

Directing Retardant and Bucket Drops

- **Give general location** on incident to aerial resource— division/head/heel/flank.
- **Identify any flight hazards** to the ATGS, ASM/LP, airtanker pilot, or helicopter pilot.
- **Finalize location** with:
 - Clock position from pilot's perspective (see front cover).
 - Description of prominent landmarks.
 - Target position on slope – lower 1/3, upper 1/3, mid-slope, top of ridge, etc.
 - **Utilize signal mirrors/strobe lights whenever possible.**
 - Utilize panels or flagging to mark target as needed.
- **Describe target** from your location and explain mission. The pilot will decide drop technique and flight path.
- **Know the pilot's intentions** prior to the drop. Clear the area to avoid direct flights over ground personnel and equipment.
- **Give feedback** to pilot about drop accuracy. Be honest and constructive. Let pilot know if drop is early, late, uphill, downhill, on target, too high, too low, etc. Report low drops immediately.