

HISTORY OF

Headquarters Idaho Wing

Civil Air Patrol

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

1 January, 2022 through 31 December, 2022



Prepared By

Col Robin M. Vest, CAP

Idaho Wing Commander

Reviewed By

Col Robin M. Vest, CAP

Idaho Wing Commander

REGION COMMANDER APPROVAL

Rank Full Name, CAP

Duty Position



HEADQUARTERS IDAHO WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
P.O. Box 880
Hayden, Idaho 83835

3 April 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAJOR KURT EFINGER, CAP

FROM: ID Wing/CC

SUBJECT: 2022 Annual History Report

1. I approve the attached annual history report for Idaho Wing.

Robin M. Vest

ROBIN M. VEST, Colonel, CAP
Commander

ANNUAL HISTORY TEMPLATE ENTRY POINTS

(Region Headquarters shown – change unit name, signature blocks and insignia to use for wings, groups, squadrons.)

INTRODUCTORY DOCUMENTS

TITLE PAGE
COMMANDER'S APPROVAL LETTER

INTRODUCTION OF UNIT STAFF

Wing Commander	Robin M. Vest	Colonel
Vice Commander	Kirk Dehn	Lieutenant Colonel
Chief of Staff	Kirk Dehn	Lieutenant Colonel
Command NCO	Gerald Martin	Technical Sergeant
Advisor to the Commander	Merle Starr	Colonel
Advisor to the Commander	Warren Vest	Colonel
		Select Rank

SUMMARY NARRATIVE OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES

On the following pages, please provide one page for each chapter, with one or more paragraphs for each section of the chapter.

Chapter I OPERATIONS

Search and Rescue

During 2022 ID Wing flew training missions, onboarding and return to flight sorties, annual form 5/91 evaluation sorties, annual pilot proficiency sorties, advanced training sorties, consolidated maintenance sorties, cadet orientation flight sorties, AFJROTC sorties, cadet wings proficiency sorties, annual B mission sorties, miscellaneous sorties and low level route survey sorties in June-August 2022 in support of the 366th Fighter Wing at Mountain Home AFB.

On March 17, 2022, ID Wing was requested to use an sUAS during a search for a missing female in Kootenai County, 22-M-0092A. The female was found deceased by the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office. This was ID Wing's first use of an sUAS on an actual mission.

ID Wing was requested to assist in locating a missing 44-year-old male hiker in Shoshone County, 22-M-0451A on October 7, 2022. Two aircraft participated in searching rugged, mountainous terrain in NE Idaho. Ten CAP personnel participated along with 2 aircraft that flew for 4.7 hours with 5 aircrew total. The two aircraft communicated with a sheriff's helicopter and ground team. The subject was found alive. AFRCC awarded ID Wing with a find and a save.

Five days later ID Wing and the National Cell Phone Forensics team were requested to assist in the search for a missing 77-year-old male, 22-M-0455A. The subject was suffering from dementia and was reported missing in the Boise National Forest. The Cell Phone Forensics team was able to provide four possible pings which helped the aircrews zero in on the correct area of heavy mountainous terrain with 75% tree cover. Three ID Wing aircraft flew 6 sorties for a total of 18.7 flight hours. Eleven personnel were signed into the mission. The Meridian Police Department found the subject alive. A CAP aircraft worked with the Boise County Sheriff's helicopter to locate a suitable landing site, guided ground search personnel to the location and relayed communications between all parties. ID Wing used ReadyOp extensively during this mission. AFRCC awarded a find and a save to ID Wing.

Disaster Relief

Four members of Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron worked with the Kootenai County EOC staff during a Cascadia Rising exercise on June 7, 2022.

Homeland Security

Assisted the 389th FS at Mountain Home AFB with pre-deployment support. ID Wing flew 4 sorties in the MOA acting as low, slow targets on December 6, 7 & 8, 2022.

Counterdrug

No activity.

Chapter II AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Internal Aerospace Education

The Wing DAE presented the bridge building program at the annual wing encampment. The cadets participated and had several competitions that were enthusiastically received.

