



Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes — April 13th, 2020

Present

Dan Boyle – State, Chair
Bryan Bitting- BLM
Don Cambell- USFS
Nic Strohmeier- NPS
Matt Shaddle- OAS
John Waddell- OAS
Dave Uderwood- BIA

Topic: NIAC Update

Discussion

- Dan- Aviation COVID Task Team- the team Best Practices were adopted by FMB and it appears the area command teams included these practices in their guidance docs. NIAC is waiting for the NWCG board to see if NWCG will adopt as interagency so these would include all risk, states and resource management.
- Briefed IHOPs regarding helicopter retying- NIAC has adopted IHOPs recommendation to adopt USFS definitions.
- RTs extension memo- Dan asked NIAC if they have considered our memo to defer all helicopter related refresher deadlines be extended for 1 year, Joel will ask NWCG to make this NCWG standard for 2020.
- Aviation risk management guide being updated by ARM subcommittee under NIAC
- Aviation mishap guide being updated by ARM subcommittee
- ASTAT teams- NIAC looking at developing minimum standards for ASTAT teams to minimize impacts to teams
- Bryan attended the March NIAC meeting- he reminded NIAC about updating the AC Identification Guide while NIAC is adopting the new retying definitions.

Task.

- Bryan- who is tasked with identifying and coordinating the changes for helicopter re typing- Dan will reach out to Joel

Topic: Sling Dragon



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Discussion

- ✈ IHOPs reviewed IAIU proposed Ops plan-

Task.

- ✈ Bill S. Will vet through HIP community – responses due by end of April.

Topic: Aerial Ignition Guide Summary of Change

Discussion

- ✈ IHOPs discussed and approved IAIU proposed changes.

Task.

- ✈ Dan will send IAIU format memo of approval

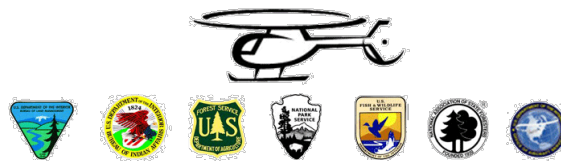
Topic: Aerostat Mark V

Discussion

- ✈ Dan sent memo to NIAC requesting development of a Tech Bulletin regarding operational issues with Aerostat Mark V issues. IAIU developed an aerostat maintenance doc housed on the NWCG web site under IAIU page. The Aerostat Mark V is no longer approved for new purchase.

Task.

Topic: 134 Gal Sling able Bag



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Discussion

- NIAC communicated approval to the cache.

Task.

Topic: EHE Source List

Discussion

- IHOPs discussed and agreed IHOPs would develop the standards for helicopters to be on the source list. The Short Haul unit will maintain the source list. Vendor requests will go to NWCG, then to the Chair of the Short Haul unit for approval to be on the list.

Task.

- Dan will reach out to the Short Haul unit Chair, then draft task for the Short Haul Unit.
- Donnie agreed to take the lead for IHOPs in developing the minimum standards for helicopters to be on the source list.

Topic: Next Meeting

Discussion

- May, 13th, 1000 hrs PST- Conf call

Task

- Dan will send out doodle poll for May meeting
- Dan send agenda and conf call information to IHOPs for May call
- Dan will send out doodle poll for June



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Miscellaneous

Updates-

- Don- USFS is not going to continue the weight reduction trial during 2020 season.
Large support ac contracts will probably start in June, still working through process.
We have 9 type 1s on now
Doing modified training for short haul and rappel during COVID
Assistant HOS Eric Graff starts May 26th
 - Nic- We have some on call helicopters in SE at this time
OAS inspectors not traveling so we will not be doing some special use missions
 - Dan- Subgroup under NIAC working new coop standards for state owned and operated AC.
 - Bryan- Did not approve Burns type 2, going with Astar 2020 fire season.
No new step program requests this year
 - Matt- Ace trainings have been cancelled, but increasing online training classes.
 - John- We have extended the date for helmets until Oct 1st.
ALSE guide is under review
Safecom currently being transitioned to cloud base. Expected to be completed April 14th.
 - Dave- Bia adding 3 new helicopter contracts this year.
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