

**Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee  
Updates & Information Sharing  
March 10, 2022**

***Cory Noordermeer – FS Aviation Safety Inspector, Airworthiness***

- There are several new inspectors. A list identifying which inspector/backup assigned to airtanker companies will be forthcoming.
- There will be just one QR code for airtanker base managers to use to report when an airtanker is out of service. The QR code was sent out by Stan Goode on 3/14/22.
  - Be sure to state the reason when reporting when an airtanker is out of service. General terms are fine.
  - If an airtanker base manager has questions, contact the AMI for additional assistance.

***Matt Olson –FS Contracting Officer (airtankers)***

- A new Schedule of Items should be out next week.
- If there is anyone interested in becoming a COR, reach out to Matt. New CORs (of any level) will be paired up with a mentor.
- There is a possibility that non-Forest Service employees can serve as a COR – contact Matt for more details.

***Larry Robillard – FS Contracting Officer (retardant)***

- Larry is working on a conformed contract that will incorporate all of the modifications thus far (a total of 78).
- They are looking at the Fortress products.
- The FOB origin/MRB contracts will expire towards the end of next month and a solicitation will be out soon. It will be an on-demand Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) and the solicitation will be kept open indefinitely. This will allow an easier process should additional products become qualified.
- There was discussions about if an airtanker base manager would need to be a COR as the Project Inspector nomenclature has gone away. More to come.
- A question was asked about if the pricing would be changed to by the pound rather than by the mixed gallon. For now it will remain the same.

***Hunter Jones – FS National Technology and Development Program (NTDP)***

- Hunter discussed the variables regarding the average density of retardant. He explained how it is affected by a number of things (air in the system, temperature, etc.) and the range is based on conditions in a lab setting. The refractometer reading is essential for determining if the retardant is within specifications.
- Hunter will provide an update to the IABS Chair whenever there is a update to the QPL and/or Mix Factor tables.

***Justin Bohannon – Medford Airtanker Base Manager/ IABS Primary Member***

- Justin gave an update on mass flow meters. Armando is the primary contact. Emerson can provide calibrations.
- If there is a need for a new meter, elevate through the chain of command. The request will make it to Dave Haston who can address it. Armando can assist with pricing.
- There is a desire to get additional meters in the cache system.

- If bases need a meter for their off-load tanks, let Justin know.

***Jeff Miller – FLIGHT update***

- Jeff provided updates on FLIGHT. There have been updates to the retardant portion and reports have been rebuilt for full-service bases. Work is being completed for bulk bases. Jeff hopes that the updates will be released in the next month or so.
- There has been focus on the incident cost summary which will be the top priority after the retardant updates are completed.
- There are challenges with the financial codes on occasion due to how they are input and make their way through IROC/IRWIN.
- If your password has expired, contact the EGP helpdesk for assistance. Request for the EGP password to be reset (not FLIGHT).

***Leslie Casavan – FS National Airtanker Program Manager***

- Leslie said that there will be 18 EU airtankers on contract in 2022 and likely 5 on a 90-day surge agreement. There are still two airtankers on from 2021 which will roll over into their 2022 line items. Matt Olson has been working on the Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC) which will have one base year with nine option years. The MATOC will allow other vendors to be onboarded throughout the ten-year period.
- There will be several temporary promotion/lateral opportunities – two assistant airtanker program managers working for Leslie, one Fixed Wing Operations Specialist working for Jason Baldwin, and several scooper details. Caleb Berry has accepted a new position in Region 8.
- Leslie provided an update on landing fees. If bases have an agreement in place they can continue to pay for them the way they have historically done. If not, the airport authority must bill the airtanker companies separately and the COR would reimburse in IBS.
- The washdown/wastewater code has been emailed out for 2022.

***Annie Johnson – Porterville Airtanker Base Manger/ National Fuel Card Coordinator***

- Contact Annie if there are any fuel shortage issues. She can help determine alternative locations.

***Angie Forbes – BLM National SEAT Coordinator***

- Total Fleet – 115 (89 Wheeled SEATs/26 Fire Bosses) Of the 89 wheeled SEAT's there will be 34 Federally Funded SEAT's at requested locations. There are 4 of the 26 Fire Bosses on an EU contract with AK. All others are On-Call.
- Current SEMG ratio to administratively manage 3 SEAT's w/1 SEMG will be changing to a 4:1 ratio with the proper staffing (pending approval)
- Updated Pre-Use Inspection Form (with Fire Boss elements) and accompanying document will be located on SEAT page
- New Fire Boss Daily Ops Sheet located on SEAT page will be located on SEAT page
- Bureau of Land Management Mobile Retardant Base Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan will be located on SEAT page
- SEAT page located at [SEATs | National Interagency Fire Center \(nifc.gov\)](https://www.nifc.gov)