



**National Wildfire
Coordinating Group**
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

**National Interagency Aviation Committee
NIAC**

NIAC CONFERENCE CALL NOTES

Location: BIA Shopai Raleigh Atkins Conf. Room

Date: September 16, 2015

Time: 1300 MTN.

Roll Call

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OAS – Ralph Getchell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NASF – Brian McKee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFS – Tom Ricks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OAS – Keith Raley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NASF – Neal Laugle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USFS – John Harris |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIA – Joel Kerley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NPS – Jon Rollens | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLM – Brad Gibbs |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FWS – Anthony Lascano | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NWCG – Tim Blake | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BLM – Rusty Warbis |

Also in attendance:

Jesse Duhnkrack

Paul Linse

Agenda Topics:

- **Interagency Aviation Strategy & GAO Recommendation 2 –**

To address the GAO report's recommendation on enhancing stakeholder collaboration, Jesse Duhnkrack created a draft communication plan. NIAC will review the draft plan and have comments to Jesse by COB September 22nd. NIAC will have a final review of the plan once the comments are included. The completion date for the plan is September 30th. Jesse will forward the finalized plan through the department to the GAO.

- **NWCG Website Demonstration –**

The NWCG website is live. All NIAC and NIAC subcommittee products will be on the website. The website can be found at www.nwcg.gov.

- **Aviation Wallet Cards –**

Aviation wallet cards will be unavailable through the cache once the current stock runs out. The aviation wallet card information is also located in the IRPG. Tim will follow up with Training to reflect the change in any training materials.

- **Cooperator Aircraft and Pilot Standards –**

The last review of the NASF Cooperators Aviation Standards for Interagency Fire was in 2010. NIAC will establish a group to start updating the document for 2016. Brian and Neal will get names of state members and a chair to Jon by the October meeting. The group will be established in October.

- **Dropped/Dragged Loads –**
Keith will follow up to NIAC with an email on the statistics of dropped/dragged loads and recommend actions for improvement.
- **Aircraft Availability –**
NIAC would like to see DOI and Forest Service have the same requirements to put aircraft back into availability. Ralph will talk to the all OAS regions about availability of inspectors. Any new direction will need to be included in the updated IHOG as well as all aviation contracts. Getch will report back to NIAC in October regarding his conversations with OAS regions.
- **Calfire Aircraft Approval –**
NIAC discussed inspections being completed by federal agencies on Calfire aircraft. The group discussed the fact that Region 5 of the USFS issues a cooperator approval letter every year for Calfire aviation assets, and the USFS NIAC members committed to contacting R-5 to determine their inspection procedures. They will report back to NIAC at the next meeting.
- **Canadian Cooperator Aircraft AAR –**
NIAC will work on compiling what was learned this year. Rusty will work on setting up a separate date for an AAR and will send out invitations.

Follow-up

- Paul will be the vice-chair and will become chair once Jon's commitment is up in December of 2016.
- Hazard map is complete and the data group is working on uploading it to the NWCG website. Once the data is transferred to the NWCG website correspondence will be sent to the field describing the process for obtaining a standardized hazard map.

Reminders

- IHOG Revision Review Extended Until October 30, 2015
- Unmanned Kmax Demonstration = October 14, 2015 @ Lucky Peak Helibase

Next Meetings for 2015:

- October 27th from 1300 - 1500
- December 16th from 1300 – 1500