

CHAPTER 50 - AIRCRAFT**AIRCRAFT**

Aircraft may be used for a wide range of activities, including point-to-point transport of personnel, equipment and supplies. Tactical use may include applications such as retardant delivery, helicopter logistical and tactical support, air tactical and leadplane operations, suppression or preparedness reconnaissance, helitorch operations, etc.

AIRCRAFT SOURCES

Sources for aircraft include agency-owned aircraft (Fleet), exclusive-use (EU), call-when-needed (CWN), or Department of Interior (DOI) On-Call contract aircraft. Rental aircraft are signed up by the DOI under an Aircraft Rental Agreement (ARA), or by state agencies through Cooperative Agreement or letters of authorization. Cooperator and military aircraft may be utilized provided an agreement and approval are in place. Use of active duty military aircraft by federal agencies is rare, and is coordinated by the NICC.

The State of Idaho may obtain Canadian aircraft through the Northwest Compact via the agreement with Idaho Department of Lands (IDL)

National Guard (NG) resources may be mobilized in accordance with current agreements.

When ordering long term NG resources, each state has identified a single dispatch center and state liaison who will coordinate and serve as the liaison/contact for any request for NG assets.

IDAHO: All units in Idaho will order through the Boise Interagency Dispatch Center (BDC) utilizing established dispatch channels. BDC will work with the IDL duty officer and the GBCG contact for notification and mobilization of NG resources. The ordering dispatch center will then notify GBCC regarding the order. BDC will contact the IDL Fire Bureau Duty Officer to place the order.

NEVADA: All units within Nevada will order through the Sierra Front Interagency Dispatch Center (SFC) utilizing established dispatch channels. SFC will work with the NDF duty officer and GBCG contact for notification and mobilization of NG resources. The ordering dispatch center will then notify GBCC regarding the order. SFC will contact the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) Duty Officer to place the order.

UTAH: All units within Utah will order through the Northern Utah Interagency Dispatch Center (NUC) utilizing established dispatch channels. NUC will work through the Utah Division of Forestry's duty officer and GBCG contact for notification and mobilization of NG resources. The ordering dispatch center will then notify GBCC regarding the order. Dispatch centers shall not contact the NG directly to order aircraft.

ARIZONA: All requests for Arizona National Guard resources will be ordered through the Arizona Dispatch Center to the Arizona State Forestry. An informational copy of the resource order must be sent through the normal dispatch channels to Southwest Coordination Center.

WYOMING: At certain times the National Guard has available helicopters, equipment and personnel that are useful in the suppression of forest and range fires on Federal and State lands. The National Guard units may be ordered through the State for state incidents or the RMACC for federal incidents. Only helicopter resources have been identified in a preseason agreement.

- **Carding and Approval**

All aircraft and pilots under DOI and USFS operational control must be approved and carded by either DOI or USFS. Aircraft and pilots requiring "special use or mission" endorsement require inspection by a USFS or DOI authorized inspector. Typically special use or mission flights are defined as anything other than point to point transport.

1 **AIRCRAFT MOBILIZATION** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide

2
3 Local units requiring aviation services other than those currently assigned within their dispatch boundaries
4 must order additional services through the established dispatch channels. When aviation resources are in
5 high demand, the GACC will coordinate aircraft assignments and utilization within the Great Basin. In
6 situations where a GBMAC support has been formed, the MAC will coordinate with GBCC and local units
7 on allocation and prioritization of resources. All aircraft movement will follow established dispatch
8 procedures.

9
10 All BLM aircraft, exclusive use, CWN or On Call are national resources and are subject to movement and/or
11 reassignment by BLM National Office and/or BLM State Office and will be coordinated through the GBCC
12 and relayed to the local dispatch center.

13
14 State aircraft may be moved within each State's area of responsibility with coordination through the local
15 dispatch centers. When movement of aircraft by the States will be crossing GACC boundaries,
16 communication to each geographic area is requested.

17
18 The closest forces concept should be followed by all agencies for Initial Attack (IA), and is defined as:
19 The resource that has the shortest timeframe to reach a predetermined incident location. Established
20 dispatch channels will be followed at all times.

21
22 Agency aircraft identified below will be configured using a roster when mobilized to an incident:

23
24 Aerial Supervision Modules (ASM 1) and agency pilots and the assigned aircrew
25 Lead Planes and agency pilots
26 Agency owned Air Attack platforms and the assigned aircrew
27 Agency exclusive use Air Attack platforms and the assigned aircrew
28 Agency exclusive use helicopters and the assigned module members
29 Agency owned helicopters and the assigned module members

30
31 **AIRCRAFT DEMOBILIZATION**

32 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide

33
34 **FLIGHT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES / FLIGHT FOLLOWING**

35 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide

36
37 • **FLIGHT CREW / AIRCREW ORIENTATION**

38
39 The local unit is responsible for providing an aviation briefing to:

40
41 IMT aviation staff
42 Incoming aviation resources
43 Aviation Safety Assistance Teams (ASAT)

44
45 The briefing of non-local aviation resources should include, but is not limited to, the following:

46
47 Local administrative procedures, meals, lodging, time, flight payment document procedures, etc
48 Airport procedures, base security policy, and plan
49 Specific fire, fuel, and fire behavior conditions and information
50 Aerial hazards maps for the local area
51 Contact procedures prior to entering a SUA, TFRs, Airspace Letters of Agreement (LOA), and
52 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
53 Weather (current and forecast)
54 Crew/aircraft information sheets (see agency specific guide)
55 Aircraft status summary
56 Flight following procedures

1 Local information, fueling, water sources, sunrise/sunset times, etc.
 2 Radio frequencies, map sets, and warehouse supplies
 3

4 • **AIRCRAFT DISPATCH FORM REQUIREMENTS**
 5

6 The Aircraft Dispatch Form is required for all non-local (outside of the ordering dispatch area)
 7 requests for the following:
 8

9 Airtanker, Lead Plane, and ASM requests in initial attack, extended, and complex incidents.
 10

11 Helicopters and Air Attack requests in initial attack or upon request of the sending unit or the
 12 GBCC.
 13

14 *For resources coming from outside the GACC (or leaving the GACC), contact the GBCC to see if*
 15 *the form is required.*
 16

17 If multiple aircraft are being ordered, or they are ordered within reasonably close timeframes of each
 18 other, one submission of the form to the GBCC or an adjacent neighbor dispatch will suffice. This
 19 form provides many benefits over the ROSS resource order for both dispatch and the aviation
 20 community such as readability of incident locations, elevations, frequencies, hazards, contacts, and
 21 flight following information. A ROSS request must then follow to the sending dispatch office as soon
 22 as practical. With the exception of neighborhood agreements across GACC boundaries, all requests
 23 not filled within the Great Basin must be in ROSS for placement to the NICC. Requesting units shall
 24 ensure that ROSS incident information is accurate to include current frequencies, reporting locations,
 25 and contacts.

26 • **TYPES OF FLIGHTS**
 27

28 ○ **Point-to-Point**

29 Point-to-Point flights originate at one developed airport or permanent helibase, with a direct flight
 30 to another developed airport or permanent helibase. A point-to-point flight is conducted higher
 31 than 500 feet above ground level (AGL) except for takeoff and landing. OMB Circular A126
 32 requires justification and a cost comparison calculation for administrative flights, however, the
 33 resource order is sufficient for tactical prepositioning of aircraft. Refer to specific agency policy for
 34 guidance and required forms. The following are examples of point-to-point and/or administrative
 35 flights:
 36

- 37 ▪ Prepositioning
- 38 ▪ Attending training
- 39 ▪ Giving a speech
- 40 ▪ Functional assistance trip
- 41 ▪ Attending a workshop
 42

43 If a vendor is moving an aircraft under their own volition (non-revenue), it is not considered
 44 mission or point-to-point and is technically outside of any dispatching responsibility of flight
 45 tracking and/or flight following and will not have a flight schedule form. If a vendor requests flight
 46 tracking and/or flight following, it may be given as a courtesy, but is not required.
 47

48 ○ **Mission**

49 Mission flights are defined as flights not meeting the definition of a point-to-point flight. A mission
 50 flight requires work to be performed in the air (retardant or water delivery, fire reconnaissance,
 51 smokejumper delivery) , or through a combination of ground and aerial work (delivery of
 52 personnel and/or cargo from helibase to helispot or unimproved landing sites, rappelling or cargo
 53 letdown, or horse herding).

1 • **FLIGHT MANAGER**

2
3 There will be a flight manager designated on all passenger flights originating within the Great Basin.
4 GBCC will use the “National Mobilization Guide” direction for flight manager duties and
5 responsibilities.

6 The flight manager is responsible for ascertaining the most efficient means of transportation to meet
7 the criteria/schedule. The dispatch office will provide assistance in estimating aircraft costs but is not
8 responsible for completing the cost comparison/justification worksheets/forms. The responsible party
9 (flight manager or authorizing authority) must complete and sign (certify) the cost
10 comparison/justification worksheets. Agencies are responsible for compiling documentation of the
11 cost comparison/justification form and the flight invoice for each administrative flight.

12 • **FLIGHT PLANS**

13 All flights must be on a flight plan. There are two appropriate types of flight plans: FAA Flight Plan and
14 Agency Flight Plan. The type of flight plan (method of flight following) is normally documented on the
15 Flight Request/Schedule Form.

16 ○ **FAA Flight Plan**

17 FAA flight plans **are required** when a flight proceeds beyond a geographic boundary (Exception:
18 Initial Attack that requires crossing a geographic area border) or those flights within the Great
19 Basin not on an Agency Flight Plan.

20 There are two types of FAA Flight Plans:

- 21 ▪ Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) - FAA flight following is automatically provided by Air Traffic
22 Control (ATC) on this type of flight plan.
- 23 ▪ Visual Flight Rules (VFR) - The pilot must request FAA flight following. ATC may or may not
24 provide it. It is the pilot’s responsibility to confirm with dispatch which type of FAA flight plan
25 will be used. The pilot shall close out the flight plan with the FAA once the flight is completed.

