

# HH-60W Combat rescue Helicopter

Air National Guard

Fiscal Year 2025 Requirements for the Air National Guard



# NGAUS



## The Issue

The Air National Guard HH-60G Pave Hawk fleet of helicopters performs critical combat search and rescue and personnel recovery operations for all DoD and Coalition forces around the world. These helicopters conduct collateral Personnel Recovery missions to include support to state and civil authorities, civil search and rescue, and emergency aeromedical evacuation. The HH-60G fleet is beyond the end of its useful life due to the high operations tempo of over two and a half decades of conflict. The HH-60W aircraft will provide Air Force combat rescue warriors with the best platform and capability to perform their mission.

Airmen from the 129th and 131st Rescue Squadrons stand for a group photo at Moffett Air National Guard Base after successfully rescuing an injured man off a ship in the Pacific Ocean.

## Background

The Combat Rescue Helicopter acquisition objective inside the Program of Record (PoR) was originally 113 aircraft (\$7.9B), which included quantities to field new HH-60Ws to all Combat Rescue helicopter units in all compos of the Air Force. The FY2022 budget reduced the acquisition objective from 113 to 105. The FY2023 Budget further reduced number to 75 helicopters, cutting procurement of new HH-60W for all three Air National Guard units in Alaska, California and New York.

To begin restoring funding, Congress funded 10 additional aircraft in FY2023 for the Air National Guard, however funding for a minimum of 20 additional aircraft is required for the Air National Guard to increase the objective back up to 105 and to fully fund the Air National Guard. The Air Force has indicated that no HH-60W aircraft will be funded in the FY2024 budget.

Adding funding for 10 additional HH-60Ws in the FY2024 budget with language directing these aircraft are only for the Air National will fund one of the two remaining unfunded squadrons in the Air National Guard.

## Recommendation

Air National Guard



Designating 10 additional HH-60W Combat Rescue Helicopters for the Air National Guard for a total of 10 HH-60W Combat Rescue helicopters. These helicopters will provide mission essential modernized aircraft to the Air National Guard and enable the Air Force to keep the program on schedule.



Learn more at  
[nga.us.org](https://nga.us.org)

NGAUS Contact **Russel Read**  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS MANAGER, AIR PROGRAMS  
[russel.read@nga.us.org](mailto:russel.read@nga.us.org)

