



Interagency Aviation TECH BULLETIN



No. IA 2011-01

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Subject: 2011 Frequency Update

Distribution: All Aviation Users

DISCUSSION: The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC), National Interagency Incident Communications Division (NIICD) hosted a National Interagency Incident Spectrum Support Workshop, December 2010. This meeting included USDA/FS, DOI/BLM, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) frequency managers, and some State Wide Interoperability Communications Coordinators. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss frequency sharing, frequency resource management, initial attack (IA) frequency submission, IA communication zone boundary changes, radio frequency assignments (RFAs), and time lines for distributing information to the field.

ISSUE: During this meeting it was discovered that NIICD and the National Interagency Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) did not have the required National Telecommunication & Information Administration (NTIA) RFAs for two air-to-ground FM frequencies in our radio frequency programming load. These frequencies, 166.6875MHz and 171.1375MHz have been removed from all NIRSC radios. Please remove these air-to-ground FM frequencies from all fire radios.

The FAA also informed us that air-to-air AM frequencies 122.225MHz, 122.425MHz, and 122.575MHz have been used incorrectly and the NIFC/NIICD/CDO does not have the authority to use these frequencies as exclusive use. These frequencies may be assigned only when an IA fire goes beyond the first or second 12 hour period. These frequencies are for Air Traffic Control Operations and the FAA must be notified by the CDO when assigned. The CDO will request a replacement frequency and a frequency change MUST be made as soon as possible.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact the NIFC/NIICD/CDO Coordinator Garold (Gary) Stewart at 208-387-5712 or the on Duty CDO at 208-387-5644.

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