Four units received the Squadron Aerospace Education Achievement Award:

- ID-015 – Nampa Composite Squadron
- ID-073 – Boise Composite Squadron
- ID-097 – Eagle Rock Composite Squadron
- ID-098 – Selkirk Composite Squadron

External Aerospace Education

Not allowed in schools so no external AE programs presented.

Chapter III CADET PROGRAMS

Cadet Programs

Cadets were excited to start participating in activities again once COVID-19 stopped preventing meetings and events. Idaho Wing appointed a new DCP in 2022. The CAC met at least quarterly with a representative from each unit with cadets. The wing had three squadrons earn the Quality Cadet Unit Award.

Cadet Activities

The Boise Composite Squadron color guard placed 2nd in the Rocky Mountain Region Competition held on May 14, 2022. During the National Cadet Competition in Dayton, OH, on July 13-19, 2022, Boise Squadron placed 8th out of 16 teams.

The annual Idaho Wing Mountain Eagle Encampment was held at Gowen Field, Boise, ID on July 22-29, 2022. 100 members successfully graduated from encampment. There were cadets from MS, MT, OR, WA, and CO.

Idaho Wing flew 169 front seat cadet orientation flights and 165 back seat flights. In 2022 ID Wing acquired a glider and flew 44 cadet o-rides and 12 cadet flight training rides. One Idaho cadet, C/Maj Aaron Nelson from Nampa Squadron soloed in the glider on October 9, 2022.

26 Idaho Wing Cadets applied for NCSAs. Some applied for more than one.

34 Cadets earned their Wright Brothers Award; 9 earned their Mitchell Awards; 9 earned their Earhart Awards and 3 earned their Eaker Awards.

ID Wing flew 24 hours in support of AFROTC programs.

DDR - No program at the National Level any more.

APPENDIX I: Core Mission Data and Statistics *(Data in support of the Narrative)*

Operations

During 2022 ID Wing flew 244 training exercise sorties, 39 onboarding and return to flight sorties, 32 annual form 5/91 evaluation sorties, 62 annual pilot proficiency sorties, 5 advanced training sorties, 55 consolidated maintenance sorties, 12 AFJROTC sorties, 1 cadet wings proficiency sortie, 27 annual B mission sorties, 27 miscellaneous sorties and 12 low level route survey sorties in June-August 2022 in support of the 366th Fighter Wing at Mountain Home AFB.

Aerospace Education

ID-015 Nampa Composite Squadron, ID-073 Boise Composite Squadron, ID-097 Eagle Rock Composite Squadron and ID-098 Selkirk Composite Squadron earned Aerospace Education Achievement Awards for 2022.

Internal Aerospace Education

11 Idaho Wing members earned their Yeager Awards.

External Aerospace Education

Nothing to report.