26 ○ **Agency Flight Plan**

27 Agency flight plans **are required** when an FAA Flight Plan is not filed. Agency Flight Plans are
28 most often used for flights taking place within the Great Basin. The responsibility of ensuring the
29 safe completion of a flight (flight following) lies with the originating dispatch office, unless a
30 positive, documented handoff occurs.

31 There are two types of Agency flight following:

- 32 ▪ Automated Flight Following (AFF) - AFF is the preferred method of agency flight following
33 (once radio communications have been confirmed). If the aircraft and flight following office
34 have AFF capability, it shall be utilized. Periodic radio transmissions for flight following
35 reasons are acceptable but should be short and infrequent when utilizing AFF.
- 36 ▪ Radio Check-in/Check-out – This requires verbal communication via radio every 15 minutes
37 through the duration of the flight. The dispatcher logs the aircraft call sign, location, and
38 heading.

39 At the conclusion of the flight, the flight manager/pilot will ensure that the receiving dispatch office
40 is notified of their arrival. The receiving dispatch office is responsible for notifying the originating
41 dispatch office. If an aircraft is overdue, it is the receiving dispatcher’s responsibility to initiate
42 aircraft search and rescue actions. The flight following dispatch office shall be continually staffed
43 while an aircraft is airborne. Flight following problems should be documented in the SAFECOM
44 system.

45 Federal/state agencies and cooperators utilizing aviation resources for non-fire projects are not
46 automatically tracked and/or flight followed on Agency Flight Plans. Any requests for the Great
47 Basin dispatch centers to perform this function must be part of a Project Aviation Safety Plan and

1 coordinated well in advance of the project and will have a flight request schedule form completed.
2 Requests for flight following, is a courtesy, and is at the discretion of the dispatch office.

3 Vendors performing “End-Product” contracts will not be flight followed by Great Basin dispatch
4 centers.

5 • **AIRCRAFT FLIGHT REQUEST/SCHEDULE FORM**

6 Used for documenting aircraft, pilot, passenger, itinerary, and type of flight plan. Required information
7 on this form includes (but is not limited to):

8 Incident Name/Number and Request Number

9 FAA Registration, “N” number and Call Sign

10 Aircraft Make/Model/Color

11 Pilot and Vendor Name and Contact Information

12 Mission Description

13 Passenger/Cargo Information

14 Flight Itineraries

15 Flight Plan Type/Method of Flight Following

16 • **AIRCRAFT FLIGHT REQUEST/SCHEDULE FORM REQUIREMENTS**

17 The Aircraft Flight Request/Schedule Form is **required** to be completed (regardless of the type of
18 flight plan filed) for those flights that are:

19 Point-to-Point

20 Mission flights with fuel stops or passenger pickup (not direct to an incident)

21 Flights leaving the geographic area

22 Dispatch centers/aircrews will only utilize an approved agency Aircraft Flight Request/ Schedule form.

23 In accordance with the guidelines above, the sending dispatch office is responsible for initiating a
24 flight schedule form. This should occur before the aircraft begins flight. Dispatch offices should
25 communicate with pilots and/or flight managers to coordinate the completion of a flight schedule form
26 as accurately as possible. The type of flight plan must be documented as this information is critical for
27 initiating search and rescue actions. Once the flight schedule form is created by the sending office, it
28 must be faxed to GBCC. If the GBCC is the hiring/sending office, a form will be created and faxed to
29 the receiving dispatch office. The GBCC will fax the form to all the affected dispatch offices when
30 Agency Flight Plans are filed. The form will be faxed to the NICC by the GBCC for those flights
31 leaving the geographic area.

32 ○ **Responsibilities of the Sending Unit**

33 Obtain actual time of departure (ATD) and estimated time of arrival (ETA) from the initial
34 departure airport from pilot/vendor.

35 Relay the ATD, ETA, and type of flight plan/flight following being utilized (FAA or Agency, AFF or
36 Radio check-in) to the GBCC.

37 Notify the GBCC of known delays/advances of a flight plan exceeding 30 minutes.

38 Assist with search procedures for overdue aircraft. Utilize the Interagency Aviation Mishap
39 Response Guide and Checklist.

- 1 On any flight requiring stops enroute to a destination within the Great Basin, instruct the pilot-in-
 2 command or flight manager to contact the GBCC at 801-531-5320. Aircraft support vehicles
 3 should contact the GBCC at fuel stops.
- 4 On any flight proceeding beyond the Great Basin, instruct the pilot-in-command or flight manager
 5 to contact the NICC at 800-994-6312. Aircraft support vehicles should contact the NICC at each
 6 fuel stop
- 7 ○ **Responsibilities of the GBCC**
- 8 Relay the flight itinerary and type of flight plan/flight following being utilized to the requesting unit
 9 or NICC via phone/fax.
- 10 Notify the requesting unit or the NICC in delays/advances of a flight plan exceeding 30 minutes.
- 11 Assist with search procedures for overdue aircraft. Utilize the Interagency Aviation Mishap
 12 Response Guide and Checklist.
- 13 ○ **Responsibilities of the Receiving Unit**
- 14 Confirm arrival of all tactical aircraft by telephone to the GBCC.
- 15 Notify the GBCC of any delays of a flight plan exceeding 30 minutes; notify the GBCC of any
 16 aircraft overdue by more than 30 minutes.
- 17 Initiate/assist with search procedures for overdue aircraft. Utilize the Interagency Aviation Mishap
 18 Response Guide and Checklist.
- 19 ● **AUTOMATED FLIGHT FOLLOWING (AFF)**
- 20 Automated flight following is the preferred type of Agency Flight Following. Automated flight following
 21 provides the dispatcher with a wide range of information on the flight, airspace, and other data that
 22 may be pertinent to the flight. This reduces pilot workload, clears overloaded radio frequencies, and
 23 provides the dispatcher with much greater detail and accuracy on aircraft location and flight history.
 24 AFF does not eliminate hand-off procedures.
- 25 ○ **Requirements to Utilize Automated Flight Following (AFF)**
- 26 Automated flight following does NOT reduce or eliminate the requirement for aircraft on mission
 27 flights to have FM radio capability and for the aircraft to be monitoring appropriate radio
 28 frequencies during the flight.
- 29
- 30 When utilizing AFF, periodic “ops normal” radio checks may be desirable. These should be very
 31 brief and less frequent than the 15-minute radio check-in procedures.
- 32
- 33 Procedures for flight requests, ordering aircraft, requirement for a flight manager, etc., are the
 34 same as radio check-in procedures.
- 35
- 36 The aircraft must be equipped with the necessary hardware (transmitter and antenna).
- 37
- 38 When a flight will cross “boundaries” (example: A flight will originate on Unit A, fly on Unit A, then
 39 continue on to Units B and C), coordination between dispatch offices of Units A, B, and C must be
 40 accomplished. If an aircraft is being dispatched, it is the responsibility of the sending unit to
 41 ensure that receiving dispatch centers responsible for flight following during any portion of the
 42 flight must be open.
- 43
- 44 ○ **Procedures for Utilizing AFF**
- 45 When an aircraft is ordered, or an aircraft requests flight following from a dispatch office and the
 46 above listed requirements are met, automated flight following shall be initiated.
- 47 Other standard information shall be communicated to the dispatch office, such as route of flight,
 48 passengers, purpose of flight, radio frequencies to monitor, known flight hazards, TFR
 49 information, ETD, etc. (no change from radio check-in procedures).

- 1 If the flight will cross dispatch boundaries, the originating dispatch office must coordinate with
2 affected units, and establish that the aircraft will be handed off when the border is crossed.
- 3 When an aircraft is initially airborne and outside of sterile cockpit environment, a radio call shall
4 be made to the flight following dispatch office to initiate AFF. This is required to positively verify
5 that both the aircraft and the dispatch office are utilizing automated flight following, radios are
6 operational, and that the dispatcher can “see” the aircraft on AFF. If there is a problem at this
7 point, revert to normal radio 15-minute check-in procedures until the problem is resolved.
- 8 When the aircraft has completed the flight and landed, the pilot or passenger (observer, flight
9 manager, ATGS, etc.) shall contact the flight following dispatch office via radio or telephone
10 informing them that they are on the ground.
- 11 ○ **Responsibilities of Pilot/Flight Manager**
- 12 Contact dispatch with a request to utilize AFF (preferably via phone prior to flight).
- 13
- 14 Provide dispatch with appropriate flight information (same as radio check-in procedures).
- 15
- 16 Obtain appropriate FM frequencies and tones to be monitored during flight and brief on radio calls
17 you will make and what response is expected.
- 18
- 19 Shortly after takeoff and outside of sterile cockpit environment, contact dispatch via radio to
20 initiate AFF.
- 21
- 22 If radio contact is not made with dispatch office, return to airport/helibase.
- 23
- 24 If radio contact is made and AFF is verified by dispatch office, monitor assigned frequencies,
25 including guard, for duration of flight.
- 26
- 27 If a deviation from planned and briefed flight route occurs, contact dispatch office via radio with
28 the change.
- 29
- 30 If AFF capability is lost at the dispatch office, or the signal is lost during the flight, flight following
31 will revert to 15-minute radio check-in procedures.
- 32
- 33 Although not required at any time during the flight, it is acceptable to check in via radio with
34 dispatch to confirm positive AFF.
- 35
- 36 Inform dispatch upon landing that the aircraft is on the ground.
- 37 ○ **Responsibilities of Aircraft Dispatcher**
- 38 When AFF is requested, ensure AFF program access is available and request standard flight
39 information from the pilot/flight manager. Document using existing dispatch forms and logs.
- 40
- 41 Provide pilot/flight manager with appropriate frequencies to monitor during the flight (dispatch
42 frequency, national flight following, etc.). Ensure these frequencies are monitored during duration
43 of flight.
- 44
- 45 If flight following will be handed off to another dispatch office during the flight, brief this with the
46 pilot, flight manager, providing frequency change, call sign, and other appropriate information.
- 47
- 48 Check AFF system to ensure icon for the aircraft is shown.
- 49
- 50 Shortly after takeoff, pilot, flight manager will call via radio to initiate AFF. Check aircraft icon color
51 and verify time and date.
- 52
- 53 Ensure the AFF system remains operating on your computer during the entire flight.

