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|  | **DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE****HEADQUARTERS FIRST AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES NORTHERN) (ACC)****1210 BEACON BEACH ROAD**TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32403-5549 |

 24 Apr 12

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: 153rd Air Expeditionary Group (P) - WFF

SUBJECT: MAFFS training after action report

1. The 302 AW (731st EAS) conducted annual Modular Airborne Firefighting System (MAFFS) currency training at their home base of Peterson AFB (City of Colorado Springs Municipal Airport), CO (KCOS) from 20-23 April 2012. The 153 AEG(P)-WFF was established during the same period at Boise, Idaho to train staff members from all four MAFFS wings. Through the National Interagency Coordination Center (NIFC), the US Forest Service (USFS) supported the training with one USFS lead plane and numerous support personnel/equipment. The 731 EAS flew 35 sorties and completed 184 drops in support of the training.
2. The following issues are noted with recommendations:

731 EAS Lessons Learned, edited comments from Maj Tanton 731 EAS/CC

a. This year was the first year of performing “mini MAFFS” training at home station which presented some benefits and unique challenges. MAFFS training in the Rocky Mountains provided outstanding terrain for mountainous and flat-land training.

***RECOMMENDATION:*** *Selection of local training areas should be placed closer to the commercial Tanker Base during training. Using a non-MAFFS Tanker Base was valuable but should not be detrimental in adding flight time to/from the training areas. Obviously the airspace is congested in the KCOS-KPUB areas but this should be a focus to reduce cost next time.*

b. Initial take-offs on the first day of flying were delayed due to late launch orders.

***RECOMMENDATION:*** *The process for getting Lead Airplanes, National Dispatch, and MAFFS launch orders should be in place before the first day of flight operations.*

AEG Lessons Learned

a. AEG stand-up training was very valuable and provided continuity between the wings. A core set of personnel will be ready for the year’s first activation and will be able to hit the ground running.

***RECOMMENDATION:*** *Continue yearly AEG stand-up training during one of the MAFFS wing’s certification. Continue to formalize processes and enhance continuity between the four wings.*

 DONALD M. TAYLOR, Lt Col., WYANG

153 AEG(P)-WFF/CD