



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 12, 2016

For more information contact:
Caley B. Fisher
caley.fisher@state.co.us, 720-391-1565

DFPC to Participate in Interagency Aerial Wildland Firefighting Training Event

DENVER — May 12, 2016— The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) will conduct helicopter-based fire suppression training May 13-19 near Longmont. The annual interagency wildland fire training exercise is designed to enhance interoperability with the firefighting agencies in advance of this year's wildfire season. The agencies involved include the U.S. Forest Service Region 2, Colorado Army National Guard 2nd Battalion, 135th Aviation Regiment, City of Boulder Fire Department-Wildland Division and the Bureau of Land Management.

"Collaborative efforts and planning to respond to wildfire is the foundation for effective firefighting," said DFPC Director, Mike Morgan. "Together we are training to ensure that we have the interagency coordination necessary to respond safely and effectively to the upcoming wildfire season."

Aircraft carrying Bambi buckets full of water will coordinate with ground crews to accurately place water for fire suppression on a simulated wildland fire. The goal is to provide a safe and realistic training environment for comprehensive training, practice, and development of skills for agency partners.

Residents and visitors in and near the vicinity of Button Rock Reservoir and Longmont Airport may notice helicopters in the area during daylight hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. as training exercises are conducted.

The event is open to media. Please contact DFPC Public Information Officer, Caley Fisher for more information about ground tours. Media interested in a potential flight opportunity must coordinate with Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer-2 Clayton Horney at [910-580-3952](tel:910-580-3952).

###