1 Set 15-minute timer and check flight progress as appropriate during the flight. Document using
2 existing forms and logs.

3
4 An “ops check” radio call is acceptable at any time during the flight.

5
6 If the icon turns RED, it means the signal has been lost. Immediately attempt contact with the
7 aircraft via radio and follow normal lost communication, missing aircraft, or downed aircraft
8 procedures as appropriate.

9 If radio contact is made after a lost signal, flight may continue utilizing 15-minute radio check-ins
10 for flight following.

11
12 Use standard contact procedure if computer system goes down during flight.

13
14 ○ **Procedures for Handoff Between Dispatch Offices**

15 When a flight crosses dispatch boundaries, flight following will be handed off from one dispatch
16 office to another; a positive radio handoff must be made. This must be coordinated between the
17 affected dispatch offices and the aircraft.

18
19 ○ **Coordination Requirements**

20 Flight following handoffs must be coordinated when using AFF. Affected dispatch offices will
21 monitor appropriate frequencies, and if frequency changes are required, when and where they
22 should be made.

23
24 Whenever possible, utilize national flight following frequency (168.650, Tone 110.9, both transmit
25 and receive) for entire flight.

26
27 Ensure pilots/flight managers are briefed on any handoffs anticipated (call signs, frequencies and
28 when to switch) and if a combination of AFF and radio check-ins will be required (when and
29 where).

30
31 **NOTE:** Air Guard (168.625) is available to make contact with an aircraft or dispatch office if
32 contact can't be made on established frequencies. Once contact is initiated, an alternative
33 frequency will be assigned to continue flight following.

34 • **OVERDUE AND MISSING AIRCRAFT**

35 At 30 minutes past the last scheduled check-in, or the filed ETA, the dispatch office currently
36 responsible for flight following will confer with intermediate and/or destination dispatch office(s) to
37 determine the aircraft's location or whether the aircraft can be contacted by radio or located by other
38 means. For mission flights, the aircraft is considered overdue at the scheduled check-in time. Refer to
39 the Interagency Aviation Mishap Response Guide and Checklist for procedures to follow in the event
40 of an overdue and/or missing aircraft.

41 **AVIATION FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT**

42 • **NATIONAL AIR GUARD FREQUENCY - 168.625 MHz (Tone 110.9 TX and RX)**

43
44 A National Interagency Air Guard frequency for aircraft will be used for emergency aviation
45 communications. Continuous monitoring of this frequency in narrowband mode is mandatory by
46 agency dispatch centers. Rx and TX tones are required nationally.

1 This frequency, 168.625 MHz, is restricted to the following use:

2 Air-to-air emergency contact and coordination.

3 Ground-to-air emergency contact.

4 Initial call, recall, and redirection of aircraft when no other contact frequency is available.

5

6 • **NATIONAL FLIGHT FOLLOWING FREQUENCY 168.650 MHz (tone 110.9 TX and RX)**

7

8 The national flight following frequency is used to monitor agency and contract aircraft. This frequency
9 is used for flight following; it is not to be used during mission flights or incident operations.

10 All dispatch centers/offices will monitor the national flight following frequency at all times.

11

12 This frequency, 168.650 MHz, is restricted to the following use:

13

14 Flight following, dispatch, and/or redirection of aircraft

15 No other use is authorized

16

17 • **PREASSIGNED INITIAL ATTACK FREQUENCIES**

18

19 Initial attack AM and FM frequencies are issued annually by the National Incident Radio Support
20 Cache (NIRSC) to a pre-identified geographic area which corresponds to the Great Basin dispatch
21 zone boundaries. The frequencies issued are intended for initial attack incidents on any jurisdiction(s)
22 within that zone. Often there are not enough frequencies available for individual units to always
23 specify a particular I.A. frequency.

24

25 ○ **FM Frequencies (Air-to-Ground, VHF-FM)**

26

27 A standard air-to-ground (A/G) naming convention has been implemented in the Great Basin.
28 This naming convention utilizes a standardized frequency identifier (or name system) for initial
29 attack zone air-to-ground frequencies. Air-to-ground frequencies are assigned a numerical name
30 (example: a given frequency, 1xxx.xxx, will be designated as "A/G 1" and all other air-to-ground
31 frequencies will get an ascending numerical name. The standard naming of the air-to-ground
frequencies **will not** dictate the priority usage of a frequency.

32

33 Each zone has pre-assigned air-to-ground frequencies. These frequencies have been assigned
34 considering geographical locations to avoid as much interference as possible. If conflicts arise, a
35 request for an additional or new frequency will be placed through GBCC to NIRSC for a
temporary frequency.

36

37 ○ **AM Frequencies – Air Tactics (Air-to-Air)**

38

39 Each zone has pre-assigned Air-to-Air frequencies. Frequencies allocated to zones for initial
40 attack are not to be dedicated for project fire use. These frequencies may be used for All-Hazard
incidents, Search and Rescue, etc. with the coordination through NIFC CDO.

41

42 Each dispatch center will receive their assigned Primary Air-to-Air by April. The Secondary and
43 Tertiary are held at the GACC and will be ordered as needed through ROSS. All preassigned Air-
44 to-Air frequencies should be ordered and held at the local dispatch on a GACC Preposition order.
45 Throughout the fire season they should be assigned in ROSS to the fires they are used on and
46 will be released to the GACC at the end of the season or when no longer needed.

47

48 Temporary frequency assignments will be requested for project fire use. Temporary frequencies
49 cannot be reassigned when the incident is completed or no longer needed, they must be released
50 to NIFC CDO.

51

52 ○ **Additional Frequencies**

53

54 The following are some reminders before ordering, and during use, of these frequencies:

55

- Are all assigned frequencies being used?
- Is the operation of all aircraft on one victor frequency?
- Has the traffic decreased enough so that the frequency can be released?

SUNRISE/SUNSET TABLES

Aviation bases and dispatch centers shall have official sunrise and sunset tables at their locations in order to determine start up and cut off times for the local areas. For aircraft dispatch, use the official sunrise and sunset tables for the aircraft base nearest the fire.

Official sunrise and sunset tables are published with standard times. During Daylight Saving Time add one hour to all times in the table. The term civil twilight refers to a point 30 minutes prior to official sunrise or 30 minutes after official sunset.

Sunrise/sunset tables can be accessed on the internet at the following address:

http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS_OneDay.html

SPECIAL FLIGHT CONDITIONS**• INSTRUMENT FLIGHT CONDITIONS – FSM 5716.12**

Instrument Flight Conditions are for multi-engine or turbine powered single-engine aircraft for flights in Instrument Meteorological Conditions (IMC) that meet the applicable Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) requirements in Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 135, Part 91 and Part 61 as referenced in FSH 5709.16 or applicable contracts.

Low level (FSM 5716.3) fixed wing flight operations will be conducted only in daylight Visual Flight Rules (VFR) conditions (30 minutes prior to official sunrise until 30 minutes after official sunset).

• NIGHT FLYING - 5716.2

Night flying use is for multi-engine or turbine powered single-engine aircraft for night flights that meet the applicable requirements in FAR Part 91 and Part 61 as referenced in FSH 5709.16 or applicable contracts.

Pilots flying night missions shall land at airports or heliports that meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) lighting standards, except:

This restriction does not apply to helicopter flights utilizing Night Vision Goggles (NVG).

Low level helicopter flight operations will only be conducted using NVG. Helicopters will be approved for such an operation.

Reciprocating engine powered single-engine aircraft flights at night are authorized only for ferry and cargo-carrying missions at pilot-in-command discretion and in accordance with FAR Part 91.

STERILE COCKPIT PROCEDURES

Sterile cockpit procedures for all aircraft with agency communication radios will only monitor FAA VHF air traffic frequencies and agency guard frequency (for emergency only) within 5 miles of an uncontrolled airport. On departure, large air tankers and very large air tankers will cease operation on agency radios after reporting “rolling.” All other aircraft (including SEATs) will cease operation on agency radios before taxiing onto the active runway, or lifting off for helicopters. After reaching 5 miles from the airport, or outside class B, C, or D airspace, routine check-in and communication on agency radios will resume. On arrival, all aircraft will cease operations on agency radios (except for emergencies) at least 5 miles from the airport or when in contact with approach control or tower. The pilot will radio the dispatcher and advise they are either under FAA flight control or 5 miles from landing. After landing and when clear of the active runway, communication with dispatch or the base may resume.

AIRSPACE BOUNDARY DISPATCHING

See the Great Basin Interagency Airspace Boundary Management Plan and Checklist, Chapter 80—4.

1 STAGED / PREPOSITIONED AIRCRAFT

2
3 All aircraft prepositioned at the request of the GBCC on Staging/Preposition charge codes are available
4 for local Initial Attack, following national commitment guidelines. Any assignment of these resources to
5 large/project fires will have GACC concurrence prior to assignment.

6 Prior to prepositioning aircraft to local dispatch bases, coordination will be made through the local center
7 manager/aircraft dispatcher. The local center will then create an incident in ROSS for the aircraft to be
8 assigned to for dispatch and tracking purposes.

9 Suggested example: 2016 BDC GBC Preposition/Staging. This incident can also include GACC
10 prepositioned crews, equipment, overhead and supplies.

11 Extended staffing of GACC prepositioned resources are to be made available for geographic wide IA
12 response.

13 Any extensions of local resources on the GACC charge code are considered available for GACC wide
14 response. Local units need to determine which resources are to be extended following this requirement.

15 Local units that have aircraft assigned to the GACC preposition code may utilize the code for additional
16 airbase staffing as needed with the concurrence of the GBCC.

17
18 AIRBORNE THERMAL INFRARED (IR) FIRE MAPPING

19 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.

