



National Wildfire Coordinating Group
National Interagency Aviation Committee

NIAC-19-01

Date: 15 February 2019
To: IQCS Account Managers and Red Card Committees
From: Joel Kerley, Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee
Subject: Historically Recognized UAS Positions

Purpose: The purpose of this memo is to outline the historical recognition of the four UAS positions which have been added to the Wildland Fire Qualifications Guide (PMS 310-1). These positions include UAS Pilot (UASP), UAS Module Leader (UASL), UAS Manager (UASM), UAS Data Specialist (UASD).

Background: 70-85 federal employees have been conducting UAS operations on federally managed incidents since 2016. Prior to the NWCG implementation of UAS positions and training (October, 2018), federal employees were mobilized as Technical Specialists (THSP) for UAS assignments on federally managed incidents. These employees have attended BLM UAS Advanced (fire operations) training and conducted UAS missions in accordance with the Interagency Fire UAS Operations Guide (PMS 515).

The employees listed on the attached table have demonstrated they meet the position and training requirements of the new NWCG positions and have demonstrated successful performance on incidents.

Issue/Action Requested: Those UAS personnel who were previously performing in the position (s) have been historically recognized and will show as qualified or trainee in the IQCS (see attached). As agreed to by the NIAC, all future personnel seeking to qualified UAS personnel will be required to meet PMS 310-1 requirements. The UAS positions, training, operations guide, and taskbook can be found on the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) website at www.nwcg.gov.

Contact Information: If you have any questions, please contact Gil Dustin at 208-387-5181 or gdustin@blm.gov.

Attachment: Interagency UAS Historical Recognition Roster