



Interagency Aviation Information Bulletin



No. IA IB 26-01

Date: February 25, 2026

Page 1 of 2

Subject: Updated Process for Prescribed Fire (RX) Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) involving UAS or helicopter aerial ignition operations

Area of Concern: Prescribed Fire TFRs

Distribution: Dispatch and Aviation Operations

Discussion: This IA IB replaces No. IA IB 24-02. The FAA has issued new direction regarding RX TFRs. This update bulletin aligns agency guidance and standards with updated FAA direction. NOTAM authority and language has changed. Here are some of the key changes:

RX (Prescribed Fire) TFRs

- Will now be issued under **14 CFR §91.137(a)(1)** instead of (a)(2).
- Required NOTAM language: “TO PROTECT PERSONS AND PROPERTY ON THE SFC OR IN THE AIR FM A HAZARD ASSOCIATED WITH AN INCIDENT ON THE SFC.”

Wildland Fire TFRs

- Remain under **14 CFR §91.137(a)(2)**.

If an RX escapes and becomes a wildfire:

- Cancel the original RX TFR (issued under (a)(1)).
- Issue a new TFR under **14 CFR §91.137(a)(2)**.

FTA Requirements have not changed.

- All firefighting aircraft will follow the Fire Traffic Area (FTA) communications protocol within the TFR.

Additionally, after a full year of implementing the new option for TFRs in support of RX operations, it was identified that additional, specific criteria was needed to address UAS operations:

- 1) When operational requirements cannot be adequately met under an existing Certificate of Authorization (COA) or Certificate of Waiver (CoW), a TFR for RX may be requested to ensure safe operations and effective airspace deconfliction.
- 2) These changes are reflected in the TFR Request Form, [PMS 520-2](#) and the NWCG Standards for Airspace Coordination, [PMS 520](#).
- 3) Previous standards for the dimensions of a RX TFR have not changed (please refer to the NWCG Standards for Airspace Coordination, [PMS 520](#)).

For questions, contact: Kim Owczarzak, National Interagency Airspace Program Manager at Kimberley.owczarzak@usda.gov.

/s/ Keith Raley

Keith Raley
Chief, Aviation Safety, Program Evaluation,
and Quality Management
DOI, Office of Aviation Services

/s / Lori Clark

Lori Clark
Branch Chief - Aviation Safety Management
Systems
USDA, Forest Service