NWCG Memorandum No. 14-011
Date: 3 September 2014

TO: NWCG Committee Chairs, Geographic Area Coordinating Group Managers, Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs
FROM: Dan Smith, Chair, NWCG Executive Board

SUBJECT: Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG) Call for Comments

The National Interagency Aviation Committee (NIAC) has chartered the IHOG Unit, working under the direction of the Interagency Helicopter Operations Committee to revise the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG). The next version of the IHOG is currently scheduled for release February 2016.

The IHOG Unit is requesting initial comments based on the current 2013 IHOG. Managers and supervisors are asked to insure this request for comments is made available to all personnel with helicopter operations responsibilities and duties.

Gathering and compiling field input is critical to the process of the rewrite and the quality of the IHOG. The entire IHOG will be reviewed for content, currency and usefulness. The IHOG Unit welcomes all comments, corrections, updated policy and data, changes in format etc. One of the IHOG Units goals is to make sure the 2016 version does not include outdated information, forms or conflicting statements. The appendices also need a thorough review for content and usefulness.

Attached is the format the IHOG Unit prefers for field comments. Please use the electronic version of the format if possible to facilitate the compilation of comments and recommendations. Any and all field user input is welcome. Any form of communication will be accepted.

This initial comment period will remain open until November 1, 2014. The IHOG Unit will then compile and review all submissions. After initial rewrite and discussions, the final draft will be provided for a field review and comment period tentatively scheduled for April 2015.

Contact your IHOG Unit representatives with any questions or suggestions and send them your comments.

Bill Schuster, Chair, States’ representative - contact: bill.schuster@state.mn.us
Todd Couture, BIA - contact: toddc@cskt.org
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Eric Scholl, USFS - contact: escholl@fs.fed.us
Carrie Vernon, NPS - contact: carrie_vernon@nps.gov
Dan Boyle, IHOps Liaison to IHOG TG, NIAC representative - contact: dan.boyle@dnr.wa.gov

Attachment: Proposed Changes to 2016 IHOG Worksheet

cc: NWCG Executive Board, NWCG Program Management Unit
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter/Section/Appendices</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section (numeral), Paragraph (letter), sub-paragraph (number), sentence (bullet) / Chart #</th>
<th>Comments/Recommendations/Changes</th>
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<td>(Be very specific with recommendations, i.e.: language, Intent, data form or policy reference etc. Be sure to include the existing passage or item along with the recommended change(s), being as complete as possible.) Use this section to propose new/additional information or provide outline of proposal with supporting documentation, references etc. on a separate sheet of paper. Again be as informative as possible, include supporting documentation.</td>
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