



## National Interagency Aviation Committee Meeting Notes

March 12, 2020

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

*Guests:* Leslie Casavan (USFS), Gina Dingman (BLM), Roger Staats (USFS).

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p>February minutes review and approval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group discussed status of action items from prior meeting.</li> </ul>	Approved.
<p>Forest Service Requirements for Aircraft Dispatcher (ACDP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members discussed the proposal to modify the alignment and prerequisite requirements from Expanded Dispatch Recorder (EDRC), for Aircraft Dispatcher (ACDP), and Initial Attack Dispatcher (IADP) in an effort to build a more experienced and capable aviation dispatch community supporting wildland fire and resource aviation needs.</li> <li>The reorganization would include aviation related education and training that supports a solid foundation in aviation knowledge and increased skills and abilities. Additionally, the proposed training that will be added to the IADP position will qualify that position to perform basic aviation dispatching and flight following tasks. This will potentially alleviate the burden of having to maintain an ACDP staffing during all aviation operations. The recommended path for qualification to ACDP would be changed to a requirement of being a qualified IADP prior to advancing to ACDP.</li> </ul>	NIAC members will be given one week to review for approval.
<p>NIAC Subject Matter Expert (SME) for FEMA-NIC NIMS Air Operations Resource Typing Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members discussed providing an SME for 1) Air Search Team (Fixed Wing), 2) Airborne Reconnaissance (Fixed Wing), and 3) Law Enforcement Observation Aircraft (Fixed Wing).</li> </ul>	The National Park Service (NPS) will provide a SME and send names to Cooper Hancock, Air Operations Branch Director (FQS) with the FEMA-NIC.
<p>Interagency Airtanker Base Subcommittee (IABS) – Review and Approvals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefed on the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorization to extend IABS membership terms to maintain consistency and efficiency,</li> <li>Request for NIAC assistance to solicit volunteers for IABS units</li> <li>Validate risk assessments in the Aviation Risk Assessment Workbook and be able to post as drafts on the IABS's Resources webpage, and</li> <li>A brief review of the updates made to the Standards for Airtanker Base Operations (SABO), PMS 508.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approved.</li> <li>2) Approved. Will work with IABS on messaging for communication on soliciting members.</li> <li>3) Needs further vetting prior to posting. Will report back in April with a comprehensive list of groups who need to review.</li> <li>4) Approved.</li> </ol>
<p>Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee (IHOPS) Response to NIAC Memo 19-08 Tasking – Evaluation of Helicopter Typing Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefed on the answers to questions regarding the current ICS Helicopter definitions found in the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG). The definitions are not standard and do not reflect</li> </ul>	Approved.



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<p>accurate minimum specifications for current and next generation light, medium and heavy helicopters, and in some situations the true capability of aircraft currently on contract with the agencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation of no action at this time in regards to re-typing of aircraft, with exception of adopting as an interagency standard that, the new definition for each type helicopter as defined below.</li> </ul>	
<p>Smokejumper Aircraft Screening and Evaluation Subcommittee (SASES) Update - Aircraft Evaluation Request for DHC-8, Model 106</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefed the BLM has submitted an aircraft evaluation request for the DHC-8, Model 106 aircraft. SASES has reviewed the preliminary report and accepts the requests to evaluate the aircraft. John Kovalicky at National Technology and Development Program (NTDP) will be Evaluation Director as required by the Smokejumper Aircraft Evaluation Process</li> <li>The flight performance evaluation is tentatively scheduled the week of April 13 in Missoula, MT. If that evaluation is successful, it will be followed by the Functional Evaluation the week of April 20. If both evaluations are successful and pending any accessory design changes the Field Evaluation would continue through the 2020 fire season. The completed Aircraft Evaluation will be submitted to SASES for review and approval.</li> </ul>	Approved.
<p>SASES Evaluation of SD3-60 SHERPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefed on the evaluation and the SASES has determined the following: 1) The SD3-60 Sherpa meets the needs of normal smokejumping operations, and 2) The aircraft also has potential for enhancing non-standard paracargo operations and for providing additional options for smokejumper exits (rear door); however, these items are outside the scope of this aircraft evaluation and will require further evaluation.</li> </ul>	NIAC members will review the report and will send notification to Roger Staats on approval/non-approval. Further, will work with DOI/OAS (Walker Craig) and USFS (Paul Linse) for their review.
<p>Approval of NIAC Tasking to IHOPS - Re: Removal of PSD Machines from Cache System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A tasking will be drafted for NIAC to review at their next meeting.</li> </ul>	Topic added to April agenda.
<p>NIAC Tasking - Review and Update the NASF Cooperators Aviation Standards for Interagency Fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members briefed on the Executive Boards desire to update the 2010 NASF Cooperators Aviation Standards for Interagency Fire. The document provides national baseline standards to be used when State aviation assets and aviation personnel are being considered for approval and use within the Interagency Fire Program.</li> <li>The update of this document will be tasked to the Interagency Cooperator Aircraft and Pilot Standards Subcommittee (ICAPSS). NIAC members will review membership of the subcommittee and come prepared to discuss names at their next meeting.</li> </ul>	Topic added to April agenda.
<p>Aviation Helmet Standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members discussed communication of new standards to contractors and that not all DOI contracts have a reference to the Aviation Life Support Equipment (ALSE) Handbook. Clarification is needed for vendors.</li> </ul>	John Mills will ask Keith Raley to send an email to NIAC members with an update to these standards and how the field should address situations with unapproved helmets.