

**National Interagency Incident Communications Division
NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354**

Memorandum

Date: January 07, 2014

To: Geographic Area Center Managers

From: Communications Duty Office Coordinator

Subject: Eastern Area Coordination Center Initial Attack Air to Ground FM Frequency Assignments for 2014 Fire Season.

The frequency information provided with this letter validates air to ground frequencies and the new naming convention for the coming 2014 fire season. Air to Ground radio frequency assignments used for initial attack are coordinated by the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) National Interagency Incident Communications Division (NIICD), Communications Duty Office Coordinator (CDO). Air to Air frequency assignments are provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and will be forthcoming in a separate document. The Air to Ground assignments are provided by the Department of Interior and the Department of Agriculture. It has become increasingly difficult to meet the growing demand for radio frequency spectrum and it is expected that future requirements cannot be met without aggressive frequency management and extensive sharing among all agencies.

Initial Attack FM Air to Ground Assignments

Air to Ground frequencies provides communication between initial attack aircraft and ground crews operating within the initial attack zone. Agency mobiles and portables responding to initial attack within a zone require air to ground assignments to be authorized, or licensed, so that agencies may configure equipment prior to fire season, without requiring "on the fly" changes during the fire season. In the event that the assigned frequencies may not be sufficient to support extensive fire activity temporary assignments may be requested from the Communication Duty Officer (CDO) to supplement the initial attack zone.

Each agency is represented by a frequency manager and NIICD has worked with these managers to coordinate frequency resources for use in accordance with the radio frequency authorization (RFA) or temporary use authority that permits operation on that frequency.

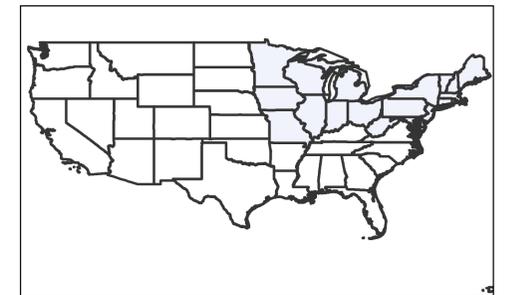
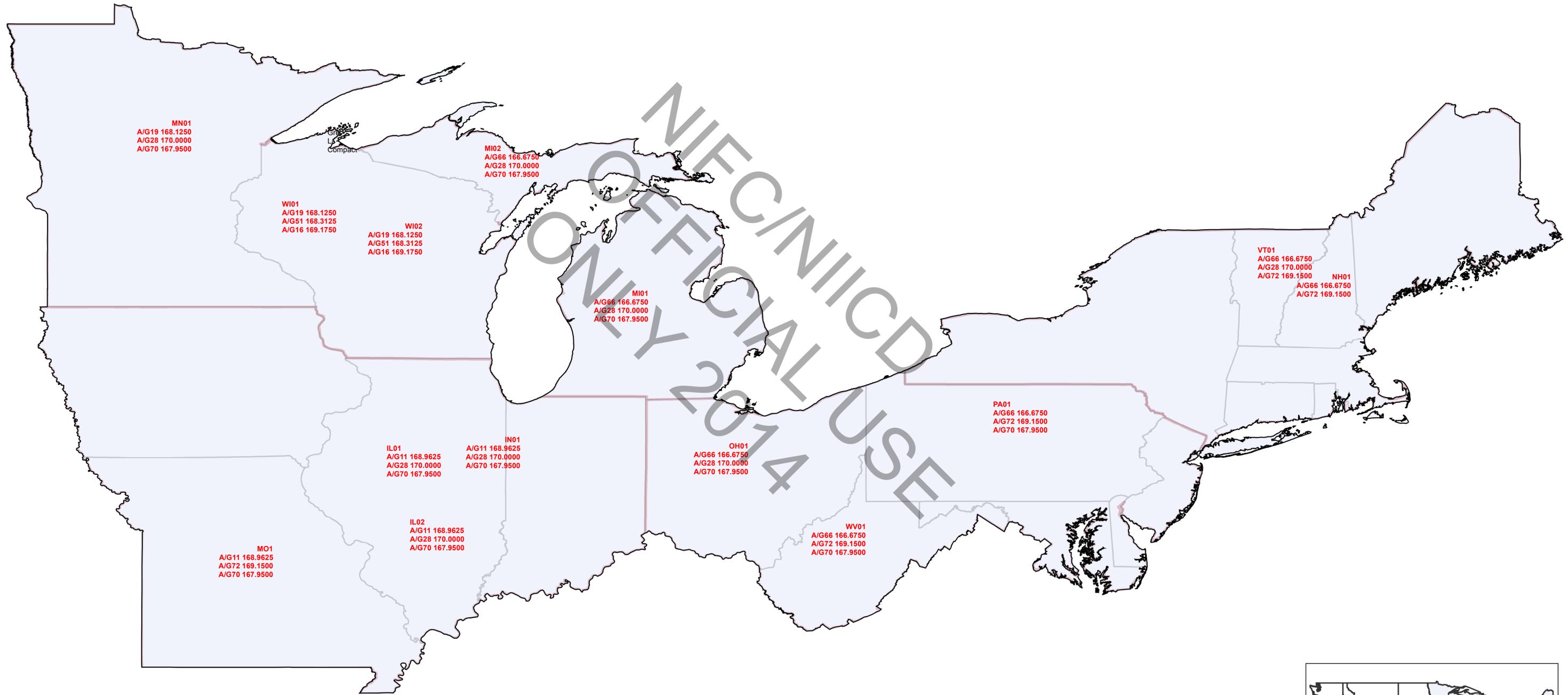
Initial Attack Zone Boundaries

When changes to initial attack zone boundaries are planned, NIICD will make a representative available to assist GACC managers with coordination of frequency requirements in order to facilitate a timely transition. Any zone boundary changes must be planned out in advance and will not reflect changes until the next fire season.

Sensitive But Unclassified

Under the authority of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Interior and Department of Agriculture have designated specific frequencies nationwide for assignment and use by NIFC to support their all-risk-management missions. These radio frequency assignments are Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) release exempt and are to be protected as Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) data.

Frequencies by Initial Attack Zone EACC



*The frequencies on this map are Unclassified but Sensitive
and are not releasable under the Freedom of Information Act*