

Fire Size Field Guide

Fire-dimension timing and retardant-load planning.

Installation

iPhone or iPad

Open Fire Size in Safari, then select **Share > Add to Home Screen**.

Android

Open Fire Size in Chrome, then select **Menu > Add to Home screen or Install app**.

Using Fire Size

- 1 Time Pass 1**
Use Start and Stop to time one fire dimension with the selected phone-edge reference.
- 2 Set Pass 1 groundspeed**
Use the actual groundspeed flown for the first leg. It may be adjusted at any time.
- 3 Time Pass 2**
Time the second fire dimension using the same reference method.
- 4 Set Pass 2 groundspeed**
Use the actual groundspeed for the second leg. The two pass speeds are independent.
- 5 Review the estimate**
Review hectares and acres. Open Retardant Estimate / Save for aircraft, CL, planning tools, and estimated loads.
- 6 Manual dimension if required**
If only one dimension is timed, use Edit to enter the other dimension in metres.

Groundspeed

Either pass speed can be adjusted at any time. Fire Size automatically recalculates the corresponding distance and area estimate.

Phone-Edge Timing Reference

A fixed phone edge provides a repeatable start/stop sight line.



- 1 Establish the sight geometry** - Use a consistent seat, window, eye position, phone angle, and eye-to-phone distance.
- 2 Designate the reference edge** - Select one vertical edge of the phone and use it for both boundary crossings.
- 3 Start** - Start timing when the first fire boundary crosses the designated phone edge.
- 4 Maintain the reference** - Hold the sight geometry constant through the pass.
- 5 Stop** - Stop when the opposite boundary crosses the same edge; repeat for the second dimension.

Reference standard

Edge selection is arbitrary; repeatability of the sight geometry is the controlling factor.

Planning tools

Known fire size

Select aircraft and CL, then enter hectares. The app assumes a square box and returns equal side lengths and estimated box loads. No oval reduction is applied.

Known line length

Enter the requested line in nautical miles or metres. The result is an estimated straight-line load count with no box or oval assumption.

Result conventions

Use actual groundspeed for each timed leg. Load estimates remain at one decimal place; operational rounding is at the AAO's discretion. Timed dimensions support box and oval / irregular estimates.