



National Interagency Aviation Committee Meeting Notes

July 11, 2019

NIAC Members: Joel Kerley (BIA), Glen Claypool for Brad Gibbs (BLM), Brian McKee (NASF), John Buehler (NPS), Tim Blake (NWCG), Krysta Shultz (NWCG), Walker Craig (OAS), John Waddell for Keith Raley (OAS), Paul Linse (USFS). Not present: Anthony Lascano (FWS), Neal Laugle (NASF), Kent Hamilton (USFS).

Guests: Shaylor Sorenson (USFS), Roshelle Pederson (OWF).

Topic & Notes	Decision
June minutes review and approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussed status of action items from prior meeting. 	Approved.
RT-130, WFSTAR – Line Clearance Safety Video <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently, there is no formal training for ground firefighters regarding fire line clearance and aviation operations. Safety concerns regarding this issue have become more prevalent which has created inefficiencies in airspace management. Line clearance is a critical element to safe, effective, and efficient aviation operations on a fire. Aerial supervisors are reliant upon ground firefighters to clear the line and then notify aerial resources/supervisors. Potential hazards that exist when the line isn't clear of resources or personnel 	Approved – NIAC will task the Interagency Aerial Supervision Subcommittee (IASS) to work with NWCG to create an RT-130, Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR) module on Line Clearance for Firefighter Safety.
Update on the Aviation Data Analysis Contract – NIAC Involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy for the Aviation Data Requirements Analysis has shifted to be centered on key current investments/capabilities/applications that support aviation. Topic will be brought up during the September Wildland Fire Leadership Council (WFLC) meeting to gain their perspective. Interagency involvement, input, and knowledge is essential. Roshelle Pederson, Co-Chair of the Data Management Committee will report back in September/October to get SME involvement. 	N/A
Airspace Subcommittee and Airspace Coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kim Owczarzak replaced Kurt Kleiner as Chair, Interagency Airspace Subcommittee (IASC) in April. Update in membership includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Curtis (OAS) Glen Claypool (BLM) George Violante (BIA) Nick Strohmeyer (NPS) 	Approved updated membership.
Gel Color Specs – Explore Option to Issue a Joint Correspondence with NIAC and ETC Fire Chemicals Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) met in May 2019 to discuss water enhancer evaluation and on-board injection and blending of these chemicals. The objective of this meeting was to determine methods to evaluate on-board water enhancer injection systems in helicopters and SEATs. 	N/A



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- Conclusion of the meeting is that federal land management agencies are not prepared to approve the use of fire chemicals mixed with on-board fire chemical injection systems on federal lands or on federally-contracted aircraft.
- Group is looking for the appropriate venue for releasing this message via memorandum to the field.