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National Interagency Fire Center

3833 S. Development Avenue

Boise, Idaho 83705

May 10, 2012

Forest Supervisor

National Forests in North Carolina **Supervisor's Office**160 Zillicoa St. Suite A  
Asheville, NC 28801

Dear Forest Supervisor:

From May 7 through 10, 2012, MAFFS 7 and MAFFS 8 of the Air National Guard 145th Airlift Wing from Charlotte, North Carolina conducted recertification training out of Greenville, South Carolina. Personnel from different federal agencies supported the effort and worked closely with the crews of the 145th Airlift Wing. This was essential recertification training for the air crews. The recertification training was completed as anticipated and was very successful. These aircraft and their crews are now ready to actively support wildland fire suppression efforts anywhere they are asked to go.

We very much appreciate the efforts of Patrick Scott on the Pisgah National Forest. The 145th AW wanted good ground photos and video of the drops. Patrick made the extra effort to assist in that effort. Without his assistance, an important part of the documentation of this effort would not have been able to be made. He took on himself to identify two different locations on the Forest that could be safely used as drop sites and that afforded the best camera locations for the Combat Camera personnel. Then he made himself available to lead those personnel into the locations. The first day (5/8) was rain and overcast. He and the military camera personnel were on site but unable to get photos. He then made himself available on a second day when the weather broke and led those personnel back in to the site. As a result, the 145th AW was able to get the video and photo documentation they needed to complete their record for this effort.

On behalf of all of the MAFFS pilots and crews, and on behalf of all of the MAFFS activation managers, dispatchers, mechanics, and other support personnel, we thank you for allowing Patrick to assist us in this way, and thank Patrick for his willing support in this MAFFS effort. Please extend our appreciation to others on your staff we are unaware of who may have been involved.

Sincerely,

Frank Domingues, MLO

MAFFS Liaison Officer