20
21 • INFRARED (IR) FIRE MAPPING REQUESTS

22
23 Each request for an infrared flight will be ordered by 1500 daily. An infrared aircraft order form must be
24 completed and a new request number will be assigned each day. An infrared scanner form needs to
25 be completed on the NIROPS Web site at <https://fsapps.nwccg.gov/nirops/users/login>.

26
27 This webpage will give the user step by step instructions on how to order and IR flight.
28 User accounts can be requested by webpage or by contacting NIROPS directly 505-842-3845.

29
30 If the website is unavailable, an Infrared Aircraft Scanner Request form (Chapter 80) will be submitted
31 for each request. A new scanner request form must be completed and forwarded to NICC when
32 scanning criteria or parameters change.

33
34 When competition exists for resources within their area, NIROPS will set priority for airborne thermal
35 infrared fire mapping aircraft.

36
37 **AERIAL SUPERVISION AIRCRAFT** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide.

38
39 Aerial supervision aircraft will be ordered through established dispatch processes and the GBCC will advise
40 the ordering unit of aircraft availability. The unit shall then advise the GACC whether or not to keep the
41 order for a leadplane, ASM and/or air attack active in ROSS, or to UTF the order.

42
43 When competition for leadplanes, ASM and/or air attack aircraft exists between dispatch centers the GBCC
44 shall coordinate priority assignments, reassignments, and diversion of these resources. Replacement of
45 an incident's leadplane or air attack aircraft reassigned to another incident will be negotiated between the
46 center and the requesting unit.

47
48 For incidents on which significant flight time may accrue, dispatch centers and the GBCC should mutually
49 anticipate the need for relief air attack or leadplane resources.

This table summarizes interagency aviation supervision policy, but individual agency policy must be consulted for currency and consistency.

Incident Aerial Supervision Requirements		
When aerial supervision resources are co-located with retardant aircraft, they should be launched together on an initial order to maximize safety, effectiveness, and efficiency of incident operations. Incidents with 3 or more aircraft over/assigned to them should have aerial supervision over/assigned to the incident. Federal policy dictates additional requirements as listed below.		
Situation	Lead/ATCO/ASM	ATGS
Airtanker not IA rated	Required	*****
MAFFS	MAFFS Endorsed Lead / ASM	*****
VLAT	VLAT Endorsed Lead / ASM	*****
When requested by Airtanker, ATGS, Lead, ATCO, or ASM	Required	Required
Foreign Government Airtankers	Required if no ATGS	Required if no Lead/ATCO/ASM
Multi-Engine Airtanker: Retardant drops conducted between 30 minutes prior to, and 30 minutes after sunrise, or 30 minutes prior to, and 30 minutes after sunset	Required if no ATGS	Required if no Lead/ATCO/ASM
Single-Engine Airtanker (SEAT): SEATs are required to be on the ground by 30 minutes after sunset	See Level 2 SEAT requirements.	See Level 2 SEAT requirements
Level 2 SEAT requirements: Level 2 rated SEAT operating over an incident with more than one other tactical aircraft on scene	Required if no ATGS	Required if no Lead/ATCO/ASM
Retardant drops in congested / urban interface areas	Order	May use if no Lead/ATCO/ASM
Periods of marginal weather, poor visibility or turbulence	Order	Order

1 **Definitions of key words used in the Aerial Supervision Requirements chart:**

2 **Required** - Aerial supervisory resource(s) that shall be over the incident when specified air tactical
 3 operations are being conducted.

4 **Ordered** - Aerial supervisory resources that shall be ordered by the controlling entity. Air tactical
 5 operations may be continued while the aerial supervision resource is enroute to the incident. Operations
 6 can be continued if the resource is not available.

7
 8 ***An aerial supervision module, leadplane or air tactical group supervisor must be ordered any
 9 time it is requested by any aircraft regardless of number or type of resources assigned. If aerial
 10 supervision is available within the local unit, it is recommended it be dispatched any time other
 11 aerial resources are being sent.**

12
 13 USFS FSM 5716.32 requires an order for aerial supervision if there are 2 or more airtankers over a
 14 USFS incident.

1 Incident that have 2 or more branches, or smokejumper or para-cargo aircraft with 2 or more air tankers:
2 The Interagency Aerial Supervision Guide references ordering an ATGS only for these missions. FSM
3 5716.32 classifies these missions as complex.
4 For USFS incidents an ATCO and/or HLCO should be ordered as appropriate in addition to the ATGS.
5

6 • **AIR TACTICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR (ATGS) AIRCRAFT**
7

8 ATGS aircraft is a fixed or rotor wing aircraft that is comprised of a pilot and ATGS for initial and
9 extended attack response to enhance safety and efficiency of aerial and ground operations.
10

11 When requested, nationally sponsored ATGS aircraft and personnel will be dispatched for initial and
12 extended attack fire when they are available. This includes responding to incidents outside of assigned
13 dispatch center and GACC boundaries when requested. Normal dispatch procedures will be followed
14 and local dispatch centers will place orders to the GACC when the neighborhood policy is not
15 applicable.
16

17 The status of nationally sponsored exclusive use ATGS aircraft and personnel will be updated daily as
18 “Available GACC”, in both the Tactical Report and ROSS.
19

20 Call when needed ATGS aircraft will be ordered using normal dispatch procedures.
21

22 • **LEADPLANES / AERIAL SUPERVISION MODULE (ASM)**
23

24 The ASM is a fixed wing platform that has a leadplane qualified air tactical pilot (ATP) and an air tactical
25 supervisor (ATS). ASMs may act as either a lead or ATGS depending on incident requirements.
26

27 When available, they will be dispatched to support large air tanker assignments according to agency
28 policy. Leadplanes/ASM are multi-engine and the pilots are IFR qualified. Flight before/after civil twilight
29 is allowed for non-tactical flight. Some leadplanes/ASM pilots are qualified to direct MAFFS, and some
30 to direct VLATs – very large airtankers.
31

32 Leadplanes assigned to a unit may be dispatched direct to meet the unit's mutual assistance areas of
33 influence with notification to the coordination center within **15** minutes of commitment, followed by a
34 resource order.
35

36 The GBCC will coordinate with the appropriate dispatch center concerning leadplane availability and
37 crew assignment.
38

39 During periods of low fire probability it is permissible for leadplanes to be used for other missions.
40 Release of leadplane for non-suppression assignments is contingent upon the following conditions:
41

- 42 ▪ Airtanker pilots at the base to which the leadplane is assigned are initial attack qualified.
- 43
- 44 ▪ A backup leadplane is available within 1 hour or the released leadplane can be back on
45 base within the same time frame.
- 46
- 47 ▪ The release is approved by the GBCC.
48

49 **SMOKEJUMPER AIRCRAFT and REQUESTS** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide
50

51 • **SMOKEJUMPER INITIAL ATTACK (IA) REQUESTS**
52

53 Initial Attack smokejumpers should be launched immediately upon receipt of order via phone, fax,
54 resource order or aircraft dispatch form. When the order is generated in ROSS the request will be for
55 an A-#, “Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack”. As soon as possible after the jumpship is airborne, the
56 sending dispatch unit shall provide a manifest by email/fax to the receiving unit per established dispatch
57 channels. Notification to GBCC will be made within 15 minutes of dispatch.

Aircraft delivering smokejumpers should return to a designated airport or return to the sending base before the end of the pilot's daily flight or duty limitations. The aircraft will be released in ROSS at the end of its duty day to the dispatch center that is responsible for that given base. Any new requests will be ordered via ROSS through established dispatching channels.

• SMOKEJUMPER PREPOSITION REQUESTS

Smokejumper preposition requests will be ordered in ROSS on an Aircraft request as, "Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack", on an order. The duration of preposition may be negotiated prior to launch between the requesting unit, sending unit and GBCC. Preposition loads should be released within a reasonable time frame if they are not utilized or otherwise negotiated with management (i.e. long term spike base, etc.).

• SMOKEJUMPER BOOSTER REQUEST

When a long term commitment is requested and cannot be met through a preposition or IA load, a booster of jumpers can be ordered by individual Overhead requests. The request may be filled using jump ships, driving, charter aircraft or commercial travel and can be negotiated between the requesting and sending unit with notification to the GACC. If smokejumper aircraft are used to deliver boosters, the load should travel in a jump ready configuration.

LARGE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)

HELICOPTERS See [National Interagency Mobilization Guide](#)

• ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN ORDERING A HELICOPTER

○ Helicopter Types and Mission Capability

Type I Standard	Cargo, Water, Passengers
Type 1 Restricted/Limited	External Cargo, Water – No Passengers
Type 2 Standard	Cargo, Water, and Passengers
Type 2 Restricted/Limited	External Cargo, Water – No Passengers
Type 3 Standard	Cargo, Water and Passengers
Type 3 Limited	See <i>IHOG, Chapter 2, Section III.</i>

○ Helicopter Configuration:

Helicopter with bucket or longline
 Helicopter should be initial attack ready
 Tank or bucket only

○ Helicopter Capability:

Operating environment (temperature and altitude)
 Minimum passenger load consideration
 Minimum internal/external load requirement

○ Special Mission Capability:

Longline
 Aerial firing
 Helicopter retardant
 Rappelling
 Short-haul
 Medical evacuation

