

Safety & Environmental Newsletter

February 2015 Issue



The IFO is Coming!

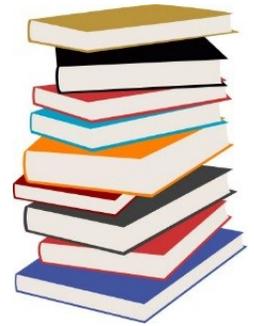


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February 23 – 26

During the 23rd – 26th of February, the NASA Safety Center (NSC) is conducting an Institutional/Facility/Operational (IFO) audit of Wallops Flight Facility. Per NPR 8705.6, Safety and Mission Assurance (SMA) Audits, Reviews and Assessments, IFO's should be conducted every 3 years. They are designed to "provide independent verification that institutions, facilities, and operations at each NASA Center are in compliance with the applicable IFO safety requirements, including applicable Federal, State, and local safety and health statutes and regulations and NASA SMA requirements." In short, are we doing what we're supposed to be doing, in the manner defined by these higher level requirements?



For several days, a team of auditors who are Subject Matter Experts in their field will be escorted by WFF Safety Office personnel to locations selected by the auditing team. Be aware that most WFF locations are open to this audit and auditors could enter your location at any time. During your activities, as always, adhere strictly to requirements. If auditors enter your area and interview you, keep general rules of engagement in mind. The auditor will likely question you regarding how you fulfil a specific requirement. Answer the precise question they ask honestly and concisely. Allow the auditor to determine if additional details are needed. If the auditor wants additional details, documentation or examples, they will ask. It doesn't always feel like it, but they are here to help. Remember, at some point in their careers, they were the ones being audited.



Audits are designed to verify the implementation of requirements. Each NSC audit focuses on a specific area (NPR 8705.6, Appendix C, contains a list of all NASA requirements documents included within the scope of the IFO). Results of audits help determine the status of compliance at specific locations throughout NASA. They highlight potential systemic issues at the location audited and/or encountered at multiple NASA locations. The results of these audits are tracked both internally and externally to WFF. Trends identified during these audits could influence policymakers and help determine necessary levels of oversight. Pre-audit coordination efforts have been handled by Carolyn Turner, Deputy, Ground Safety, WFF Safety Office. Additional information, to include the audit notification letter and draft auditing schedule can be found by following this link (<http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code803/>) to the WFF Safety Office website.



Good luck, and thank you for all of your hard work.

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Winter Bird Word Search

Guess who visited coastal Virginia this winter? See how many of our feathered friends you can find!

American Goldfinch	L I D R I B E U L B N R E T S A E Z R D B R L A A Q T N E
American Robin	B C O Y F V G M D S W O R R A P S D L E I F P Y J G J O G
Baltimore Oriole	R E B A S R E D H T Y B H E R M I T T H R U S H K A S R R
Blue Jay	O D P P M E E A C Q E G P H V F F S H T K X S D V I K T E
Brown Headed Nuthatch	W A A D C H D U N H O U S E S P A R R O W U U R P Y P H L
Brown Thrasher	N R S L E S A K I G D D E S U O M T I T D E T F U T S E K
Carolina Chickadee	H W O A C A K F F N Y A I F N P J F Q D V O R Z J V S R C
Carolina Wren	E A D D D R C D D I S R E I B C R B L U E J A Y W Z T N A
Cedar Waxwing	A X P R V H I U L B O U S E S P L Z V D G A I M U F W R F A C R
Common Grackle	D W X I C T H A O O W E O J C Z X P Z V L N O E T B O A G
Common Loon	E I E B X N C M G R Z Y J O L U W Y S E H R K D B O R R N
Common Yellowthroat	D N U T J W A P N N S E O N W Q V K L N R C G R A G H D O
Dark Eyed Junco	N G R A F O N Y A A F D H R W G G R O A E N M I L G T I M
Downy Woodpecker	U E O C O R I G C C C J D N X E E R P P X R Z B T W W N M
Eastern Bluebird	T A P Y I B L Y I I U U M K O K T S D J G B N G I W O A O
Eastern Towhee	H S E A F A O H R R N N I Q C H D O E C Y X E N M G L L C
European Starling	A T A R D Y R D E E G C V E E O H X R Q S R I I O U L Q T
Field Sparrow	T E N G G Y A A M M B O P R T W J M L E T L W K R B E J D
Gray Catbird	C R S G H H C H A A A D N A D V S D J M Q S A C E Z Y F N
Hermit Thrush	H N T O V E S B O H O F O E D Q Z B B B T E N O T N Z Y
House Finch	W T A L J F M H C O L R I V Q E J Z K V M X I M R D O G X
House Sparrow	D O R D V A B N W I H L S F J P D B L V V Z L N I I M D W
Mourning Dove	C W L R V Q I Y C T L Z M I M M F H V T C E O R O G M H S
Northern Cardinal	W H I P S F N K E E N V P D X T Y K R X H F R E L Y O C J
Northern Flicker	O E N B E W E T B Y N Z H K R S F U R W C A A H E A C E O
Northern Mockingbird	O E G S O R I D R Q E N O O L N O M M O C U C T P P P H M
Red Bellied Woodpecker	E U U D J H E L E V O D G N I N R U O M N Y F R W V P W D
Tufted Titmouse	L O A F W R W H V B D F S Z A N C K K L J S I O Q T T I D
White Throated Sparrow	H J P D J H L J D J E T T U I V Z K R K T Q P N N E X R C

Environmental Management System (EMS)

Science on the Shore at the NASA Visitor Center

On October 17, 2014, Senior Management approved the following High Priorities for fiscal year 2015:

- Hazardous Waste
- Environmental Planning
- Site Restoration
- Energy/Sustainability (Benefit)



The role each employee plays in the Environmental Management System (EMS) cannot be over-emphasized. For more information on EMS contact Chuck Ward at x-2418.

Hazardous Waste - Place hazardous waste in the appropriate labeled containers, keep containers closed, and call the Hazardous Waste Hotline at x-1718 for a pickup each time a container needs to be emptied. For more information, contact Joel Mitchell at x-1127.

Environmental Planning - Contact Josh Bundick at x-2319 in the early stages of project planning to allow time to obtain environmental permits.

Site Restoration - Report spills by calling the WFF Fire Department at x-911 or 757-824-1333 or share your expertise on historical operations with David Liu at x-2141.

Energy/Sustainability (Benefit) - Save energy, recycle, reduce waste, purchase recycled content products, save water, carpool, and participate in sustainability initiatives. Contact Jermaine Starks at x-1466 for more information.

Saturday, February 28, 2015
1:00 to 4:00 pm

The event will feature presentations by NASA scientists and educators on crowd-sourced validation of satellite data. There will also be a discussion on the new Soil Moisture Active Passive satellite mission, a Science on a Sphere Demonstration, and activities for all ages.

Admission is free!