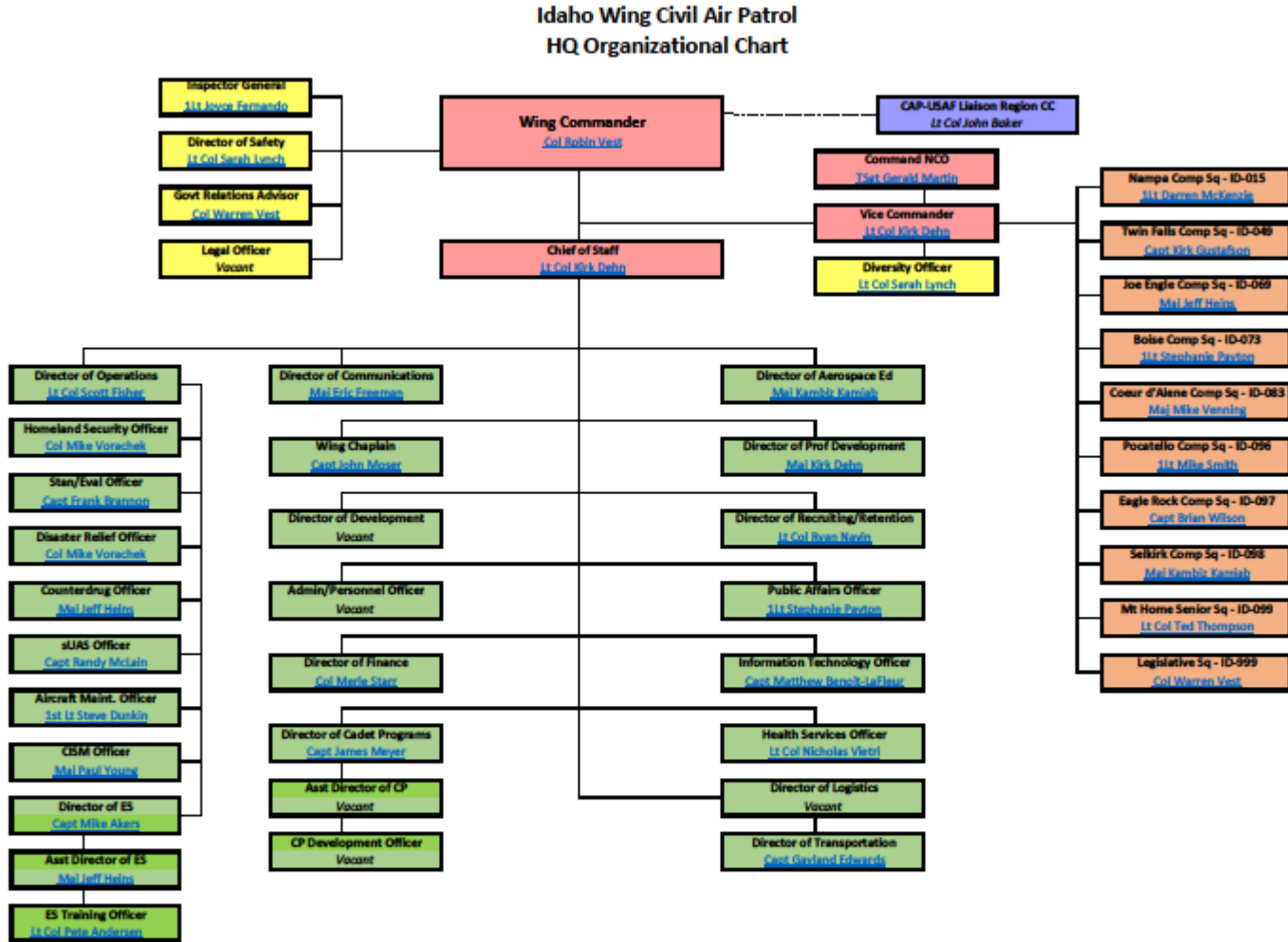
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ID-015 – Nampa Composite Squadron, ID-069 Joe Engle Composite Squadron and ID-073 Boise Composite Squadron all earned the Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2022.

