HSAC Mountain Patrol Recommended Practice (RP) # 2010-1

Background

Operators should ensure PIC and PIC candidates meet applicable training and route qualification requirements for patrol and observation operations in mountain areas.

Definition

Terrain as defined by the operator including but not limited to the following:

- Any area defined on an FAA Aeronautical Sectional Chart as "Rapidly Rising Terrain"
- Rocky Mountains
- Eastern US mountain ranges
- Low mountains of Oklahoma/Arkansas

Recommended Practices

In addition to those found in existing HSAC RPs the following:

- Initial/new hire training
 - o Mountain weather hazards
 - o Operating environment considerations
 - o Aircraft performance planning and aircraft equipment fit
 - o Accident/incident case studies
 - AOPA, NTSB, Flight Safety Foundation
 - o High-altitude physiology
 - o Route-specific planning and flight training
 - o Risk assessment
 - o Survival equipment/techniques
 - o Search and rescue
- Annual recurrent training
 - o Mountain weather hazards refresher
 - o Operating environment review
 - Performance planning review exercises
 - o High-altitude physiology review
 - o Patrol route review
 - o Survival equipment/techniques
 - o Search and rescue

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