- 1 ○ **Personnel Needs:**
 2 Identify type of module needed and should it be standard configuration
 3 Agency considerations with regard to personnel
 4 Specialized Mission Qualifications:
 5 ▪ Helitorch mixing/loading crew qualifications
 6 ▪ PSD Operator qualifications
 7 ▪ Medical personnel (EMT) qualifications
 8 ▪ Rappel or Short-haul qualifications
 9
- 10 ○ **Equipment Needs**
 11 Sphere dispenser with spheres
 12 Helitorch and fuel source
 13 Handheld Infrared equipment
 14 Port-a-tank
 15 Litter or other specialized rescue items
 16 Nets, slings & swivel (specify if non-standard)
- 17 ● **EXCLUSIVE USE HELICOPTER CONTRACTS**
 18 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide
 19
 20 Exclusive use and agency owned helicopters must be ordered through normal dispatch channels.
 21
 22 Whenever an exclusive use helicopter fills a ROSS request outside of IA, the sending unit will send a
 23 fuel truck, support vehicle, manager and a **minimum** of 3 crew personnel. The helicopter order will be
 24 placed on an Aircraft order form with all the support/module information documented on that Aircraft
 25 request order form. Any specialty or other personnel qualification requirements (ICT4, PLDO, etc.)
 26 must also be specified.
 27
- 28 ○ **Idaho Helitack BLM Type 1 helicopter**
 29 The Idaho Helitack BLM Type 1 helicopter's primary mission is initial attack. While most effective
 30 at providing rapid initial response, this crew is well equipped to respond to extend attack incident
 31 and critical need missions on large fires. In order to retain this helicopter and crew beyond IA for
 32 extended attack incidents or critical mission needs on large fires, a request will be made to GBCC.
 33 GBCC will coordinate these requests and any reassignments with the Idaho BLM SAM or Duty
 34 Officer. Extended attack incidents that utilize the crew to fill critical positions, should immediately
 35 order replacement personnel for those positions in case the aircraft and crew are assigned.
 36
 37 Any unit requesting preposition of this resource and crew will specify the anticipated duration. If the
 38 aircraft and crew are not assigned to an incident during this period, they may be made available for
 39 higher priorities within the GACC.
 40
- 41 ○ **Type 1 Exclusive Use Helicopters- Standard/Limited Category**
 42 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide
 43
 44 Outside of initial attack, whenever a type 1 exclusive use helicopter fills a helicopter request the
 45 administrating/sending unit will send a fuel truck, support vehicle, and manager. Consideration
 46 should be given to logistical concerns (i.e. road access for large support vehicles, accommodations
 47 for large contract crew, etc.).
 48
- 49 ● **CALL WHEN NEEDED (CWN) / ON-CALL HELICOPTERS**
 50
 51 When placing an order with the GBCC, the following information should be included: altitude,
 52 temperature and intended use for the incident or project. Helicopter performance, cost, configuration
 53 and location shall be considered when filling orders.

1 Prior to being sent to the incident or project, helicopter(s) and manager/module(s) shall be joined at a
2 staging area away from, but convenient to, the incident/project (e.g. the nearest airport). The helicopter
3 manager will conduct a pre-use inspection verifying that all is in order and brief the pilot on the details
4 of the assignment.

5
6 All incident assignments require that a qualified helicopter manager and module be assigned.

7
8 During active fire season local dispatch offices must advise the GBCC of all CWN/On-Call
9 requests/assignments made by their offices.

10
11 Contract administration shall be accomplished through the helicopter manager. The helicopter
12 manager is responsible for conducting inspections, briefing prior to use and on scene contract
13 administration. Helicopter managers shall verify to the using unit that these inspections and briefings
14 have been accomplished. Specific procedures are contained in the Interagency Helicopter Operations
15 Guide (IHOG).

16
17 DOI agencies can only order helicopter services from DOI contract sources for non-emergency use
18 (prescribed fire, resource management projects, etc.). See DOI - OAS, OPM-39 at
19 <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/opm-39.pdf> for exceptions and procedures for use of
20 USFS procured aircraft.

21
22 Reference the Interagency Tech Bulletin 2015-01 to assist in determining what agency initially hired
23 the aircraft and if/when this should change to a different agency payment system. The helicopter/flight
24 manager and vendor are the responsible parties in determining the initial path to take, depending on
25 the original resource order and contract jurisdiction.

26
27 Interagency Technical Bulletin 2015-01:
28 https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/migrated/aviation/tech/upload/IATB_2015-01.pdf for further
29 information.

30 For ordering CWN modules to staff CWN helicopters see Chapter 20 of this guide.

31
32 ○ **Type 1 and 2 Call-When-Needed (CWN) Helicopters**

33 Type 1 and 2 CWN helicopters are available under national contract and, with the exception
34 outlined below, shall be ordered through the NICC via established dispatch channels. Definitions
35 of categories (standard, restricted, or limited), as well as additional information on CWN helicopters,
36 can be found in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, and the Interagency Helicopter
37 Operations Guide (IHOG, chapter 2).

38
39 Exception: Any national forest with a type 1 helicopter operating locally on a timber sale contract
40 may use the helicopter for initial attack missions per the contract requirement in the timber sale
41 contract. The following must occur:

- 42
- 43 ▪ The helicopter can only be used for initial attack on incidents within or adjacent to the timber
44 sale that the helicopter is working on.
 - 45
 - 46 ▪ Coordination must occur between the local dispatch offices, the timber sale COR, and any
47 other resources assigned to the incident.
 - 48
 - 49 ▪ A resource order shall be submitted for documentation purposes to the coordination center.
 - 50
 - 51 ▪ For any request/assignment other than initial attack on or adjacent to the timber sale
52 procedures in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide must be used.
 - 53

54 ○ **Type 3 CWN / On-Call Helicopters**

55 There are two federal procurement methods used for acquiring Type 3 CWN/On-Call helicopters
56 within the Great Basin for federal agencies. These methods are:

1 ▪ The Forest Service CWN contract- coordination center and local dispatch offices must have a
2 written delegation of authority from the contracting officer to order under this contract.

3
4 ▪ The DOI On-Call Small Helicopter contract- administered by DOI-Acquisition Services
5 Directorate (AQD) in Boise, Idaho.

6
7 State agencies may have state CWN procurement policies. State Annual Operating Plans
8 (AOP) describes the use of state resources on federal incidents. Helicopters will meet
9 Interagency Fire Helicopter Standards for operation on federal incidents.

10
11 For projects, a cost comparison must be completed by the ordering office when deciding which
12 procurement method to use.

13
14 • **HELICOPTER RAPPELLING / CARGO LETDOWN**

15
16 Helicopter rappelling and cargo letdown operations are approved for use on all Great Basin agencies'
17 lands, provided the agency personnel and pilot have been trained, certified and approved in accordance
18 with the Interagency Helicopter Rappel Guide. Helicopter rappellers shall be ordered through normal
19 dispatch channels.

20
21 • **EXCLUSIVE USE HELICOPTER RAPPELLERS AND AIRCRAFT**

22
23 Outside initial attack, whenever an exclusive use helicopter fills a helicopter request the
24 administrating/sending unit will send a fuel truck, support vehicle, manager/spotter and a **minimum**
25 of 5 crew personnel. Orders for rappellers with aircraft within the Great Basin shall be on an Aircraft
26 resource order. Orders for rappel capable aircraft should be placed as immediate need, IA or for
27 preposition planning purposes.

28
29 • **RAPPELLER PREPOSITION**

30
31 Rappellers and aircraft may be ordered and mobilized for preposition purposes when multiple starts
32 are occurring or are predicted. Preposition request will be on an A-#, as "Load, Rappellers, Initial
33 Attack", and identified as preposition in special needs. The sending unit will assign all personnel as
34 subordinate A-#s under the aircraft request. The duration of preposition will be negotiated between the
35 ordering and sending units. Preposition loads should be released within a reasonable timeframe if they
36 are not utilized or otherwise negotiated.

37
38 • **HELICOPTER SHORT- HAUL RESCUE / INSERTION**

39
40 Short-haul is approved as a rescue method for use on all Great Basin agencies' lands provided that:

41 The mission is a life or death emergency.

42 The rescue is conducted by qualified personnel trained in accordance with agency policy and
43 standards.

44 The individual operation has been approved by the appropriate line officer.

45
46
47 Agency short-haul helicopters are available from the Payette Dispatch Center and Teton Dispatch
48 Center. Agency short-haul aircraft are ordered through normal dispatch procedures.

49
50 National Guard helicopter units in Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Intermountain Life Flight in Utah have
51 rescue hoist capabilities.

52
53 Requests for service are routed through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and/ or through
54 State Emergency Service dispatch/ communications center.
55
56

1 Boise Interagency Dispatch Center has an agreement with the Idaho National Guard for emergency
2 Short-haul rescue missions. The nature of these missions require the timely deployment of resources
3 to preserve life. This is not to be confused with the regular or long term deployment of National Guard
4 resources.

5
6 • **NATIONAL GUARD HELICOPTERS**

7
8 When ordering long term NG resources, each state has identified a single dispatch center and state
9 liaison who will coordinate and serve as the liaison/contact for any request for Guard assets.

10
11 **IDAHO:** All units in Idaho will order through the Boise Interagency Dispatch Center (BDC) utilizing
12 established dispatch channels. BDC will work with the IDL duty officer and the GBCG contact for
13 notification and mobilization of NG resources.

14 The ordering dispatch center will then notify GBCC regarding the order. BDC will contact the IDL Fire
15 Bureau Duty Officer to place the order.

16
17 **NEVADA:** All units within Nevada will order through the Sierra Front Interagency Dispatch Center (SFC)
18 utilizing established dispatch channels. SFC will work with the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) duty
19 officer and GBCG contact for notification and mobilization of NG resources. The ordering dispatch
20 center will then notify GBCC regarding the order. SFC will contact the NDF Duty Officer to place the
21 order.

22
23 **UTAH:** All units within Utah will order through the Northern Utah Interagency Dispatch Center (NUC)
24 utilizing established dispatch channels. NUC will work through the Utah Division of Forestry's duty officer
25 and GBCG contact for notification and mobilization of NG resources. The ordering dispatch center will
26 then notify GBCC regarding the order. Dispatch centers shall not contact the NG directly to order
27 aircraft.

28
29 **ARIZONA:** All requests for Arizona National Guard resources will be ordered through the Arizona
30 Dispatch Center to the Arizona State Forestry. An informational copy of the resource order must be
31 sent through the normal dispatch channels to Southwest Coordination Center.