APPENDIX II: Unit Staff - Data and Statistics

Idaho Wing Organization Chart



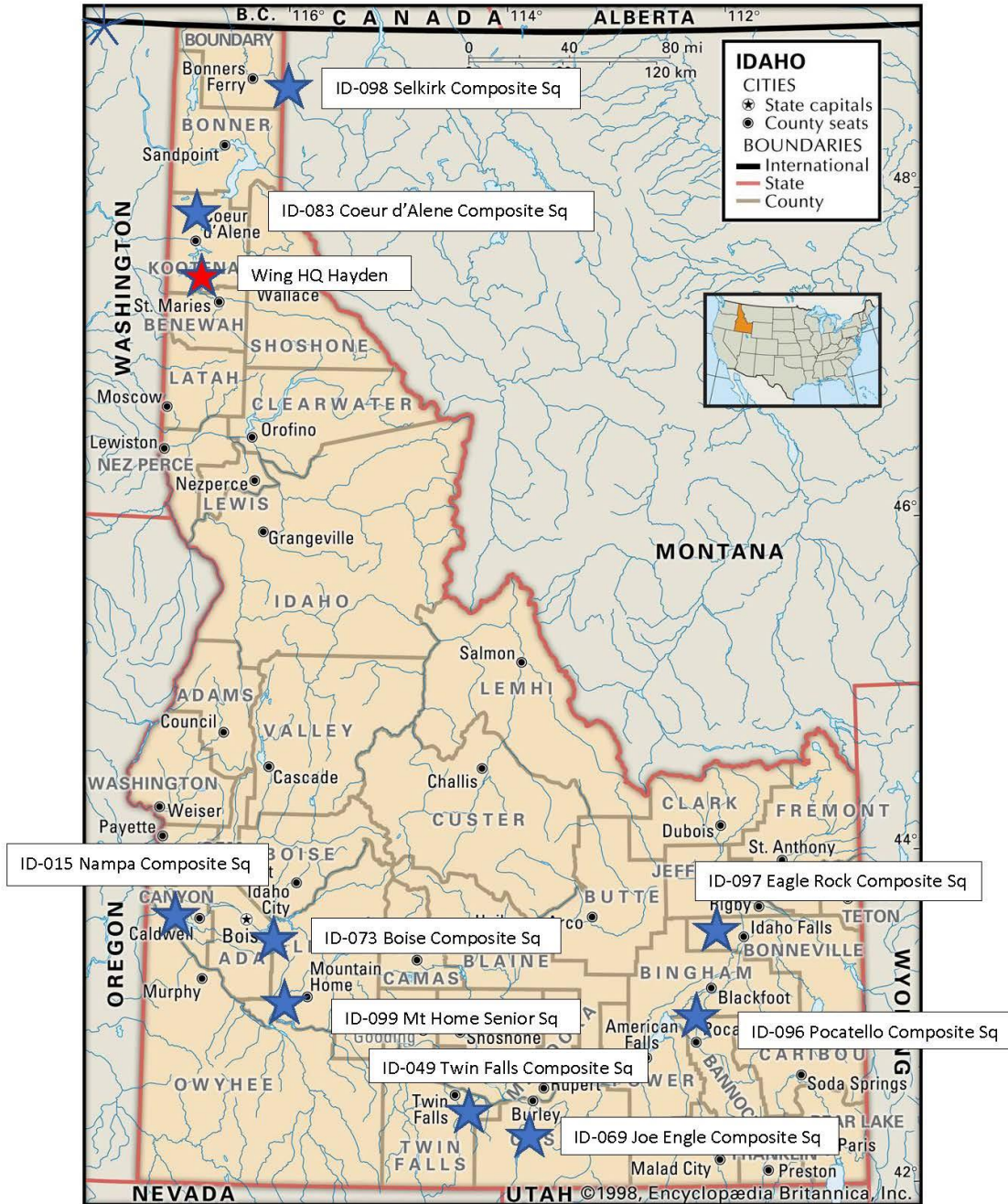
Unit Command and Staff Listing

Wing Commander
 Vice Commander
 Chief of Staff
 Command NCO
 Aerospace Education

Robin M. Vest
 Kirk Dehn
 Kirk Dehn
 Gerald Martin
 Kambiz Kamiab

Colonel
 Lieutenant Colonel
 Lieutenant Colonel
 Technical Sergeant
 Major
 Select Rank
 Select Rank

Unit Map



APPENDIX III: Unit Staff - Data and Statistics

Logistics	Vacant	Select Rank
Communications	Eric Freeman	Major
Professional Development	Kirk Dehn	Lieutenant Colonel
Administration	Vacant	Select Rank
Personnel	Vacant	Select Rank
Recruiting and Retention	Ryan Navin	Lieutenant Colonel
Plans and Programs	Vacant	Select Rank
Public Affairs	Stephanie Payton	1st Lieutenant
Information Technology	Matt Benoit-LaFleur	Captain
Financial Management	Merle Starr	Colonel
Chaplain	John Moser	Captain
Historian	Vacant	Select Rank
Health Services	Nicholas Vietri	Lieutenant Colonel
Inspector General	Joyce Fernando	1st Lieutenant
Safety	Sarah Lynch	Lieutenant Colonel
Government Relations	C. Warren Vest	Colonel
Legal	Vacant	Select Rank
Operations	Scott Fisher	Lieutenant Colonel
Emergency Services	Mike Akers	Captain
Diversity Officer	Sarah Lynch	Lieutenant Colonel
Cadet Programs	James Meyer	Captain

APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics

Logistics

Idaho Wing traded a C-172 to UT Wing and received a C-182 from WY Wing. The wing has 9 aircraft and 19 vehicles. ID-097 received a hangar donation at the IDA Airport. On September 27th ID Wing received a glider from MT Wing.

