

FIREBOAT PILOT – 2023
(Class Code 5127)

TASK LIST

I. FIREBOAT OPERATION, GENERAL

1. Visually inspects for conditions which may affect boat operation by observing and/or noting things such as: objects floating in the water or loose objects on the deck in order to have them corrected by boat crew or to take them into consideration when operating the boat in order to avoid damage to the boat and/or equipment.
2. Analyze charts of the harbor when operating the fireboats by reviewing charts and navigation equipment for purposes such as determining the exact location of a destination, depth of water at a particular location, or alternate safe route if the most direct route cannot be used.
3. Verifies getting underway procedures have been completed by ensuring engineers have initiated startup procedures by switching from shore power to ship's power and pre-lube, and that the deckhands have disconnected land-based alternating current (A.C.) power lines and communication line and way is clear of obstructions and or vessels in order to have the boat ready to get underway before leaving the dock.
4. Activate electrical circuits when getting underway by closing switches such as annunciator, steering, communications systems, radios, depth sounder, Radio Direction Finder (RDF) and/or radar in order to have the boat ready for startup.
5. Checks position of transfer control when getting underway by turning the steering, transmission and throttle control switches proper operating position to ensure that controls will operate at the desired pilot station.
6. Directs the engineer of Fireboat 4 in the engine room by using an approved engine room communications system to start the engines when preparing to get underway in order to have the boat ready for operation.
7. Checks that the independent power sources such as batteries and/or generators are in working order prior to getting underway by observing power indicator light panel to ensure proper operation of the boat power.
8. Verifies that the boat is ready for operation prior to use by reading meters and gauges such as engine rpm, hydraulic pressure for propulsion and/or valve controls, oil pressure, and/or water temperature at the pilot station.

9. Directs the Fireboat Mate to cast off the mooring lines when getting to make way so that the boat is free to move.
10. Activates required navigation lights, such as port, starboard, masthead, and stern lights, by switching on lights when operating the fireboat after dark or when visibility is poor in order to avoid accidents and to comply with regulations.
11. Navigates boat to emergency or fire incident when dispatched by using the most direct route and taking into account U.S Coast Guard and Harbor Department rules regulating boat traffic in the harbor to comply safely and efficiently.
12. Analyzes and utilizes the radar, compass and electronic navigation equipment while vessel is underway, including in reduced visibility, in order to navigate boat to desire route.
13. Interprets data forward looking infrared (FLIR) and on radar screens at various scale settings in order to navigate the boat avoiding obstacles and other boat traffic when visibility is poor, when doing a search and rescue (SAR) operation, and firefighting.
14. Utilizes two-way radio and cell phone in compliance with LAFD and FCC regulations, deck speakers, or bullhorn to communicate with the fire station, other fireboats, other firefighting personnel, other vessels, Harbor patrol, Vessel Traffic System (VTS), and U.S. Coast Guard as necessary in order to receive and/or to provide information for the safe navigation of the vessel.
15. Utilizes mobile data computer (MDC) to check for dispatch information when responding to an emergency, by observing all pertinent information on the MDC to ensure proper dispatch information.
16. Utilizes automatic identification system (AIS) to check for vessel information, and closest point of approach (CPA), by checking the radar equipment or AIS display to prevent any collisions with other vessels while underway and responding to an emergency.

Operates large fireboats by:

17. ordering the engineer to start the pumps supplying water to the maneuvering jets and to start the hydraulic pump which operates the valves controlling the water supply for the maneuvering jets in order to have the jets ready for use when needed;
18. moving the boat by opening the bow and stern maneuvering jets, for example, moving the boat sidewise by opening both jets on the side opposite the desired direction of motion when maneuvering the vessel;

19. giving directions to the engineers using voice, telephone, loudspeaker, or setting “start” or “stop” on the engine telegraph dials at the pilot’s station to ensure proper communication when starting and stopping the drive engines;
20. operating the underwharf nozzle by moving toggle switches to direct the stream of water in the desired direction and elevation as required for a drill or as instructed by the Fire Captain during an emergency;
21. using Voith system or rudder, engine throttles, and maneuvering jets to perform maneuvers such as holding position while compensating for wind, tides, and recoil effect of pumping a high volume of water through one or more of the nozzles; doing a wharf sweep; or holding position while feeding water to land-based firefighters.
22. Makes a landing the boat at locations other than the station dock by reducing speed, turning to the correct heading, bringing the boat to the desired position, ordering the mooring lines and fenders attached, and stopping the engines when the boat is secure if they are not needed for purposes such as pumping water or generating power to ensure the boat is secured.
23. Rehouses boat when returning to quarters by turning boat so stern is toward the dock, reversing the engines, slowly backing in alongside the dock, and ordering the mooring lines attached.
24. Checks boat is connected to land-based A.C. power source and communication line when rehoused to ensure boat is secured.
25. Directs crew members to perform shutdown procedures such as turning off the engines and turns off running lights and radar, radio, and other communications systems when boat is rehoused in order to ensure boat is secured.
26. Records data about destinations, reason for boat operation, such as drill or incident, times of departure and arrival, time spent pumping, and condition of equipment by entering it into the pilot’s logs and/or other required records in order to have data available when needed and to meet requirements for record keeping.
27. Transcribes notes or verbal reports during relief of damaged or defective equipment which need repair or which have been removed for some reason in order to provide information for the pilot on the next shift and/or the Fire Captain.
28. Transports and supervises fireboat and crew out for practice and/or for scheduled drills, as directed by the Fire Captain, by vessel out with crew in order to maintain boat operating and handling skills at a high level.
29. Instructs Fireboat Mate to train new crew members and visitors in safety, such as safe methods of boarding the boat, safe use of steps and ladders, keeping away