32
33 **WYOMING:** At certain times the National Guard has available helicopters, equipment and personnel
34 that are useful in the suppression of forest and range fires on Federal and State lands. The National
35 Guard units may be ordered through the State for state incidents or the RMACC for federal incidents.
36 Only helicopter resources have been identified in a preseason agreement.

37
38 **IMPORTANT NOTE:** In an emergency situation requiring rescue aircraft, dispatchers should follow
39 local established ordering protocol for immediate and efficient dispatching of aviation resources. For
40 more information see: <https://www.nwcg.gov/committee/hshu-ehe>

41
42 • **AERIAL IGNITION**

43
44 There are two aerial ignition devices approved for Forest Service and DOI use; the helitorch and the
45 plastic sphere dispenser (PSD). See [Interagency Aerial Ignition Guide](#).

46
47 There are specific training and certification requirements for aircraft, pilots, helitorch modules and PSD
48 operators. Qualified and current individuals must be assigned when filling aerial ignition orders for
49 helitorch modules or PSD operators.

50
51 Orders for these resources for fire, or project use, may involve several different resource orders.
52 Example: helicopter ordered on an A#, helicopter manager and helitorch module or PSD operator
53 ordered on an O#, helitorch or PSD machine ordered on an E# and plastic spheres, ethaline glycol,
54 gasoline, etc. ordered on an S#.

55
56 To alleviate workload, resource tracking problems, and confusion, order an exclusive use helicopter
57 and crew who have all the components (aerial ignition equipment, supplies and qualified personnel)

1 whenever possible. This can be accomplished on one A# that specifies the aerial ignition capability
 2 needed in Special Needs.

3
 4 Note: The identification of equipment at bases does not necessarily mean qualified personnel are
 5 available to operate the equipment.

USFS, NPS and BLM helitack bases which have aerial ignition equipment are:

<u>Unit - Base</u>	<u>Aerial Ignition Capability</u>
Arizona Strip BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Twin Falls BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Boise NF (Lucky Peak, Garden Valley)	Plastic Sphere Dispensers
Salmon/Challis NF (Challis)	Helitorch / Plastic Sphere Dispensers
Salmon/Challis NF (Salmon)	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Sawtooth NF (Hailey)	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Payette NF (Price Valley, Krassel)	Helitorch, Plastic Sphere Dispensers
Caribou/Targhee NF (Swan Valley, Pocatello)	Helitorch, Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Bridger/Teton NF (Jackson)	Helitorch, Plastic Sphere Dispensers
Elko BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispensers
Ely BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Humboldt/Toiyabe NF (Bridgeport)	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Southern Nevada District BLM/ FS	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Canyon Country District BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
West Desert District BLM	Plastic Sphere Dispenser
Uintah-Wasatch-Cache NF	Helitorch / Plastic Sphere Dispensers

6 **AIRTANKERS**

7 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide

8

9 For airtanker status see: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/gbcc/aircraft.php>

10

11 • **VERY LARGE / LARGE AIRTANKERS** See National Interagency Mobilization Guide

12

13 • **MODULAR AIRBORNE FIREFIGHTING SYSTEMS (MAFFS)**

14 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the MAFFS Operations Guide

15

16 • **SINGLE ENGINE AIRTANKERS (SEATS)**

17 See National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the Interagency Single Engine Airtanker Operations
 18 Guide (ISOG). The guide can be found at the following link: <https://www.nwccg.gov/publications/506>

1 Single engine airtankers may be used under the following conditions:

2
3 ○ **USDA-Forest Service**

4 The Forest Service may use SEATs contracted by cooperators (for example, DOI or State
5 agencies) provided that they meet the requirements in FSM 5713.44.

6
7 ○ **DOI**

8 DOI contracted SEATs are a national resource and their primary mission is initial attack.
9 Mobilization is managed by dispatch centers with support from the national SEAT coordinator and
10 aviation managers. Operational considerations concerning SEATs can be referenced in the DOI
11 Exclusive Use SEAT SOPs, ISOG and the IASG.

12
13 Nationally sponsored SEATs will be dispatched for initial and extended attack fire when they are
14 available. This includes responding to incidents outside of assigned dispatch areas and GACC
15 boundaries when requested. Normal dispatch procedures will be followed and local dispatch
16 centers will place orders to the GACC when the neighborhood policy is not applicable.

17
18 The pilot shall be carded as either a level 1 or level 2 single engine airtanker pilot based on the
19 following criteria:

- 20
21 ▪ **Level 1-** Allows pilot to perform initial attack within the fire traffic area (FTA) without aerial
22 supervision.
- 23
24 ▪ **Level 2-** Requires aerial supervision when more than **one** other tactical aircraft are within
25 the fire traffic area (FTA).

26
27 ○ **State Agencies**

28 State agencies shall adhere to the Interagency Single Engine Airtanker Operations Guide when
29 using SEATs on federal fires. **SEAT's contracted by state agencies will be released back to**
30 **the home unit upon request.**

31
32 Orders for CWN/On-Call and exclusive use SEATS will be done through normal dispatch channels.
33 DOI On-Call SEAT contracts are organized by geographic area based on the contractors' home
34 base. To order a SEAT from a contractor that is based outside of the Great Basin requires an order
35 to the servicing GACC through NICC. See web page at:

36
37 <https://www.doi.gov/aviation/aqd/contracts> for contract and ordering information.

38
39 Aircraft performance and limitations should be considered when ordering SEAT's. The SEAT
40 support truck is a required component of the On-Call contract; the plane can be used while the
41 truck is in transit from the contractor's base to the incident operating base.

42
43 DOI suppression contract SEATs work 6 days on 1 day off schedule with no relief crew required
44 and no permanent designated base.

45
46 DOI suppression contract SEATs will be statused as available national at the end of each day.

47
48 During busy fire activity a national SEAT coordinator position will be activated at the BLM National
49 Aviation Office and will work with NICC and the GACC in coordinating SEAT issues.

50
51 ○ **SEAT Base Hours of Operation**

52 During the core fire season period (June- September) all Great Basin SEAT bases typically operate
53 on a 0900-1800 local schedule. Based on local activity or at the discretion of the GBCC, SEAT
54 base hours of operation may be adjusted. When aircraft are required to come on early or extend
55 due to local need, the Dispatch Center will coordinate with GBCC.

1 Dispatch centers will coordinate with the GBCC regarding extended staffing based on GBCC need
2 prior to 1730 each day.
3

4 ○ **SEAT Manager**

5 A SEAT manager (SEMG) is required to provide contract administration and SEAT Base oversight.
6 The SEMG is allowed to manage up to three SEATs. Airtanker base managers (ATBM) are allowed
7 to oversee SEAT operations without the presence of a SEMG.
8

9 ● **WATER SCOOPING AIRTANKERS**

10 CL-415 and Air Tractor 802 Fire Boss. Each Great Basin agency should have a water scooping
11 operations plan developed (at the appropriate management level) that describes suitable water
12 sources, public safety and invasive species control. Ordering of scoopers is through normal procedures
13 through the GACC.
14

15
16 ● **AIRTANKER OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES**

17
18 ○ **Rotation**

19 The policy found in the Interagency Airtanker Base Operations Guide shall be followed. The guide
20 can be found at the following link below:
21

22 <https://www.nwccg.gov/publications/508>
23

24 ○ **Ordering of Airtankers**

25 Movement/ordering of the airtankers will be through normal dispatching channels only.
26

27 During periods of sustained or multiple fire activity each unit shall take the necessary measures to
28 manage pilot time and remain cognizant of both flight time and duty day limitations. Unit dispatch
29 offices will notify the GBCC as airtanker(s) within their control reach a point at which they have 2-
30 hours of flight time remaining.
31

32 When airtankers are ordered, as much information from the field as possible shall be provided with
33 the initial order. This information should include but not be limited to: public and firefighter safety,
34 types of structures at risk, fire behavior and other pertinent concerns.
35

36 ○ **Airtanker Release Locations**

37 When airtankers are released, they should return to the current base of operations or the closest
38 airtanker base to the incident when the mission is accomplished unless prior arrangements or
39 coordination has been done. Aerial supervision should release aircraft to the local dispatch center
40 that will coordinate with the GBCC as to the release location or other instructions for assignment.
41

42 ○ **Airtanker Diversion**

43 Diversions will be coordinated through the coordination center. The priorities for airtanker and
44 leadplane use are: (1) human life or property or resource values (2) new starts (3) other priorities
45 established by management. Situations may develop necessitating the prompt and direct
46 reassignment of airtankers and leadplanes enroute to an incident or diverting them from a going
47 fire.
48

49 ○ **Airtanker Base Hours of Operation**

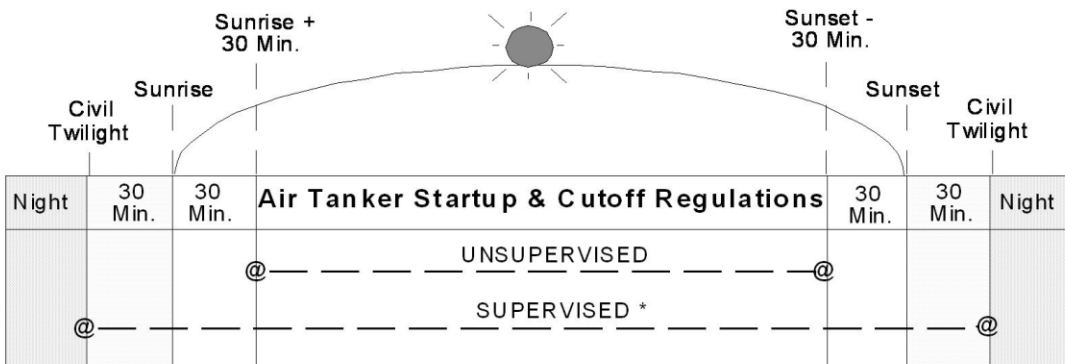
50 During the core fire season period (June- September) all Great Basin large airtanker bases typically
51 operate on a 0900-1800 local schedule. Based on local activity or at the discretion of the GBCC,
52 airtanker base hours of operation may be adjusted when aircraft are required to come on early or
53 extend past 1800. Airtanker base hours of operation will be coordinated through normal dispatch
54 channels. Dispatch centers will coordinate with the GBCC regarding early or extended staffing prior
55 to 1730 each day.

