



National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)

Incident Business Committee (IBC)
Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft System
Subcommittee (IFUASS)

IBC Memo 22-05

August 22, 2022

To: Geographic Area Incident Business Committees

From: Dave Burley, Chairperson, NWCG Interagency Incident Business Committee
Justin Jager, Chair, NWCG Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft System Subcommittee

Subject: Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Incident Replacement Guidance

Currently, a fleet rate has not been established for agency-owned UAS therefore unlike manned aircraft a daily availability rate or applicable hourly flight rate for operations is not being assessed when a UAS is assigned to an incident. Most UAS and related support equipment are purchased and maintained at a local unit level.

Due to the widespread incident use and the unique situation of a “use rate” not being assessed to the incident we have determined that an interim incident replacement process needed to be developed. Therefore, agency-owned UAS utilized on wildfire incidents should use the Property Loss or Damage Report (OF-289) process for consumable/replacement parts, such as but not limited to batteries and props, in order to issue an approved resource order for incident replacement charges to the incident. The OF-289 should also be utilized for damage outside of consumable/replacement parts incurred while assigned. However, major damage requiring unit replacement must follow the appropriate agency policy and process for replacement even if approved for replacement by the incident.

Attention Incident Business Advisors (INBA): It is acknowledged that this process falls outside of the established business process in which wear, and tear is not typically considered appropriate for incident replacement. However, due to the unique circumstances, it has been determined that as an interim solution it is allowable. When a “use rate” can be established, this direction will be revisited to align it with other agency fleet processes.

This information can be found at: <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/incident-business-committee/correspondence>. For questions, please contact your IBC representative.

LSA

Dave Burley, Chair, IBC
Justin Jager, Chair IFUASS
Date: August 22, 2022