



## National Interagency Aviation Committee Meeting Notes

October 10, 2019

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

**Guests:** Josh Haney (NWCG Training), Cole Belongie (Data Management Committee), Kimberley Owczarzak (IASC), IABS Presentation: Leslie Casavan, Kristina Curtis, Kimberly Freesland, George Smith, Jill Kuenzi, Crystal MacDonald, Smitha Konala, and Irsa Javed.

Topic & Notes	Decision
July minutes review and approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Group discussed status of action items from prior meeting.</li></ul>	Approved.
<i>NWCG Standards for Resource Typing</i> , PMS 200 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Draft web portal for the new publication was presented to the NIAC members. Intent is to locate all resource typing standards in one location to make them easier to reference and update.</li><li>The Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide, PMS 210, currently holds most of the typing standards. The standards are broken out by categories: aircraft, crews, and equipment.</li></ul>	NIAC will validate the aircraft standards specifically looking to update the aircraft examples. Will coordinate with Jesse Bender to update the website prior to going live.
<i>Airtanker Base Directory App Change Protocols</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Airtanker Base Directory Unit (IABDU) and IABS members would have authorization to make minor changes to the information in the directory app, including updates to phone numbers and email addresses, personnel and agency contact changes, and hazards. This information would be sent to the Directory Unit from the field as changes happen, allowing the app to be as current as possible.</li><li>NIAC would have the oversight and final authority to make major changes to the directory app information such as, adding and removing bases, changes in base capabilities, or status changes of the base (i.e. permanent, CWN or temporary).</li><li>The IABDU would be responsible for working with the Communications Duty Office/Officer (CDO) on listing approved frequencies. This will happen at least every spring and more often if there are changes throughout the season. The IABDU will make the changes in the app as soon as CDO sends them the approved frequency list or changes.</li><li>The approval process of major changes would consist of the IABDU pushing the change request to IABS who would forward to the respective agency NIAC members. Once IABS got the approval from NIAC, they would send it to the IABDU to make the changes in the app.</li><li>Anticipate April 2020 for release.</li></ul>	Approved.
Update on the Aviation Data Analysis Contract – NIAC Involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strategy for the Aviation Data Requirements Analysis has shifted to be centered on key current investments/capabilities/applications that support aviation.</li></ul>	N/A



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting scheduled October 22-23 where 6 NIAC Representatives will be there to participate as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). Any additional members wanting to participate, send names to Roshelle Pederson or Cole Belongie.</li> </ul>	
Flight Following and Resource Tracking Definitions – Request for Change	Topic added to November agenda.
<p>Interagency Airspace Subcommittee Toolbox and/or Job Aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interagency Airspace Subcommittee is working to build a job aid and/or toolbox that will serve as reference material for individuals seeking to further their career in airspace. The overall goal in utilizing the website is to increase SA for ASCO's, provide for standardization and increase awareness of our IASC website.</li> </ul>	NIAC approves the IASC to post and make changes to their website as they see fit to ensure continuity of data.
<p>S-372, Helicopter Management Course Issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The course was last certified in March 2009. It has come to the attention of NWCG Training that the contracting section of the course is inaccurate and out of date. Would like to update the section without going through a full course revision.</li> <li>NIAC members suggest the option to use the Aviation Training course, A-306 Aviation Contract Administration in place of the out of date section in the current S-372 course. Would need to reach out to the Interior Business Center (IBC) as a contracting officer is only authorized to teach this course at the present time.</li> <li>If the option is approved in November, NIAC will draft a joint letter from USFS/DOI to the NWCG Training Program Manager documenting the decision to use A-306 in place of the current contracting unit in S-372.</li> </ul>	<p>Josh Haney will ask the Interior Business Center (IBC) if A-306 Aviation Contract Administration would meet the intent of the contracting unit in S-372, Helicopter Management Course Issue. Further, will inquire if someone other than a contract officer could teach the course.</p> <p>Topic added to November agenda.</p>
<p>Invasive Species Subcommittee (ISSC) Video based on the Guide to <i>Preventing Aquatic Invasive Species Transport by Wildland Fire Operations</i>, PMS 444</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NWCG Training is in the early stages of creating a video specific to ground operations that will support the ISSC's guide on preventing aquatic invasive species transport by wildland fire operations. Could serve as a model to create an aviation video of the same accord.</li> </ul>	Final draft of the video will be sent to NIAC members for review prior to determining if an aviation video should be made.
<p>Interagency Helicopter Extraction Source List, PMS 512</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NIAC members discussed the validity of information provided in the <i>Interagency Helicopter Extraction Source List</i>, PMS 512 as several listings currently host inaccurate data. Further, seeking to understand and learn who the primary users are (e.g. dispatch centers).</li> <li>NIAC members will reach out to geographic area dispatch centers to how much and often the document is used online.</li> </ul>	Remove the <i>Interagency Helicopter Extraction Source List</i> , PMS 512 from the NWCG website. Concerns were voiced about the accuracy of the information and the potential for individuals to rely on faulty information.
<p>NIAC Forms – OMB Approval Process, Tasking, and Plan Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a group, NIAC has ~150 forms. Members briefly discussed the request to send standardized forms to OMB for approval. Validity of non-approved forms can be challenged in court, which opens users up to potential liabilities. Forms are being gathering by functional area to submit via packages instead of individually. Goal is to have everything complete by June 2020.</li> </ul>	NIAC will await an official NWCG tasking prior to engaging in the process of reviewing, validating, and categorizing each of their forms.



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<p>NIAC Taskings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) IASS - Line Clearance for Firefighter Safety RT-130, WFSTAR Video Module</li><li>b) IASS - Develop Scooper Operating Procedures</li><li>c) IHOPS - Evaluate Helicopter Typing Standards</li><li>d) IHOPS/Aerial Ignition Unit - Test &amp; Evaluate Current/New Helicopter PSD Machines for Effectiveness and accuracy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Complete</li><li>b) Discuss at IASS November meeting to inquire completion.</li><li>c) Send draft to NIAC members for comment prior to release.</li><li>d) Topic added to November agenda.</li></ul>
<p>Status of the NWCG Tasking 18-001 Interagency Aviation Strategy Next Steps</p>	<p>Topic added to November agenda.</p>
<p>Interagency Rappel Unit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Members discussed the validity of keeping the Interagency Rappel Unit as an active group due to the discontinuation of the <i>Interagency Helicopter Rappel Guide</i>, PMS 511 in June.</li></ul>	<p>The Interagency Rappel Unit will remain as an active unit under NIAC.</p>