Department of the Interior

TRAINING BULLETIN

Subject: Training Delivery Response to COVID 19

Distribution: All Aviation Activities

Discussion:

In response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), all scheduled in-person training hosted or supported by OAS has been postponed or cancelled. The OAS Training Branch (OAS TB) is committed to meet the potential increased demand for virtual training (online, webinar, and video conference) in order to facilitate social distancing. Despite the increased demand for these types of training offerings, OAS TB will focus on the following objectives:

1. Manage resources, offerings and class size to ensure quality standards are maintained.

2. Assist agencies/bureaus with additional virtual training needs resulting from **COVID-19**.

The OAS TB will carefully evaluate new/additional training requests and make every effort to accommodate the increased demand by increasing class size or creating a new session. Please keep in mind that it may not be possible to meet all of the demand due to resource constraints. Previous scheduled training will take priority. If resources are considered to be available, the OAS TB will make every effort to schedule the training within one to two weeks upon receiving the request.

In order to maximize our ability to accommodate additional virtual training requests, please consider the following:

- Contact your bureau/agency aviation training specialist or National Aviation Manager so that requests and offerings may be combined to maximize efficiency.

- Refer to the IAT Guide and the IAT website for courses that are eligible and already scheduled to be delivered by webinar before making a new request.

- Contact the OAS Training representative for your bureau/agency. OAS Training representative contact information can be found here: https://www.iat.gov/trainers/index.asp.

- For Trainee Instructors who are not fully qualified and requiring an evaluation should contact the assigned OAS Training Specialist or FS-ASTPM for an evaluation.

  - Trainees who are observed delivering a course via webinar will also be required to be evaluated in a classroom environment.

- Helicopter Manager Workshop, RT-372, does not require Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) courses to meet the objectives defined by NWCG. The following should be considered when delivering RT-372:

  - Many IAT courses support the objectives.

  - IAT system may be used to record the completion of RT-372.

  - If IAT courses are used to accomplish RT-372 requirements, separate course sessions for each IAT course will need to be created for students to receive (IAT) credit.

- If you are enrolled in a webinar and cannot attend, timely withdrawal from the session will enable others to attend.

Carefully evaluating your training needs, taking advantage of existing offerings and coordinating new requests through the appropriate channels will ensure those in need of training will receive it in a timely manner.

/s/ Keith Raley

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