

**Airtanker Base Operations Unit  
Meeting Notes**

Date and Time

**November 20, 2024**

**Time: 1100-1200 PST**

**ABOU**

<b>Cadre (Agency/Name):</b>	<small>check</small>	<b>Cadre (Agency/Name)</b>	<small>check</small>	<b>Cadre (Agency/Name)</b>	<small>check</small>
BLM – Angie Forbes	X	USFS – Jared Bohrman	X	USFS- Justin Bohannan	X
BLM- Melissa Fry	X	NASF – Josh Agustin	X	USFS- Cindy Matthews	X
USFS – Annie Johnson	X				

**Associate Members (AM), Working Group Chairs  
(WGC), NWCG Representative**

<b>Cadre (Agency/Name):</b>	<small>check</small>	<b>Cadre (Agency/Name)</b>	<small>check</small>	<b>Cadre (Agency/Name)</b>	<small>check</small>
USFS – Leslie Casavan (AM)		BLM – Kristina Curtis (AM)		NWCG – David Schultz	X
BLM – Jake Lloyd (WGC)		USFS- James Snell (WGC)		BLM – Mary Loan (WGC)	
BLM – Courtney Christensen (WGC)		USFS – Kelly Mathis (WGC)			

The Interagency Airtanker and Scooper Subcommittee (IASOS) has been formalized and the Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee (IABS) is now the Airtanker Base Operations Unit (ABOU). The Units under the ABOU are now Working Groups.

NWCG is working on updating the websites to reflect the changes.

The SOPs/Charter for the IABS (soon to be the ABOU) have been updated and signed. These have been sent to NWCG for publication.

The ABOU is working on updating the Q&A on the IABS website with new questions. The questions have been finalized and will be sent to NWCG for consideration of publication. The Q&A information will be taken from the questions that were asked during the National Airtanker Base Manager workshop in Tucson in February 2024.

The deadline for Subject Matter Experts for the NWCG Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM) process have been identified. Work will begin in 2025. [Incident Performance and Training Modernization \(IPTM\) | NWCG](#)

The ABOU members, Associate Members, and Working Group Chairs will meet for the annual in-person meeting the week of January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, in San Marcos, California.

- **NWCG Airtanker Base Application Working Group**
  - The Airtanker Base Application Working Group has been working on updates to the NWCG Airtanker Base Directory.
  - The Working Group is working to identify a person who will primarily focus on FLIGHT.
  - The Working Group is trying to determine if a ForeFlight layer can be added.
  
- **Standards for Airtanker Base Operations Working Group (SABOWG)**
  - Regular reminders for providing comments are being sent out to the airtanker pdl.
  - The deadline for comments for 2025 will be December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
  - New updates have been identified as a result of recent Quality Assurance visits.
  - The Working Group will be meeting after the comment period has concluded and work on edits and updates for the 2025 version.
  
- **Airtanker Base Training and Qualifications Working Group (ABTQWG)**
  - The Working Group is continuing to work on a NWCG FWPT class and is getting closer to completion.
  - The National Airtanker Base/ SEAT Manager Workshop is available on-demand in the Wildland Fire Learning Portal.
  
- **Airtanker Base Operational Risk Management Working Group (ABORMWG)**
  - The Working Group is working on a variety of checklists for airtanker bases to use as a part of SMS.
  - The Working Group will be working on 6MFS suggestions.
  - The daily GAR will be updated with the goal of completion in early 2025.
  
- **SEAT Working Group**
  - The Working Group may work on a 'cheat sheet' regarding the new contract.
  - The Working Group is also working on updates to the SEAT Manager class. Although the actual class is not scheduled to be re-done, the group is ensuring that the material that is covered is relevant to changes that have occurred since the class was created.
  
- **ABOU Recruitment**
  - Any volunteers for any of the Working Groups should be submitted to your agency ABOU representative or through the QR code.