



## NIAC Meeting Notes

February 11, 2021

**NIAC Members:** John Buehler (NPS)- Chair, Walter Bunt (USFS), Lori Clark (USFS) Glen Claypool (BLM), Joel Kerley (BIA), Anthony Lascano (FWS), Neal Laugle (NASF), Keith Raley (OAS), Matt Woodwick (NASF) **Not present:** Walker Craig (OAS), Brad Gibbs (BLM)

Guests: Kristina Curtis, Justin Jager, Kim Owczarzak

Topic & Notes	Decision
<p><b>Update on Tasking 20-09 Define Standards for Aviation Operations within Aviation TFRs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The shift in focus on FAA relegating incident TFR size to 5NM radius and requiring a Deconfliction Plan if the TFR is larger than 5 NM radius has created concern for efficiency and ability to rapidly respond and support mission operations. If this conversation continues and will eventually require new policy and new procedures/training, this matter should be elevated to Aviation Leadership within NIAC. To get ahead of this, Kim recommends putting out an interagency IB on Interagency partnerships that will provide management of TFRs the ability to guide local district forest TFR strategy to ask if it's the right size or needs to be monitored.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Additional information regarding the 5NM radius TFR and requiring a Deconfliction plan was received from the FAA that they would not support any changes to our TFRs that would cause undue risks, and the FAA is not fixed on any arbitrary size for TFRs</li></ul></li><li>Currently, the Office of General Council (OGC) is looking into the question of: Liability.</li><li>FAA will be providing guidance for definition of Official in Charge.</li><li>We continue to have discussions with the FAA to determine the definition of Participant for 91.137a2 TFRs</li><li>The tasking group is looking for some additional time and for NIAC to put out memo or direction in this tasking. Intent is to move forward with 2021 season.</li></ul>	<p>Kim recommends moving forward with an IB to TRR management; Decision made for Keith and Lori to draft one up together</p>
<p><b>IFUAS Briefing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NWCG Briefing Paper<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>UASCC is looking for approval to move forward to get an updated NIAC 20-01 memo and move forward with alternate UAS Aerial Ignition platforms in time for the 2021 season.</li><li>The hope is that the updated memo from NIAC will rescind the portion that is not specific to the DGI M600 as there is a desire to try other systems in accordance with M600, which would allow a little more autonomy for carding.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>NIAC will move forward with the updated memo to provide broader criteria for testing and broaden 20-01</p>
<p><b>Scooper Group Tasking Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Group met last week and had a productive meeting. It feels that in crafting the standards it would be helpful to have a BLM rep from the ATGS realm. Additional rep from the states, specifically CA, AK, as those operations could be different. BIA was added to Subcommittee</li></ul>	<p>NA</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The major need is to identify some items to be in place for this fire season and as the look of the final product becomes clearer, the group feels that this needs to be in place sooner than the Nov. 21 update. Next meeting is February 18th and there is the potential that this will include some AMRB stuff. Kristin Curtis will be the agency lead moving forward.</li></ul>	
<b>IAB Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NIAC met with IAB to validate and refine mission statements, rosters, processes and communication protocols. IAB will frame up current challenges and work with NIAC to move forward. Placeholder added to the next NIAC meeting agenda to discuss.</li></ul>	NA
<b>Final Update on NWCG 10-037 (Apparatus, PPE, Training, and Equipment Requirements)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>NIAC consensus to support rescinding and archiving this memo</li></ul>	Approved
<b>DHC-8 Final Briefing NWCG Exec Board</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tim will be taking the NIAC approval of DHC-8 the exec board, providing there are no final objections here</li></ul>	Approved