○ **Airtanker Dispatch Limitations - Start-Up/Cut-Off**

Multi-engine airtankers shall be dispatched to arrive over a fire not earlier than 30 minutes after official sunrise and not later than 30 minutes before official sunset. Retardant operations are permitted after sunset, but must have concurrence by involved flight crews. In addition, aerial supervision (lead/ ASM or ATGS) is required. Single engine airtankers shall comply with all single engine VFR requirements (30 minutes before sunrise, 30 minutes after sunset).

Note that the limitations apply to the time the airtanker arrives over the incident/completes its dropping activity, not the time the aircraft is dispatched from its base. The air tactical group supervisor, airtanker coordinator or air tanker pilot in command (PIC) will determine that visibility and other safety factors are suitable for dropping retardant and notify the appropriate dispatcher of this determination.

Airtanker Dispatch Limitations - Start-up/Cut-off Times



@ = Arrival Over the Fire (No earlier in the morning or later than in the evening).
 * = SUPERVISED (Defined as Air Tanker Coordinator or Air Tactical Group Supervisor)
 Note: Sunrise & Sunset are determined by the Official Sunrise and Sunset Tables of the nearest reload base

Reference the incident aerial supervision requirements table for additional information.

● **RETARDANT AVOIDANCE AREAS**

There are specified areas on each national forest in the Great Basin Area where the use of retardant/fire chemicals has been determined to adversely affect terrestrial and aquatic species. These areas are identified on the individual retardant avoidance maps located at all regional airtanker bases, dispatch offices, permanent helibases, and supervisor’s offices and on the GBCC webpage:

<https://sites.google.com/site/aerialsuper/home/maps-data/avoidance-areas-by-usfs-region>

If a misapplication of retardant occurs, follow the reporting and monitoring guidance found on the USFS Aerial Application of Retardant Web site: <https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/fire/chemicals>

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS)

Unmanned Aircraft Systems are considered aircraft and therefore must adhere to USFS/DOI policy (including approval and carding of aircraft and pilots). UAS include everything from hand operated devices weighing less than a pound to aircraft the size of commercial airliners. UAS include any aircraft used, or intended to be used, for flight in the air with no onboard pilot.

UAS missions must be approved in advance by DOI (OAS) or the U.S. Forest Service, Washington Office and Regional Aviation Officer prior to use on any USFS/DOI agency projects (to include fire/incidents/prescribed fire, BAER, etc.).

1 When UAS are flown for USFS/DOI work or benefit, FAA, USFS, and DOI regulations apply.

2 Units wishing to utilize UAS must have a plan in place for how they are going to collect, process, and
3 disseminate data gathered by a UAS. Consult with your Unit Aviation Officer or the Regional/State
4 aviation staff to assist in selecting and ordering the aircraft best suited for the mission.

5 The following minimum standards apply:

6 All aircraft (to include UAS) purchase, lease, or acquisition must follow agency procurement policy and
7 procedures.

8 **DOI and USFS UAS policy and operational Guidelines for use of UASs is dynamic and there are**
9 **differences in agency policies**

10 • **USFS**

11 UAS flights under USFS operational control must adhere to USFS policy and regulations regarding
12 their use. Guidance can be found in FSM 5713.7, the USFS National Aviation Safety and
13 Management Plan and at <http://www.fs.fed.us/science-technology/fire/unmanned-aircraft-systems>

14 • **DOI**

15 UAS flights under DOI operational control must adhere to DOI policy and regulations regarding their
16 use. Guidance can be found in 350-353 Departmental Manuals and Operational Procedures

17 Memoranda 11: <https://www.doi.gov/aviation/library/opm>

18 **Key Points for all agencies:**

19 The use of any UAS (including model or remote controlled aircraft) for compensation is considered a
20 “commercial” operation per the FAA. Commercial UAS operators must have a Section 333 Exemption and
21 COA or Part 107 certification issued by the FAA. A list of companies with valid 333 Exemptions can be
22 found here: <https://www.faa.gov/uas>

23 IMTs must notify the agency administrator prior to use of UAS. A modification to the Delegation of
24 Authority should be considered.

25 Personally owned UAS or model aircraft may not be used by federal agencies or their employees for
26 interagency fire use.

27 An emergency COA can only be issued by the FAA if the proponent already has an existing COA for their
28 aircraft. The request must be accompanied with a justification that no other aircraft exist for the mission
29 and that there is imminent potential for loss of life, property, or critical infrastructure, or is critical for the
30 safety of personnel.

31 Cooperators, pilot associations and volunteer aviation groups or individuals may offer to fly unmanned
32 aviation missions (i.e. aerial surveys, fire reconnaissance, infrared missions, etc.) at no charge to the
33 IMTs. Although these offers seem very attractive, we cannot accept these services unless they meet FAA,
34 USFS and/or DOI policy.

35 The FAA has established guidelines for hobbyists who fly model and remote controlled aircraft via
36 Advisory Circular 91-57. Model aircraft are to be flown only for recreation or hobby purposes. For further
37 information, refer to: https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/model_aircraft/

38 Additional information can be found on the FAA website: https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/

1 **AIRSPACE**2 • **TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS (FAR 91.137).**3
4 ○ **Policy**5 The policies and procedures found in the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide have been
6 adopted for all agencies' use and implementation.7
8 ○ **Procedures**9 It is essential that both local dispatch center and the GBCC dispatchers are trained in the policies
10 and procedures found in the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide "Interagency Request for
11 Temporary Flight Restriction" and "Documentation of Contacts Requesting Deconfliction of
12 Airspace by the Military."13
14 Local dispatch centers are responsible for:

- 15
-
- 16 ▪ Coordinating with military units for deconfliction of Special Use Airspace (SUA) and Military
-
- 17 Training Routes (MTR's)
-
- 18
-
- 19 ▪ Submitting requests for temporary flight restrictions to the appropriate FAA air route traffic
-
- 20 control center through the NOTAM Entry System (NES). Documenting the request on an A#.
-
- 21
-
- 22 ▪ Informing the coordination center of temporary flight restrictions granted by FAA

23
24 The coordination center upon request from a local unit, may assume the responsibility for
25 requesting flight restrictions and/or assisting local units in deconflicting airspace with the military.
2627 For non-fire deconfliction of airspace, refer to the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide or a
28 local agreement (i.e., BLM and Air Force: Mountain Home, Hill, or Nellis).
2930 If a dispatch center is experiencing high workload with airspace coordination they may order an
31 airspace coordinator. Additionally, military representatives to the FAA and agency airspace
32 program managers (See Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide) are also available to assist.
3334 • **MILITARY TRAINING ROUTES AND SPECIAL USE AIRSPACE**35 See the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide. "Documentation of Contacts Requesting De-
36 confliction of Airspace by the Military."
3738 Local dispatch centers are responsible for coordinating with military units for deconfliction of Special
39 Use Airspace (SUA) and Military Training Routes (MTRs). The GBCC, upon request from a local
40 dispatch center, may assume this responsibility and/or assist local units.
4142 • **AIRSPACE CONFLICTS**43
44 All airspace conflicts including accidents (mid-air collision), incidents (near mid-air collision), hazards
45 (intrusions into airspace restricted under Part 91.137 Temporary Flight Restrictions) and other
46 occurrences involving airspace shall be reported immediately by the individual involved with or
47 observing the conflict to the local dispatch center or aviation manager.
4849 Upon notification of a conflict, the local dispatch center shall immediately notify the local aviation
50 manager and/or airspace coordinator if in place.
5152 The local aviation manager/dispatch center shall immediately attempt to gather all pertinent details and
53 report the occurrence to:
5455 The appropriate regional, state, or area aviation manager
56 The coordination center

1 These individuals shall take all necessary action to further report the occurrence according to agency
2 requirements (e.g. in the case of an accident or incident with potential) and shall coordinate on the
3 immediate follow up and investigation of the conflict.

4
5 If the conflict involves a serious aviation accident involving injury or loss of life or property the
6 coordination center shall immediately notify the NICC and the appropriate agency aviation manager.

7
8 If an airspace conflict occurs that involves UAS, local units and/or dispatch centers will follow the NWCG
9 UAS Incursion Protocol (NWCG Memorandum 16-006) and report each incident to the affected
10 ARTCC.

11
12 See the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide for further information on airspace conflict reporting
13 and follow up.

14 15 • **FAA TEMPORARY CONTROL TOWER OPERATIONS**

16
17 Temporary control tower assistance is available through the FAA's Western Service Area Agreement
18 (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA, and WY). (Reference Chapter 11 Interagency Airspace
19 Coordination Guide). All requests for temporary control towers are ordered through GBCC on an
20 Aircraft resource order.

21
22 FAA temporary towers should be activated when conditions of visibility or level of activity at an
23 uncontrolled airport are such that FAA control will enhance safety. Airport managers should be
24 consulted, as well as pilots and aircraft managers. When an agency requests that an FAA temporary
25 tower be brought in due to complex aviation activity for an air base or incident, the following procedures
26 must be followed:

27
28 Local dispatch center submits a resource order and Temporary Tower Request form to the GBCC for
29 an FAA tower as an A#.

30
31 The FAA has requested additional information be provided when requesting FAA temporary control
32 towers information and the FAA Temporary Tower Request form can be found at the following website:
33 www.airspacecoordination.net

34
35 Provide the following when placing the order:

- 36
37
- 38 ○ Site Location- does a facility exist? (consider ordering air ops/helibase trailers, office trailers, etc.,
39 via an equipment order form) Does the facility have a good field of view for taxi, takeoff, and
40 approach paths? Does the facility have electrical and/or phone capability?
 - 41 ○ Estimated times of operation (sunrise to sunset)
 - 42 ○ Estimated duration of incident
 - 43 ○ The names, telephone numbers and e-mail/internet addresses of the local unit contacts.
- 44
45
46

47 **NOTE:** FAA personnel are not committed to 14 day assignments. The FAA will handle personnel switch
48 outs as needed and may request assistance with travel arrangements.

