



United States Department of the Interior
Office of Aviation Services
300 E. Mallard Dr., Ste 200
Boise, Idaho 83706-3991

In Reply Refer To:

May 12, 2021

Memorandum

To: Anthony Lascano, FWS National Aviation Manager
John Buehler, NPS National Aviation Manger
Brad Gibbs, BLM National Aviation Manager

From: Mark Bathrick, Director, Office of Aviation Services

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Date: 2021.05.12 13:13:23
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Subject: Policy Exception to DOI Fleet Pilot Flight Evaluations (351DM3, OPM-16 and OPM-22)

DOI policy requires Visual Flight Rules (VFR) flight evaluations and associated training on an annual basis. However, due to the COVID 19 worldwide pandemic and associated travel restrictions in many regions of the United States, flight training and flight evaluations have been difficult to accomplish. The reported death toll from COVID 19 has exceeded 575,000. Many areas of the country have started to report a reduction in the number of COVID-19 cases and have implemented an accelerated vaccination program to fight the disease. Vaccines are now available to most adult individuals that are interested in receiving it.

On March 3rd, 2021 I approved and provided to each of you an exception to policy for annual evaluations and any current special use authorization through May 31, 2021. I also promised any necessary updated guidance to you no later than May 15, 2021. After having reviewed the current COVID-19 situation, I am extending this exception to policy as it pertains to annual flight evaluations and current special use authorizations for Fleet Pilots that are currently carded for such flights as we work to address the backlog of flight evaluations. This policy exception applies to VFR flight evaluations and flight training (351DM3, OPM-16 and OPM-22).

The attached list provides information on Pilot evaluations. OAS inspectors will continue to administer flight evaluations to the bureau pilots we support. Based on current data on the COVID-19 spread and the progress of the vaccination program nationwide, I am extending the policy exception until **August 31, 2021** for those that need it. OAS Inspectors will continue to work with Pilots to address the backlog in flight evaluations and I do not anticipate a need for another exception after this one. Some Pilots will need ski or sea plane evaluations and those evaluations will be addressed when environmental conditions allow.

The following stipulations will continue to apply to this continued exception to policy:

- In-person flight training and flight evaluations will proceed when possible with the appropriate mitigations to reduce COVID-19 risk.
- Aviation Managers will work with their bureau Pilots to ensure safety plans are in place and human factors are emphasized. The physical isolation associated with CDC recommendations that may result in less flight time could have negative impacts.





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- Pilot cards (OAS-30) will be issued with the new expiration dates for those individuals under this exception. Pilots must have the valid card in their possession while exercising aviation duties requiring such.
- Bureau Pilot will work closely with their OAS region Pilot Inspector to schedule evaluations when possible with the goal of reestablishing applicable base months for evaluations.

I realize this pandemic has impacted all our lives in ways we could have never envisioned just fourteen months ago. The safety of DOI personnel and their families remains our highest priority. We will continue to observe CDC recommendations to slow the spread of the disease while we conduct in-person training and evaluations. We have all been through a lot and we will get through this together. We are eagerly anticipating a return to more normal operations soon; however, we cannot afford to let our guard down prematurely. We are making great strides with the backlog of pilot evaluations. If there are any questions please contact Frank Crump, Eastern Regional Director at (770) 280-7245 or Kevin Fox, Alaska Regional Director at (907) 787-9245.

