NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Reference Manual #60: Aviation Management

Introduction, Acronyms, Definitions

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Reviewed by the Chief, Division of Fire and Aviation Management

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Reference Manual 60: Executive Summary

Reference Manual 60: Aviation Management (RM-60) provides guidance on implementing a servicewide aviation management program for the National Park Service (NPS). The National Park Service's policy on aviation is expressed in NPS *Management Policies* and *Director's Order 60: Aviation Management (DO-60)*.

RM-60 provides NPS employees with references, operating policies, standards, procedures, general information, and recommendations to assist them in carrying out NPS *Management Policies* and DO-60.

This reference manual supersedes all previous NPS instructions, requirements, interim policies, policy memorandums, and statements of policy relating to aviation management.

The reference manual contains links to other pertinent information that will be valuable to personnel with aviation management responsibilities. This manual will be maintained as a living document and revisions will be made as necessary.

The objectives of RM-60 are as follows:

- Establish a framework through which the NPS institutionalizes and implements principles, standards, policies, guidance, and reporting requirements related to aviation management.

- Provide a framework for communicating the objectives and standards of the NPS aviation management program to internal and external audiences.

- Re-emphasize that aviation activities must consider the safety of our employees as the highest priority within NPS aviation.

- Identify clear guidelines for preparing, responding, and recovering from aviation incidents.

- Provide a consistent approach for addressing aviation management effectively and efficiently with internal and external partners.

Acronyms

Acronym	Term
AAPRAS	Annual Aviation Program Report and Assurance Statement
ABCS	Aircraft Business Case Summary
ACETA	Aerial Capture, Eradication, and Tagging of Animals
ADVRP	Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection
AFF	Automated Flight Following
AGL	Above Ground Level
AIM	Aeronautical Information Manual
ALSE	Aviation Life Support Equipment
AMC	Aviation Management Council
AMIS	Aviation Mishap Information System
AMP	Aviation Management Plan
AMRB	Aircraft Mishap Review Board
AMS	Aviation Management System
ARA	Aircraft Rental Agreement
AUC	Aircraft Utilization Report
BVLOS	Beyond Visual Line of Sight
CFI	Certified Flight Instructor
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWN	Call When Needed
DFAM	Division of Fire and Aviation Management
DM	Departmental Manual
DOI	Department of the Interior
EAB	Executive Aviation Board
EAC	Executive Aviation Committee
EAS	Executive Aviation Subcommittee
ELT	Electronic Locator Transmitter
ELOS	Extended Line of Sight
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FBMS	Financial Business Management System
FAR	Federal Aviation Regulations
GAR	Green, Amber, Red
HEAC	All-Hazard Resource Helicopter Crewmember
HEAM	All-Hazard Resource Helicopter Manager
HECM	Helicopter Crewmember
HMGB	Helicopter Manager
IAT	Interagency Aviation Training
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
IPQG	Incident Position Qualification Guide
IQCS	Incident Qualification and Certification System
IWP	Incident with Potential
NALB	National Aviation Leadership Board
NAM	National Aviation Manager
NAO	National Aviation Office
NASM	National Aviation Safety Manager

Acronym	Term
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NIAC	National Interagency Aviation Committee
NOAA	National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration
NOTAM	Notice to Air Missions
NPS	National Park Service
NSHO	National Standards for Helicopter Operations
NTSB	National Transportation Safety Board
NVG	Night Vision Goggles
NWCG	National Wildfire Coordinating Group
OAS	Office of Aviation Services
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OPM	Operational Procedures Memorandum
PAM	Park Aviation Manager
PASP	Project Aviation Safety Plan
PFD	Personal Flotation Device
PIC	Pilot-in-Command
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PEB	Pilot Evaluation Board
RAM	Regional Aviation Manager
RAT	Regional Aviation Trainer
RPIC	Remote Pilot-in-Command
SAR	Search and Rescue
SMS	Safety Management System
SOL	Office of the Solicitor
SRCP	Scientific Research and Collecting Permit
STEP	Single Skid, Toe-In, Hover Exit/Entry Procedure
SUP	Special Use Permit
UAS	Uncrewed Aircraft Systems
USFS	United States Forest Service
USPP	United States Park Police
WSPS	Wire Strike Protection System

Definitions

Aircraft - Aircraft means a machine or device that is used or intended to be used to carry persons or objects in flight through the air, including, but not limited to airplanes, helicopters, gliders, and uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS).

Aviation Park - A park that uses aviation resources. Parks that utilize aviation are broken down into three levels. Please see Chapter 1.5, *Aviation Park Levels*, to find the criteria used to determine specific park levels. Throughout RM-60, when parks are referred to this also includes the USPP Aviation Unit, unless otherwise specified.

Best Practices - Procedures designed and implemented to ensure operational and organizational success. These practices typically include additional safety and service margins and are often adopted as industry standard. They tend to be cost-beneficial.

Cooperator Aircraft- An affiliated, military, or other government agency aircraft.

Fleet Aircraft - Aircraft, including UAS, acquired by DOI, registered to DOI, or leased by DOI. The Office of Aviation Services (OAS) acquires DOI fleet aircraft for the National Park Service (NPS).

Green, Amber, Red Risk Assessment Model - An assessment model that categorizes risks into three colors: green, amber, and red. Green signifies a low level of risk, amber denotes a moderate level of risk, and red indicates a high level of risk. If the total falls in the green zone, risk is at a minimum. If the total falls in the amber zone, risk is moderate, and you should consider adopting procedures to minimize risk. If the total falls in the red zone, you need to implement measures to reduce the risk prior to starting the mission.

Interagency Aviation Training - The platform utilized to register and complete aviation training requirements.

Operational Control - Operational control, with respect to flights, means the exercise of authority over initiating, conducting, or terminating a flight. See CFR, Title 14, Chapter 1.

Point-to-Point Flight- Flights between airports (excluding operations defined in 351DM1 as "special use") for which the route of flight is determined only by the pilot(s) based on navigational requirements.

Quiet Technology - For NPS, this refers to aircraft utilizing technological improvements that result in a "quieter" aircraft as opposed to the definition used by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which calculates quiet technology based on the overall noise level of the aircraft divided by the number of passenger seats.

Special Use Activities- Special use activities involve the utilization of aircraft in flight operations that do not meet the definition of point-to-point flight (see 350 DM 1) and which require special considerations due to additional equipment and/or the increased complexity inherent in such operations. See OPM-29, *Special Use Activities for Crewed Aircraft*.

Vendor Aircraft – Aircraft used by an aviation company that has an agreement or contract with DOI.