



Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) Supplemental Information



IAT Agency Certification

The education and training of personnel at all organizational levels is the responsibility of management. Aviation users, supervisors, and managers must be knowledgeable of the inherent hazards of aviation operations. Training is essential for employees whose operations are performed in the high-risk environments typically encountered in agency programs and projects. See *FHP Aviation Training for additional resources including the FHP Matrix, Task Book and requirements for all positions and scheduled events* www.fs.fed.us/foresthealth/aviation/training.shtml.

IAT Guide Aviation Position Definitions

Aviation Dispatcher

A dispatcher who may receive, process, and place orders for aircraft, provide flight following and other aviation support services.

Flight Follower

Government employee who is responsible for monitoring aircraft flight activities in accordance with DOI/bureau and USFS policies. They may work in a Dispatch Center or at a remote location where they have the ability to monitor a flight by radio or satellite tracking system and the means to initiate an aircraft emergency response when needed. Note: this position should be utilized only under special circumstances where Agency flight following is unavailable and additional training may be specified by bureau or agency. *This includes FHP or other support personnel providing flight following services for aerial survey, aerial application, remote sensing and other special missions. Training requirements for FHP are highly recommended for partner organizations providing their own flight following services and are required if partner missions include FHP aircrew or utilize USFS-owned or contracted aircraft.*

Aviation Manager

A person with aviation management responsibilities for a unit, state, regional, or national level and serves as the focal point for aviation services and management. These include such positions as unit aviation officer (UAO), Forest Aviation Officer (FAO), Unit Aviation Manager (UAM), state, regional and national aviation program managers, and helicopter and fixed-wing operations specialists. *This would include FHP Aerial Survey Program Managers and/or someone functioning as the FHP (UAO), which could be regional, area or field office level and the FHP National Aviation Safety Manager and Aerial Detection Survey Program Manager.*



Aerial Survey Observer

FHP's task book now includes two tracks for Aerial Survey Observer and Fixed-Wing Flight Manager – Special Use. The observer has responsibilities and training requirements typically associated with aircrew member while focusing on the technical aspects of aerial mapping and safety, the task book presents development opportunities into the FWFM-SU position depending upon the individual's and aviation unit's needs.

FHP Aerial Survey Observers must initially meet Aircrew Member requirements prior to participating in aviation operations and progressing through the task book. *Training requirements for FHP are highly recommended for cooperating agency personnel conducting special use missions and are required if cooperating personnel are participating as aircrew on USFS contracted or owned aircraft (see May 2018 task book for more information).*

Fixed-Wing Flight Manager - Special Use

Government representative who works jointly with the pilot-in-command and aircrew members to ensure safe, efficient flight management of missions other than point-to-point flying (e.g. reconnaissance, infrared, aerial photo) and other missions requiring special training and/or equipment. Refer to agency specific policy for a complete listing of special use missions. An FHP flight manager who conducts sketchmapping surveys or remote sensing and works in a hazardous environment even with good, sound Operational Risk Management. *The position requires additional training besides the "minimum" IAT Guide requirement, such as the Task Book for the position of FHP Fixed- Wing Flight Manager – Special Use (FWFM-SU) and meeting IAT Guide requirements on a three-year re-currency; the 2018 Task Book includes two tracks, one for the FHP Aerial Observer and one for the fully qualified FHP FWFM-SU. Once qualified, FWFMSUs maintain currency according to the FHP Matrix for "Standard", UATAs evaluate performance and currency promoting FWFMSU to "Experienced" training plan within AT2.0 (for more information on these experience tracks see FHP Matrix). Training requirements for FHP are highly recommended for cooperating agency personnel conducting special use missions and are required if cooperating personnel are participating as aircrew or managing USFS contracted or owned aircraft as the FWFM- SU.*

Helicopter Flight Manager - Resource

Responsible for coordinating, scheduling, managing, and supervising non-fire resource helicopter operations. Fire helicopter manager training and experience requirements are found in the PMS 310-1 and specific agency and bureau policies. Currently, qualified Helicopter Managers (HMBG-NWCG) through PMS 310-1 satisfy the Helicopter Manager-Resource requirement. *This position also requires additional training beyond the minimum IAT courses, to include completion of the position task sheet for Helicopter Flight Manager-Resource (HFM-R) and meeting IAT Guide requirements on a three-year re-currency. Training requirements for FHP are highly recommended for cooperating agency personnel conducting special use missions and are required if cooperating personnel are participating as aircrew or managing USFS contracted or owned aircraft as the HFM-R.*

Project Aviation Manager

An individual who plans, organizes, and manages the aviation operations of a project utilizing aircraft. The Project Aviation Manager may or may not be at the site. *This would include managers overseeing FHP projects such as aerial application for: gypsy moth, spruce budworm, Douglas-fir Tussock Moth, Douglas-fir beetle, use of herbicides, and other projects involving special missions.*



Supervisor

Those who supervise employees who use aircraft to accomplish agency programs (first and second-level supervisors as determined by the agency). Knowledge required includes aviation safety, policy, risk management, and supervisory responsibilities. *This would include FHP Directors, Deputy Directors, Field Representatives, Group and Zone Leaders. Both first and second-level FHP Supervisors have identical on-line training and classroom requirements. A-314 Aviation Program Overview for Agency Administrators is required every three years to discuss current policy and procedures, responsibility and liability, risk management, decision space, etc. and address any specific concerns among leadership. The course includes making available the FHP Supervisor Preseason Checklist as a tool promoting discussion among unit-level aviation staff and outbriefed nationally among peers. In determining first vs. second-levels of supervision, we recognize regional/area organizational variation exists (i.e. FHP aviation users may be supervised by Forest, Region/Area, National Office personnel); for assistance in determining requirements in unique situations for individual supervisors, contact the FHP National Aviation Safety Manager and Aerial Detection Survey Program Manager.*

USDA Forest Service Manual FSM 5700 AVIATION MANAGEMENT

5716 - FLIGHT OPERATIONS

5716.03 – Policy

Only qualified personnel shall supervise Forest Service aviation operations and projects. All personnel involved in aviation operations shall receive the appropriate training and meet the experience requirements specified in the fire and aviation management qualifications in FSH 5709.16, FSH 5709.17, the Forest Service Fire and Aviation Qualifications Guide and the Interagency Aviation Training Guide prior to participating in aviation missions, operations, or projects (see FSM 5703.4 and FSM 5703.5 for additional guidance and FSM 5706 for other interagency guides that are applicable.)

5720 - AVATION SAFETY PROGRAM

5725.06 – Training Requirements

1. Managers, supervisors and employees shall use the Interagency Aviation Training Guide (FSM 5720.45) to determine minimum course and currency requirements at the full performance level for all Forest Service personnel involved in aviation operations. *Thus, the FHP requirements for "Fixed-Wing Flight Manager Special-Use", "Supervisor" and other positions may go a little beyond the minimum IAT Guide requirements.*
2. All aviation-related Incident Command System (ICS) position qualifications are governed by FSH 5109.17, Fire and Aviation Management Qualifications Handbook.

For any questions or additional information contact the FHP National Aviation Safety Manager and Aerial Detection Survey Program Manager.