



## NIAC Meeting Notes

April 8, 2021

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

**Guests:** Jesse Bender, Marlene Eno-Hendren, Kathryn O'Hara, Jim Shultz, Shawn Steber, Nancie Turner, Chris Wright

Topic & Notes	Decision
Roll Call, Review Agenda, Approve Past Notes for Posting	March 2021 notes approved for posting on NIAC site
<b>1. IPSC RFC Qualification Re-Alignment Discussion- Jim Shultz and Marlene Eno-Hendren</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The USFS had concern with the training requirements but those were changed, and the same concern no longer applies. There was discussion about moving the D-311 requirement, but the worry is that states cannot afford to have everyone undergo that training, and that the FS dispatch has different requirements. Discussion to make it mandatory for feds but optional for states, will largely depend on ability to get D-311 in a virtual offering</li><li>Finding ways to reduce costs for NWCG courses offered in person, but training re-alignment is now approved</li></ul>	NIAC endorses the RFC
<b>2. FireNet Discussion Update- Jesse Bender</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Provided the updated draft of SOP response to NIAC for review. Reminder that this does not lock any team or incident into a specific structure, it simply sets up a default template</li><li>Jesse is open to feedback on this, FN leadership board will work on how NIAC can vet feedback that comes in and will keep NIAC posted</li></ul>	NA
<b>3. Emergency Helicopter Extraction List</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nancie did a data comb to see how much the site was actually being used- had over 5,000 views which reaffirms that if this list is done away with, there will still need to be a viable alternative</li><li>The issue of who will run the list, whether it be a group within the aviation or dispatch communities, still remains. There needs to be a care and feeding process for when vendors are taken off or added, but important to remember that this is an emergency list where there are no carded crews, so this is simply a jumping off point</li></ul>	John will bring this to NIC for ideas/recommendations
<b>4. SlingDragon- Shawn Steber</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>With the testing in Florida having not gone well, the major ask is where NIAC is going with this and whether it wants to keep testing. Questions on why R&amp;D is still happening in this phase of the purchasing process, and testing pilot interface as well. How have issues been addressed? What are key advantages?</li><li>IHOPs is seeking interim approval to get pilot and Fireboss on board for testing for now.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Limit testing to three systems and create a test and evaluation plan to continue before buying.</li></ul></li></ul>	NIAC says no to interim approval but to move forward with testing 1-3 systems. IHOPs will update the recommendation and testing plans to include this discussion and send to NIAC for approval
<b>5. NPS IWP- Point Reyes NIAC Response</b> Four recommendations for NIAC to determine tasking and standards on:	



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OAS sUAS Division and NIAC develop separation standards between sUAS and participating manned aircraft operations. Tasking to IFUAS and IASS</li><li>• NIAC determine if current risk management considerations within the NWCG Standards for Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations. Tasking to IFUAS</li><li>• NIAC provide guidance to IMTs (AOBDs) on developing communications plans that allow remote operators. Tasking to IFUAS and IASS</li><li>• NIAC examine if AOBDs possess adequate training in managing mixed use operations. Tasking to IFUAS IASS</li></ul>	Tasking will be updated in log and expectations communicated to each chair
<b>6. Round Robin</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tim Blake will be going on a 120-day detail and this will be his last NIAC meeting until then. Working on find a replacement for NWCG NIAC Facilitator</li><li>• Discussion on NIAC membership and representation, may need to add to May agenda to discuss any changes moving forward</li></ul>	