

NIROPS CLOSEOUT MEETING

T1/T2 IMT Feedback

November 6, 2013

NIFC

Is the IR program serving your needs?

It is a valuable tool, worth the cost.

Very helpful, picked up a spot > 1 mile outside the perimeter.

Good communication with IRIN, very helpful.

Great source (of Intel) outside of aircraft breakdowns.

Excellent support even though they were remotely located the IC felt the program functioned as a part of the IMT.

Is the IR program serving your needs?

NIROPS decreased helicopter flight time and **decreased firefighter exposure** by decreasing or eliminating low-level GPS flights.

IRIN posted the data early in the AM which allowed OPS an opportunity to adapt suppression strategies based on Intel. The products were highly accurate.

A great program, timely and effective method for a good perimeter, **should be a part of the pre-order** so the team starts with good Intel.

If not, what isn't it providing?

We need a **clear and consistent policy for ordering the IRIN.*** We started with the team ordering the IRIN and changed later in the season when the IR program assigned an IRIN. **Notify folks pre-season as to the process.** We also need to have **consistency in ordering daily** – some locations require a daily order and others utilize a fly till cancelled policy.

If not, what isn't it providing?

Consistently having products for briefings/IAP maps - Timing of products doesn't always meet GIS production timelines/map needs. **Maps need to be available early (0400)** for use at OPS meetings and briefings. **Produce products earlier** if possible. **Timely data** – need more IRINs or is it a scheduling issue?*

If not, what isn't it providing?

We need **real-time imagery** displayed on tablets/IPhones/I pads for the ground fire fighters.*

Aircraft 3 data was in an obscure projection and was not useful and not consistently delivered. The data arrived late and was of questionable validity.

It is hard to come up with the Lat/Lon during the first two days of the incident. **It would be helpful to have an intermediary (dispatch) figure out the box and place the order.**

If not, what isn't it providing?

The Cobra was inconsistent – broken down often and the data was not timely.

Not available for spring season in the SE states – need to use FLIR.

Getting data to air attack and night air attack.

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

Aircraft malfunctions (limit outputs).*

Real time data/daytime use.*

Current technology upgrades.*

When **flights are UTF's or cancelled** due to mechanical issues it would be **helpful to have a message board** on the NIROPS site.

Need consistency in products especially for fires with an indirect strategy – **we need to prioritize missions based on IR needs and not necessarily on national or GACC priorities.**

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

Having more serviceable aircraft/timely products.

Closer team/IRIN coordination for product timing.

The use of ICONA (Ikhana) sensor and drones.

Improved turnaround for tactical use, real time geo-referenced data similar to what 509 provides but with a dedicated platform.

Better/more frequent MODIS.

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.

***Denotes multiple comments on this topic**