49
50 The FAA will be responsible for staffing appropriately to meet the request and any internal
51 requirements. (Agency will be responsible for providing total subsistence for FAA personnel).

52
53 The local unit aviation manager is responsible for providing a thorough briefing to the FAA controllers
54 and assist the controllers in presenting their own briefing to pilots and other interested personnel.

55
56 Ensure that adequate radio equipment is available for use. These must be 760-channel VHF-AM
57 radios. Note that the air ops/helibase trailers come with complete radio packages.

1 Be aware that the FAA will issue a NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) for the airport informing the public of the
 2 change in status from uncontrolled to controlled and identifying radio frequency for contact with the
 3 tower.
 4

5 Additional Needs- since the FAA does not have the support equipment necessary to establish a
 6 temporary tower, the incident should order support equipment through established ordering channels.
 7 See the National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide,
 8 Chapter 11, for a list of support equipment.
 9

10 When the incident no longer needs the tower, ensure that release procedures occur through the
 11 appropriate channels and payment documents are completed.
 12

13 AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

14 • ORDERING / RESOURCE TRACKING

15
 16 Units, in order to perform timely search and rescue must have a record of the complete FAA registration
 17 number of aircraft involved, including those designated below which are allowed to utilize a call sign
 18 other than the FAA registration number ("N"). Units shall use the established FAA aircraft registration
 19 ("N") number for logistical ordering/resource tracking through ROSS. **Resource orders must include**
 20 **the full FAA registration number for all aircraft.**
 21

22 ○ Tactical Aircraft Call Signs

23 Local or incident tactical aircraft must use the following call sign system for radio transmissions.
 24 Abbreviation to the last 3 numbers of the FAA registration number is permitted, provided there is
 25 no duplication of the call sign with that of another aircraft.
 26

27 ▪ Airtankers

28 Nationally assigned tanker number, for example call sign "Tanker 63."
 29

30 ▪ SEATs

31 Nationally assigned tanker numbers, for example call sign "Tanker 830."
 32

33 ▪ Aerial Supervision Module

34 Normally assigned pilot's lead number. State of Alaska will assign "A-Alpha" and all federal
 35 ASMs will assign a "B-Bravo" as their identifier. If the aircraft is flying with only a pilot the call
 36 sign will be "Lead".
 37

38 ▪ Leadplanes

39 Nationally assigned pilot's lead number, for example call sign "Lead 47".
 40

41 ▪ Air Attack

42 FAA registration number, abbreviation to the last 3 digits is permitted. For example, call sign
 43 "Air Attack 0TC." When assigned and over the incident, the air attack uses the fire name. For
 44 example, call sign "Pioneer Air Attack".
 45

46 ▪ Reconnaissance

47 FAA registration number, abbreviation to the last 3 digits is permitted. For example, call sign
 48 "Recon 51P."
 49

50 ▪ Helicopter

51 FAA registration number, abbreviation to the last 3 digits is permitted. For example, call sign
 52 "Helicopter 3HP."
 53

54 ▪ Smokejumper

55 FAA registration number, abbreviation to the last 2 digits is permitted. For example, call sign
 56 "Jumper 31."
 57

AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT AND INCIDENT/HAZARD/MAINTENANCE DEFICIENCY REPORTING

Any deviation from aviation policy or procedures, either on the ground or in the air, shall be reported through use of the SAFECOM report at: <https://www.safecom.gov/>, along with notification to the local unit aviation manager.

The agency with operational control of the aircraft at the time of the occurrence is responsible for ensuring timely submission by the observing or involved individual (i.e. flight manager) of the SAFECOM report. For aircraft enroute to an incident which are involved in an accident or incident/hazard/maintenance deficiency prior to arrival, the scheduling/sending dispatch office shall be the unit with reporting responsibility.

• NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR ACCIDENT AND MISSING AIRCRAFT

Reference the unit Aircraft Emergency Response Plan
 Notify agency aviation managers
 Notify the GBCC and the NICC

• GREAT BASIN AIRSPACE CONFLICT INCIDENT REPORTING PROCESS

Any individual, regardless of agency, who observes any action that they feel has potential safety implications, should report such action on a SAFECOM. The report must be timely and factual. The report should be submitted within 24 hours of occurrence, or sooner, if immediate action is needed.

Agency Aviation Safety Manager(s) from the agency that had operational control of the incident will review and investigate the SAFECOMs. Discrepancies will be handled per agency direction. The agency on which the incident occurs will bear the cost of the investigation.

AIRFIELD / AIRSTRIP CLASSIFICATION

Classifications of airfield/airstrips are contained in the USDA Forest Service Airfield/Airstrip Directory. This directory is available at: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/aviation/av_library/AAD2000.pdf

• AIRFIELD / AIRSTRIP CATEGORIES

Category 1

These are major airports that have paved, lighted, multiple runways served by FAA approved instrument approach procedure(s). These airports are generally limited by their weight bearing capacity.

Category 2

These airports generally serve small communities. They are equipped with at least one paved, lighted runway and services vary.

Category 3

These are airfields with limited or no services. They may be unpaved, unlighted and seasonally maintained. They are located either on federal, state, county, municipal or private land. Use approval must be obtained from the appropriate NF dispatch office.

Category 4

These are mountain/remote airstrips and are restricted by the FS to day VFR flight only. Use authorization must be obtained from the appropriate NF dispatch office. Pilots must have an endorsement on their Pilot Qualification Card and meet specific currency requirements.

• BACKCOUNTRY AIRFIELDS

Backcountry airfields are identified as Category 4 in the [Airfield/Airstrip Directory](#). Criteria for their use and pilot qualifications for Category 4 airfields are contained in the directory.

Air operations into any airfield/airstrip should be coordinated with local dispatch and regional aviation personnel.

• GREAT BASIN AIRPORT INFORMATION SOURCES

- FAA airport/facilities directory
- Western States Flight Guide
- AirNav.com
- <http://skyvector.com/>

SPECIAL USE AIRSPACE (SUA). See the Interagency Airspace Coordination Guide for procedures.

Dispatchers unfamiliar with the military units with whom they are dealing should refer to the Geographical Location column, then locate the applicable Special Use Airspace for the area of operations.

Points of contacts, with specific procedures for each base/scheduling agency are as follows:

Scheduling Agency	Special Use Airspace	Contacts
NELLIS Air Force Base	Desert MOA RA 4806 East/West RA 4807 Alpha/Bravo RA 4808 North/South RA 4809	Range Scheduling: Blackjack / Fire Reporting: 702-653-4707 Next day schedules: 702-653-7403 Weekend/Holiday: 702-653-5480 Nellis Air Traffic Control Facility: 702-652-2953 4222 Airspace Manager: 702-652-7891
FALLON Naval Air Station	Austin MOAs Gabbs MOAs Ranch MOAs Reno MOAs RA 4802 RA 4804 RA 4810 RA 4812 RA 4813 RA 4816 North/ South	Range Scheduling: 775-426-2416 or 775-426-3643 Desert Control: 775-426-2419 Weekend/Holiday: 775-426-2419 Ops Duty Officer: 775-426-2200
NEVADA Air National Guard	Low Altitude Tactical Navigation Area	Scheduling: 775-788-4595
HILL Air Force Base	Barren MOA Gandy MOA Lucin MOA Sevier MOA RA 6402 Alpha RA 6404 - Alpha/Bravo/Charlie RA 6405 RA 6406 Alpha/Bravo RA 6407	Hill AFB 807-777-4404 Clover Control: 801-777-7575 Scheduling: 801-777-4401 or 801-777-9385 Command Post: 801-777-3007 Airspace Manager: 801-777-6926

Scheduling Agency	Special Use Airspace	Contacts
<p>MOUNTAIN HOME Air Force Base</p>	<p>R-3202 3204 Owyhee MOAs Jarbidge MOAs Paradise E & W MOAs Saddle MOAs</p> <p>**MHAFB 366th will also schedule all routes for IDANG 190th**</p>	<p>366th Wing Scheduling: 208- 828-4607 / 4631 / 2172 FAX: 208-828-4573 E-Mail: 366oss.ososas@us.af.mil</p> <p>MHAFB RAPCON: Chief Controller Office 208-828-2854 / 2077</p> <p>Cowboy Control (MHAFB): Operations Floor: 208-828-1379</p> <p>MHAFB Airspace Manager: Byron Schmidt (use only when other coordination sources fail): byron.schmidt@mountainhome.af.mil 208-828-4722 (W) 208-631-1958 (C)</p> <p>MHAFB Command Post (use only when scheduling is not available): 208-828-5800</p>
<p>IDAHO Air National Guard</p>	<p>Saddle MOA</p> <p>Saddle MOA (Oregon)</p> <p>R-3203</p> <p>Triangle Saylor Creek R-3202 NOE (Danskin Mts)</p>	<p>IDANG 190th Wing Scheduling: ** All scheduling for IDANG 190th will be done by MHAFB 366th Wing Scheduling. See above.*</p> <p>DNG 266TH RANS (Cowboy Control) Airspace Scheduling: 208 828 1614 FAX: 208 828 4041</p> <p>Orchard Training Range Scheduling/ Operations: Charles Ake 208 272 8224 Cell: 208 559 1587 FAX: 208 272 4462</p> <p>Range Officer: CW2 Nathan Spaulding 208 272 8225 Cell: 208 841 1134</p> <p>Firing Desk: 208-272-4444 OTA Security: 208-866-2620</p> <p>Army Aviation 183rd AVN BN (Helicopters) Idaho only: Operations Officer: 208-272-3976 FAX: 208-272-4046 E-Mail: granger.amthor@us.army.mil</p> <p>Joint Operations: 208-272-5755 FAX: 208-422-6262</p>

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