

**Forest Service Handbook
National Headquarters - Washington Office
Washington, DC**

**Forest Service Handbook 5709.16 – Aviation Management Handbook
Zero Code**

Amendment: 5709.16-2020-1

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Duration: This amendment is effective until superseded or removed.

Superseded Directive: 5709.16_Zero_Code (Amendment 5709.16-2009-1, 04/15/2009)

Approved by: Jaelith Hall-Rivera, Associate Deputy Chief, S&PF

Date approved: September 4, 2020

Responsible Staff:

Explanation of changes: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

10 - This amendment substantially revises the entire chapter to better align with the Forest Service mission.

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This handbook specifies standards and procedures for Forest Service (agency) flight operations. The direction contained in this handbook applies to aviation activities conducted as contract aviation services and in-service flight operations. For further direction, refer to FSM 5700 and the interagency operations guides listed in FSM 5706.

01 – Authority

Refer to FSM 5701.

02 – Objectives

Refer to FSM 5702.

03 – Policy

All agency flight operations must comply with applicable laws and regulations as referenced in FSM 5706.

04 – Responsibility

Refer to FSM 5704, FSH 5709.16, chapter 10.4, chapter 20.4, chapter 30.14, chapter 40.4, chapter 50.4, and chapter 60.4.

05 – Definitions

Refer to FSM 5705 and the National Aviation SMS Guide.

06 – References

Refer to FSM 5706.

07 – Aviation Programs

Refer to FSM 5707.

08 – Handbooks

Refer to FSM 5708.