from moving or pressurized equipment, and safe handholds when boarding the vessel, by having them complete a walkthrough in order to avoid accidents and to prevent injury.

II. FIREFIGHTING AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

30. Visually inspects during an emergency incident by looking at the crew to ensure they have donned proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that is required (i.e. Mustang PFD or Structure Turnouts) for the incident.
31. Directs the boat crew verbally to attach fittings, hose(s) and/or desired nozzle(s) to bulwark outlets or permanently mounted fixtures in order to have them available for firefighting when needed.
32. Directs an engineer on a large boat via communication channels to bring the pumps up to the desired operating pressure in order to have water available for firefighting when needed.
33. Directs Fireboat Mate on Fireboat 2 by radio to position the hydraulic basket for purposes such as transporting resources and/or firefighters to a fire scene, emergency evacuations, or retrieving floats after an incident.
34. Directs boat crew and/or firefighters from another unit who are temporarily assigned to the boat on how to position hoses and water in order to fight the fire effectively in accordance to the instructions given by the Captain in command at the scene.
35. Operates floodlights and/or spotlights by moving the switch lever to the correct position for desired light intensity, using the handle to control angle of the main spotlight, and/or maneuvering the boat to get light where it is needed by firefighters or rescue personnel to illuminate the surrounding area.
36. Directs boat crew on Fireboat 2 to put the skiff in the water by removing the straps and cover, bringing the hydraulic basket over the skiff, attaching the harness below the basket to the skiff, moving the skiff over the water, and lowering it into the water when needed during emergency and non-emergency operations.
37. Transports paramedics and equipment to the scene of an emergency and/or transports patients to an ambulance when needed using the fireboat in order to care for injured or ill persons.
38. Maneuvers boat in cooperation with helicopter pilot for hoisting injured or ill person from boat deck to helicopter by radio to ensure speedy transport.

39. Directs crew by radio in picking up injured or ill person, getting the person on board, stabilizing the patient, and provides emergency medical service, as needed, in order to care for the transport injured or ill person for treatment.
40. Rescues people by maneuvering the boat to get people on board as comfortably and efficiently as possible, and taking people to the appropriate landing when needed.
41. Surveys area of a toxic or hazardous spill while responding to an emergency to determine the area covered by the spill, type of material spilled, and direction of travel of the spill taking wind and tides into consideration by observing wind and tide gauges in order to provide information to the incident commander.
42. Places boom in position where necessary by getting the boom from the nearest location, attaching one end to a shore position with the assistance of land-based firefighters, and maneuvering the boat to drag the boom into position in order to contain toxic or hazardous spills.
43. Conducts dewatering operations, by directing crew when assisting a vessel that is taking on water in order to prevent further boat damage or sinking of the vessel.
44. Assists with the coordination and communication with other vessels by radio while SCUBA divers are deployed to ensure the safety of the divers.
45. Directs engineers to deploy the on-board fixed extinguisher system (FM-200) on Fireboat 2 in accordance with the U.S. Coast Guard compliance, when there's a fire in the engine room to help extinguish fire quickly.

III. FIRE PREVENTION

46. Observes boats, wharves, storage areas, and other waterfront structures for possible violations of fire safety regulations or other hazardous conditions when using the fireboat in other than emergency circumstances in order to investigate and/or report possible violations.
47. Inspects installations in the harbor area during routine inspections in compliance with City and Harbor Department regulations for fire safety and storage of toxic or hazardous substances either alone or accompanied by another member of the Fire Department.
48. Inspects tank ships during routine inspections by taking the fireboat to the designated marine oil terminal and checking for violations of Division 95 of the Los Angeles Fire Code and Joint Tankship Inspection Program (JTIP) such as not having sufficient fire protection equipment on both the tanker and terminal facilities, electrical equipment not grounded, or hoses improperly connected or maintained to ensure proper compliance.

49. Participates in pre-fire planning inspections of boats and waterfront property when needed to determine factors such as access and best approaches, stored hazardous materials or other hazardous conditions, location of utility lines, and layout and construction of boats or facilities by observing inspection sites in order to plan for a possible fire in advance of the emergency.

