HISTORY

The La Grande Air Tanker Base (LGD ATB) was established in 1973 to provide for the safe and efficient mobilization of Air tanker resources. As accessibility of terrain or the location of a wildfire can delay the deployment of ground resources, and as fire intensity increases, they become more difficult to control and costly to extinguish.

OPERATIONS

Aerial delivery of fire retardant is often the only available method to slow the growth of wildfires until ground firefighters can establish containment and/or control lines. Air tankers deliver fire retardant to wildfires, to reduce fire intensity and rate of spread to allow for more effective use of hand crews and engines.

Our mission at La Grande Air Tanker Base is to support wildland fire suppression efforts in the Pacific Northwest. We accomplish this, by providing safe, efficient and cost effective direction and operational guidance to aerial fire fighting resources while on the ground at the LGD ATB. The LGD ATB provides contracted air tankers and fire retardant services to the USDA Forest Service and its cooperators in Eastern Oregon, Washington, and Western Idaho.

CONTACT

If you're interested in learning more about what it takes to become a member of our crew, please contact us at 541-975-5492.