

**NIROPS CLOSEOUT
MEETING
T1/T2 IMT Feedback**

December 3, 2014

NIFC

Website/ordering

NIROPS redesigned the website. We tried to make things clearer e.g. “current orders” instead of “queue” and having “create new order” versus “edit” option. Did this help?

Automated email notification of UTFs – did you get these emails? They should be sent automatically to the email listed for the SITL.

Website/ordering

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Yes

Website/ordering

Automated email notification of UTFs – did you get these emails? They should be sent automatically to the email listed for the SITL.

I don't recall getting any but I support the concept.

No, how can we check what email is listed for the SITL?

Nightly Schedule

Did the IRIN keep them up to date with the schedule for the evening?

Yes

Did they access the twitter feed from the plane to get the schedule or get it some other way (GACC etc.)

No, I just looked to see if my flight order was filled.

Not sure.

Communication

What was the best way to communicate – phone, texting, email?

Are there other ways that would improve communication – Skype, Facetime etc.?

**Was the SITL still the primary contact for the IRIN?
How much communication occurred between the GISS and the IRIN? SITL still primary, minimal GISS IRIN communication**

Communication

What was the best way to communicate – phone, texting, email?

Email or phone

Phone is best. Agency doesn't provide a good phone for texting (no smart phones). Email is also a good option, so long as they have the correct one. The IRINs I worked with asked for it, and it worked well.

Are there other ways that would improve communication – Skype, Facetime etc.? Communication

No response

Communication

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GISS and the IRIN?**

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Products

IR maps are produced as GeoPDFS. Were they used on mobile devices? What devices? By whom (air attack, ops etc.?) Did they work well on some devices but not on others?

How are the KMZ files being used in Google earth and by whom?

Do they read the logs? Are they useful?

Products

IR maps are produced as GeoPDFs. Were they used on mobile devices? What devices? By whom (air attack, ops etc.?) Did they work well on some devices but not on others?

The GeoPDFs were wonderful. They were used by air attack in particular. This is an evolving technology and some people don't have tablets/smartphones to be able to use them, however the ones that have them used them and were grateful to have them. Did not hear of any devices on which they didn't work.

Yes, being used primarily by Ops.

Products

How are the KMZ files being used in Google earth and by whom?

They are not being used to their full potential in my opinion. I use them so I can view information, and sometimes show the Ops people. We used it once in a presentation with the ICs to show the terrain better so they could get a better idea of the plan.

Yes, being used by SIT Unit

KMZ files are used at morning briefings at the GACC, Regional and Forest level, along with on some incidents for planning meetings and briefings. Very useful.

Products

Do they read the logs? Are they useful?

I always pass on the logs, however I'm not sure how much they are used by the Ops people. I read them and find them useful.

Yes, very useful

Decision Making

Did having the IR products make a difference in decision making? Did having the IR products make a difference in the ordering and/or allocation of other resources? How so?

Did having IR make it easier/more likely to manage a fire at less than full suppression?

What can we do better?

Decision Making

Did having the IR products make a difference in decision making? Did having the IR products make a difference in the ordering and/or allocation of other resources? How so?

Yes and yes. Gives a good indication for continued need of resources and also for assigning resources to specific areas for cost effective utilization.

Can't answer this fully, as I'm not always in the loop with regards to operational decision making. I do know they the Ops people are disappointed when an order is UTF'd, so they find this tool valuable and I would tend to think that when it's available it influences their decision making with regards to ordering and allocation of resources.

Decision Making

Did having IR make it easier/more likely to manage a fire at less than full suppression?

Yes, very useful is seeing overnight growth or non-growth

Not applicable to our team this year. All fires were full suppression.

Decision Making

What can we do better?

Give clear instructions on when we need to order IRIN and/or when it is being coordinated by the NIROPS program.

For me, knowing sooner rather than later that a flight has been UTF'd is important. In the situation unit, we make decisions regarding the work hours of the GISS folks around our scheduled flights. A GISS will come in very early to process/print the information provided. There were times this year when a GISS was up to this task only to find out that the flight had been UTF'd.

What would you like to have improved or what additional information would you like??

More flights available.

Accuracy of data.

Timing of flights to avoid false positives.