:

- Always wear your personal protective equipment (PPE) when working around an operating helicopter. (Eye, hearing, head)
- Always get the approval of a flight crewmember or the pilot before approaching an operating helicopter.
- Only approach and depart a helicopter as directed, in a slightly crouched position, and in full view of a crewmember. Keep in pilot's field of vision at all times.
- Never go near the tail of helicopters.
- When loading helicopters in uneven terrain, always approach and depart from the down slope (lower) side and do not hold equipment overhead..
- Remove or secure loose articles prior to working around an operating helicopter.
- Be aware of the dust abatement conditions of the landing area, as blowing dust, sand, or rocks caused by the helicopter's rotor wash can be hazardous.

References:

[Incident Response Pocket Guide](#), pgs 52, 54,55

[Fireline Handbook](#)

[Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide \(IHOG\)](#)

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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