

August 28, 2017

Memorandum

To: Regional and Associate Directors

From: Acting Director /s/ **Michael T. Reynolds**

Subject: Reassignment of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Approval Authority for Wildland Fires to Park Superintendents

On April 5, 2017, the Acting Director of the National Park Service issued a memorandum reassigning approval authority for the use of UAS within the National Park System from the Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection to the regional directors. Consistent with a park superintendent's current authority over wildland fire operations, and to minimize delays, approval authority for intra- and interagency UAS operations on wildland fires may be reassigned to park superintendents.

Superintendents may only exercise this authority for intra- and interagency UAS-use on **wildland fires**. These operations must follow the requirements outlined in the [Interagency Fire Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operations Guide \(PMS 515\)](#). All other UAS missions must be approved by the appropriate regional director utilizing the approval process in Reference Manual 60.

Questions can be directed to Dan Buckley, Wildland Fire Branch Chief, (208) 387-5225; or Jon Rollens, Aviation Branch Chief, (208) 387-5227.

cc: Chief, Fire and Aviation
Chief of Policy
Regional Aviation Managers
Regional Fire Management Officers

Attachments