IV. FIREBOAT MAINTENANCE

50. Conducts daily apparatus and equipment checks of items such as communications equipment, radar, battery power supply, and medical equipment and corrects problems by means such as replacing batteries or sending equipment to the shop for repairs to ensure the boat is in proper operating conditions.
51. Instructs Fireboat Mate verbally to clean, and lubricates tools such as chain saws and other power tools kept on the fireboat for use in emergencies and firefighting on an as needed basis to ensure equipment is operating properly.
52. Directs boat crew verbally to refill foam tanks when tank is low in order to have tanks filled prior to responding.
53. Ensures that Fireboat Mates and engineers complete maintenance records kept on the boat and transfers the information to the logbook kept in the Captain's office daily, weekly and monthly in order to document regular inspection.
54. Performs routine cleaning tasks such as sweeping, dusting, removing trash, and cleaning glass instrument dials and windows personally or with the assistance of the boat crew in order to have it in condition for most efficient operation.
55. Observes conditions of the fireboat including permanently installed equipment and fittings such as checking for water damage to painted surfaces, pumps and engine hoses, ladders, and metals fittings and noting damaged or defective equipment including latches, ropes, or hoses during the morning checks and after an incident so the damage can be repaired before serious problems develop.
56. Cleans and paints surfaces when necessary where protective coatings have failed by chipping away rust, sanding, and/or washing with solvents or detergents and by applying primer and/or paint with a brush or roller either personally or with the assistance of the crew in order to protect surfaces exposed to water or other types of damage.
57. Makes minor repairs when necessary such as replacing defective latches, replacing stripped screws, and replacement of weather stripping or straps either personally or with the assistance of the crew in order to have boat and equipment in condition for safe and efficient operation.

58. Directs Fireboat Mates to maintains tools used for maintenance and repair of fireboats and equipment in condition for use by cleaning them after use and performing other maintenance as needed such as sharpening chisels and squaring off screw drivers using the grinder, and cleaning and lubricating portable power tools such as chain saws, metal saws, and drills to ensure proper operations of equipment.
59. Rinses hoses and fittings in fresh water after use by fireboat crew either personally or with the assistance of the crew in order to prevent damage or deterioration after exposure to salt water.
60. Directs Fireboat Mates to checks hoses and/or fittings for damage such as abrasion, leaks, and stripped threads when needed in order to have them replaced and/or repaired.
61. Conducts annual pressure tests of hoses in accordance with LAFD policy by running water through the hose at specified pressures and time periods for each type of hose.
62. Checks that hose is properly folded and stored in lockers or on reels after use either personally or by directing crew in order to have it available for rapid, efficient use when needed.
63. Checks lines for damage such as abrasion or broken strands in order to have them repaired or replaced so they will be ready for use when needed.
64. Tests operation of navigation and communication equipment daily and makes minor repairs such as adjusting ranges or replacing batteries to ensure proper operations of equipment.
65. Checks periodically to see that materials such as charts, Notice to Mariners (Coast Guard information), and tide tables are up to date and reorder them as needed in order to have current navigation materials, regulations, and other required information available for use when needed.
66. Repairs fiberglass on damaged or worn firefighting floats or damage to boats by mixing resin and hardener, painting the mixture on the damaged area, laying fiberglass cloth over the wet mixture, repeating the process until the damaged area is filled in, sanding, and sealing with a finished coat when necessary.
67. Lubricates fixed equipment on the fireboat such as valves, swivels, and threads when necessary in order to maintain them in good operating condition.
68. Reports need for major repairs to boat or equipment to the Captain verbally when necessary in order to have them scheduled promptly.

69. Assists with major repairs as needed by means such as removing bolts or covers, helping rig tackle to move parts to provide access or to remove defective parts and bring in new ones, or turning equipment on or off as directed by repairer to ensure proper equipment operations.

V. COMMUNICATION

70. Discusses such matters as work assignments, schedules, and problems with Fire Captains, Fireboat Mates, Fireboat Pilots, engineers, and/or firefighters for such purposes as exchanging information, giving directions, and giving orders.
71. Writes notes to supervisor or other LAFD personnel or fills out forms to requisition or order parts, materials, and tools needed to install, maintain, and/or repair fireboat equipment so that fireboats are always in condition for use when fires or other emergencies occur.
72. Initiates and works within the ICS/NIMS system during emergencies to ensure proper chain of command.

VI. SUPERVISION/TRAINING

73. Supervises Fireboat Mates in assigning tasks to crew members, directing them during routine maintenance, and checking that boat maintenance and other routine tasks have been performed correctly by spot checks and/or periodic inspections in order to ensure that required work is done correctly as needed.
74. Trains Fireboat Mates on a regular basis in operation of large fireboats by giving instructions and observing performance in order to have relief available when needed and to prepare Fireboat Mates for promotion.
75. Coordinates with engineers when fireboat is in operation by giving instructions and discussing problems, which may arise in order to operate the fireboat and to perform firefighting effectively.
76. Supervises the safe deployment of underwharf floats during training and emergency incidents by directing the mate to conduct the operations.
77. Responsible for the safe operation and training on fireboat's skiff during training and emergency incidents by directing the mate to conduct the operations.