

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Memo 2022-08

July 13, 2022

To: Coordinating Group Advisory Council and Geographic Area Coordination Center Managers

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: Lead Plane Trainee Utilization and Mobilization Direction

The interagency qualification of Lead Plane Pilot (LPIL) has been identified as a critical shortage position. On-the-job training (OJT) may take up to three years for a trainee to become qualified as an LPIL. In an effort to qualify LPIL positions the USDA Forest Service (FS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will provide focused opportunities to develop trainees. This effort will include relocating trainees based on training needs and fire activity. Dispatch Centers and Coordination Centers can expect the National Fixed Wing Coordinator and the National Interagency Coordination Center to reposition LPILs more frequently to maximize training opportunities.

All LPIL trainees and trainers will be repositioned by the National Fixed Wing Coordinator through consultation with the national aerial supervision program.

Ordering and mobilization will be coordinated through the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) and Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs).

Name	Call Sign	Geographic Area	Phase
Matt Smith	Lead 5-0	North Ops	3
Dustin Smith	Lead 1-5	Northern Rockies	3
Maddie Wilbanks	Lead 8-4	Southern	2
Glen Enzfelder	Lead 3-7	Southwest	2

This list may be updated based on progress

When there are multiple lead plane/Aerial Supervision Module (ASM) aircraft operating from the same base, priority will be given to lead plane trainees then air tactical supervisor trainees, agency developmental pilots, and finally fully qualified LPIL or ASM's. When multiple like trainees are at the same base; Evaluator/Final Evaluators will coordinate to maximize training opportunities.

Supervisors can assist this effort by ensuring employees are available for training assignments.

If you have questions or comments please contact; Paul Lenmark, BLM Air Tactical Instructor Pilot, 406-660-0257; plenmark@blm.gov or Walter Bunt, National Aerial Supervision Program Manager, USFS 530-515-4016; walter.bunt@usda.gov

Ken Schmid,
Chair, National Multi- Agency Coordinating Group

