



NPS Aviation Management Program Fact Sheet

11/21/2005

The Aviation Management Program is assigned directly under the Chief, Division of Fire and Aviation. The program area is staffed by the National Aviation Program Manager in Washington, DC and a National Aviation Operations and Safety Specialist located in Boise, ID.

The National Park Service utilizes aviation resources in support of a multitude of park programs. These NPS aviation projects comprise the most diverse use of aviation resources of any bureau within the Department of the Interior. These missions include but are not limited to:

- Search and Rescue
- Law Enforcement and Visitor Protection
- Natural Resource Management
- Wildlife Management
- Wildland Fire Management
- Prescribed Fire Management
- Dignitary Protection
- Personnel Transportation

Aviation Resources

The following resources are assigned to NPS fleet aircraft operations.

| | Pilots | Aircraft (total) | Single Engine Airplanes | Helicopters |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lower 48 | 15 | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| Alaska | 15 | 15 | 15 | 0 |

The Service uses aircraft from the fleet and private industry for approximately 20,000 hours annually in support of the above missions. Aviation personnel (pilots), and equipment are subject to frequent changes based on mission needs and/or management decisions.

A multitude of contract and rental aircraft available from a Departmental source list is used to support aviation needs within the Service including use of military resources under appropriate circumstances within prescribed policies.

The National Aviation Management Program facilitates national level policy, direction, and aviation technical support to enhance the safe and efficient use of the above resources while performing Service missions using aviation resources.

The National Aviation Program coordinates its activities with NPS Regional Aviation Managers, the NPS National Aviation Advisory Group (NAAG), departmental, other national bureau and agency aviation offices.