

14C4 Reduce Operations Cost to support the Right Size NAS Initiatives

Description

Conduct the analysis and develop the strategy to determine the Target Reduction in Operations costs to support the Right Size NAS initiative and have both strategies approved by the Administrator by September 30, 2014.

Special Designations: OSI, Shared STI, FAA Strategic Initiatives

Commentary (September 2014)

In FY2014, ten Right Size the NAS activities for were created and met or exceeded all planned activities and targets. Key FY2014 Accomplishments: FY15 cost savings templates for Contract Weather Observers and Flight Service Stations have been submitted and validated. The CONUS Automated Flight Service Station (AFSS) contract was evaluated and validated, which resulted in the contract meeting its performance metrics for the first three quarters of FY14. Three opportunities to increase cost savings and cost avoidance resulting from the AFSS A-76 effort were completed. The three opportunities are 1) Realignment of entry of METARS (Aviation Routine Weather report) to the NAS eliminating approximately 800 calls per day; 2) Modification of the web services contract to reduce costs; and 3) Combining of flight watch and functions to one position to allow for reduced staffing and the free up frequencies to be repurposed or decommissioned. Implementation on Realignment of entry of METARS to the NAS opportunity was initiated. External compliance verifications were conducted at ten Alaska FSS facilities with an average compliance score of 98.6%, exceeding the target of 92% compliance. Revaluation for FAA's overall operational need for low level towers was initiated by; strengthening the business process for managing low-level activity towers (leases, reimbursable agreements); and alternative means have been explored for providing low-activity tower services with Colorado and Virginia. Preliminary findings were presented to the ATO Officers Group on 27 Section 804, consolidation and realignment of FAA Services and facilities. A finalized FY15 execution strategy for the NAS Sustainment 10-Year Get Well Plan was approved by the ATO COO. Risks to employees were mitigated by awarding contracts at four sites (vs. a target of three). Risks to employees were also exceeded by completing 42 engine generator replacement projects (vs. target of 40) and 70 fuel modernizations (vs. target of 61), and contract awards of three ARTCC major mechanical system projects (vs. target of 2). Short term activities to right size the NAS include the decommissioning and disposal efforts on 58 non-directional beacons. 297 radio communications links have been removed from service. 96 tactical air navigation at very high frequency omnidirectional range (TACR) have been agreed to be removed and converted to distance measuring equipment only. 31 antenna conversions have been agreed to for FY15. System assessments have been completed at the national roll up level for very high omnidirectional range, runway visual range, voice recorder system and approach light system. 100% of the unstaffed infrastructure sustainment program sites have been validated (i.e. 12,599 sites). The final version of the Winter Weather Improvements Technical and Operational Risk Assessment document has been completed and delivered to the ANG-D2 Portfolio Manager. The weather Service sub-initiative scope document and the

Weather Service Contract Weather Observation (CWO) Charter have been completed.

Commentary (August 2014)

Right Size the NAS activities for the month of August: AFN determined in conjunction with ATO that 2 of the 5 Cost Control Program opportunities would be approved and will be included in FY15 Cost Control. The two approved templates are "Human Weather Observers" and "Flight Service Stations." Beyond this, additional policy coordination activity was aimed to ensure ongoing core activities that support rightsizing are proceeding with the least possible coordination delay. Active work continued on this Administrators Significant Initiatives target. Efforts are now focused on the schedule, activities, and procurements necessary for the success of the 2014/15 Winter Weather Concept Maturity Technology Demonstration. This will be the first comprehensive demonstration to evaluate the ability of selected weather sensors to provide necessary data for winter weather automated observations. Contracts were awarded for five Engineer Generator Replacement projects for a total of 37 projects and five contracts were awarded for Fuel System Modernization projects for a total of 55 projects year to date. AJW and stakeholders have agreed to establish a repeatable process and select equipment that could provide benefits during the initial focus. The equipment selected will be rated under the following criteria: regulatory, political, operations and total cost. The business case and process structure was created for Radio Communication Link. AJW is also working to develop a comprehensive database of NAS facilities to support our initiative. 12,072 (96%) sites have been validated out of a total 12,565 sites as of 28 August. Target is achievable, and trend has been encouraging, but will require consistent application of effort to address the remaining sites. This receives senior management review on a weekly basis.

Status Table (Qualitative Metric)

Period	Actual
02/2014	Green
03/2014	Green
04/2014	Green
05/2014	Green
06/2014	Green
07/2014	Green
08/2014	Green
09/2014	Green

✓ Indicates that the item is complete.