Attachment: Fleet Pilot evaluation status

OAS Pilot Table

| Last Name | | Reg Office | Date of VFR Eval | Expiration | Proposed Extension | Notes |
|-------------|----------------|------------|------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| BLM | | | | | | |
| GUSSE | WALKER | AKRO | 11/19/2020 | 11/30/2021 | N/A | |
| MAZUR | STEVE | AKRO | 9/22/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| MCCURDY | MIKE | AKRO | 9/14/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| MCMILLAN | SETH | AKRO | 9/15/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| MCCORMICK | BOB | WRO | 3/1/2021 | 3/31/2022 | N/A | |
| MASCHERONI | ANDRE | WRO | 10/6/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | |
| LENMARK | PAUL | WRO | 10/1/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | |
| ALLEN | LISA | WRO | 10/1/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | |
| GERMANN | HANS | WRO | 10/22/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | *Developmental pilot |
| SWISHER | CHRIS | WRO | 10/15/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | *Developmental pilot |
| FWS | | | | | | |
| BAYLESS | SHAWN | AKRO | 10/30/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| BOSCH | BRANDON | AKRO | 5/23/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| COGGINS | LEWIS | AKRO | 3/1/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| DANIELS | CHRISTOPHER | AKRO | 4/30/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| GREELEY | CHRIS | WRO | 8/19/2020 | 8/31/2021 | N/A | |
| GREIL | TOM | WRO | 9/21/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| GULDAGER | NIKILINDA | AKRO | 5/11/2021 | 5/30/2022 | N/A | SES needed |
| HILWIG | KARA | AKRO | 5/11/2021 | 5/31/2022 | N/A | |
| HURD | SHAY | AKRO | 6/6/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| KADRMAS | NEIL | ERO | 10/28/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| KONEFF | MARK | ERO | 5/7/2021 | 5/31/2022 | N/A | |
| LIDDICK | TERRY | ERO | 10/28/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| LUBINSKI | BRIAN | ERO | 9/17/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| MALLEK | EDWARD | AKRO | 5/12/2021 | 5/31/2022 | N/A | SES needed |
| NIGUS | BERETT | AKRO | 5/10/2021 | 5/31/2022 | N/A | |
| OLSON | NATHAN | AKRO | 8/26/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| PEPIN | DAN | AKRO | 7/17/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| PRATT | BEN | AKRO | 8/17/2020 | 8/17/2021 | N/A | |
| RAYFIELD | JOHN | ERO | 9/17/2020 | 10/31/2021 | N/A | |
| RHODES | WALT | WRO | 9/22/2020 | 9/30/2021 | N/A | |
| REES | KURT | AKRO | 4/9/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| RIPPETO | DAVID | AKRO | 2/19/2021 | 2/28/2022 | N/A | |
| SCOTTON | BRAD | AKRO | 5/13/2021 | 5/31/2022 | N/A | SES needed |
| SHELDEN | STEPHAN "DAN" | AKRO | 9/24/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| SHERMAN | LEE | WRO | 8/19/2020 | 8/31/2021 | N/A | |
| SPANGLER | ROB | WRO | 11/3/2020 | 11/30/2021 | N/A | |
| SUNDOWN | ROBERT | AKRO | 9/19/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| THORPE | PHILIP | WRO | 3/19/2021 | 3/31/2022 | N/A | |
| VANHATTEN | GARETH "KEVIN" | AKRO | 4/28/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| WATTS | DOMINICK | AKRO | 9/26/2019 | 3/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| WILKERSON | GARRETT | ERO | 7/23/2020 | 7/31/2021 | N/A | |
| WILSON | HEATHER | AKRO | 4/27/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| WORTHAM | JAMES | ERO | 11/20/2019 | 9/31/2021 | N/A | |
| YATES | SARAH F. | ERO | 10/16/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| NPS | | | | | | |
| ANDERSON | PAUL | AKRO | 4/1/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| BELL | STEVEN | AKRO | 9/4/2020 | 9/4/2021 | N/A | |
| ELLIS | DARRYL | AKRO | 7/29/2019 | 3/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| ENZFELDER | GLEN | WRO | 12/9/2020 | 12/31/2021 | N/A | |
| GOODWIN | FRED | ERO | 1/29/2020 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| GRENDA | ADAM | AKRO | 8/27/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| HAMON | TROY | AKRO | 8/26/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| HOWELL | GALEN | WRO | 11/30/2020 | 11/30/2021 | N/A | |
| LARSEN | AMY | AKRO | 5/22/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| RICHOTTE | RICHARD | AKRO | 7/2/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| SAMPLE | SCOTT | AKRO | 10/1/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| TAYLOR | SCOTT | WRO | 1/12/2021 | 1/31/2022 | N/A | |
| THOMPSON | NICHOLAS | AKRO | 11/12/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| WARREN | JIM | WRO | 12/1/2020 | 12/31/2021 | N/A | *Developmental pilot |
| WELTY | DONALD | AKRO | 7/3/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| USPP | | | | | | |
| EVASICK | RYAN | ERO | 4/8/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| HAAPAPURO | ERIC | ERO | 8/6/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |
| PERKINS | CHRISTOPHER | ERO | 4/8/2021 | 4/30/2022 | N/A | |
| WRIGHT | KEATON | ERO | 8/6/2019 | 5/31/2021 | 8/31/2021 | |