



**National Wildfire Coordinating Group**  
**National Interagency Aviation Committee**

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**NIAC-21-08**

**Date:** 10 June 2021  
**To:** Nicholas Strohmeyer, Chair, Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee  
**From:** John Buehler, Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee  
**Subject:** Approval of IHOpS Recommendation to Remove PSDs from Cache System

**Purpose:** The purpose of this memorandum is to respond to and approve the Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee (IHOpS) recommendation as outlined in IHOpS Memorandum 20-03, posted here: [IHOPS Memo 20-03 PSD Machines in Cache \(nwcg.gov\)](https://www.nwcg.gov/interagency-helicopter-operations-subcommittee/i-hop-s-recommendation-to-remove-psds-from-cache-system)

**Issue/Action:** NIAC grants approval to the IHOpS recommendation to remove the plastic sphere dispenser (PSD) machines out of the cache system with the exception of the Alaska cache system. This memorandum also approves the recommendation that the machines in the cache within the Lower 48 be offered to local helitack crews or transferred to the Alaska cache. All machines that are not transferred should be disposed of through the Excess Property Program.

**Background and Coordination:** This memo was sent to NIAC in February of 2020. NIAC has agreed that the machines have traditionally been difficult for the cache systems to refurbish due to lack of training and knowledge and therefore the cache system cannot keep up with the desired standard. The decision was made unanimously in May of 2021.

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