Communications

On December 27 C/1Lt Daniel Moser was recognized by NHQ in the nightly update as being the second highest scoring CAP "team" in the Noble Skywave Canadian Armed Forces competition. HF operators attempt to get the most contacts. Daniel was only 4 points behind the first place CAP team from OH Wing. He scored better than NORAD.

Professional Development

Fifty-eight senior members completed Level I. Seven members earned the Davis Award by completing Level II. One member completed the Loening Award for Level III. One member completed the Garber Award for Level IV and one member completed the Wilson Award for Level V.

PD Stats for 2022: AE Tech = 2; Cadet Programs Master = 2 & Tech = 1; Character Development Tech = 1; Command Senior = 1; Communications Tech = 1; ES Senior = 1; FM Tech = 1; IG Tech = 1; Ops Senior = 1 & Tech = 2; Personnel Tech = 1; PD Senior = 1 & Tech = 1; Public Affairs Master = 1 & Tech = 1; Recruiting & Retention Tech = 1; Safety Tech = 1 & Standards & Evaluations Tech = 1.

ID-098 Selkirk Composite Squadron was first chartered as Bonners Ferry Flight on April 7, 2022. It later became a squadron on October 4, 2022. ID-099 Mountain Home Flight was first chartered on July 18, 2022.

ID Wing Earned the 2022 RMR Cadet Program Award and the Homeland Security Award which were presented at the National Conference in Louisville, KY. Idaho Wing closed their HQ in Blackfoot on July 6.

Col Mike Vorachek, the 2021 ID Wing and Rocky Mountain Senior Member of the Year was presented with the National Senior Member of the Year Award during the Annual Conference in Louisville, KY. Col Vorachek also received a Region Commander's Commendation for his work as an instructor with NESAs-MTT. C/Lt Col Cameron Meyer received a Meritorious Service Award for his work as the ID Wing Encampment Commander. Capt Ken McConnell received a Wing Commander's Commendation for successful completion of four years as a squadron commander. On April 30 the Idaho Press Club awarded Third Place to Col Bob Bost, Col Robin Vest and 1Lt Stephanie Payton for Special Purpose Campaign – External – PR for their 2021 Idaho Wing Insert for Legislative Day and a Third Place Media Innovation Award to 1Lt Stephanie Payton, C/Capt Spencer McConnell, Capt Ken McConnell, Lt Col Ryan Navin, Lt Col Paul Bayless – Boise Composite Squadron - Boise Civil Air Patrol Cadet Finds Triggered ELT Beacon.

On August 16 1Lt Stephanie Payton replaced Capt Ken McConnell as the ID-073 Boise Composite Squadron Commander.

APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

Recruiting and Retention

In early August 1Lt Stephanie Payton and Col Robin Vest finished designing new pilot recruiting posters.

Idaho Wing had the highest annual growth in Rocky Mountain Region in 2022 for both adults (19% annual growth) and cadets (12.71% annual growth).

Plans and Programs

Nothing to report.

Public Affairs

At the Texas Wing Conference on April 31 a Congressional Gold Medal was presented to Viola Davis's son who lives in the Dallas area. Viola Davis was a former member who participated as an observer with the Lewiston Squadron.

Added many documents to the Google Drive for unit PAOs so they have one place to find information, such as requirements for obtaining Technician Rating.

Created one issue of the Idaho Wing Magazine, Idaho HighBird.

Information Technology

Created new folders in Wing Google Drive so all wing members had access to the same documents. Continued to rework the wing and unit web pages to match NHQ.

APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

Financial Management

Held quarterly finance committee meetings as required. Worked to develop and approve budgets for encampment and other activities.

Chaplain

Wing Chaplain attended ID Wing Encampment. Wing Chaplains and CDIs reported 359 activities, 1996 hours; 8112 miles & \$1,876 in expenses for 2022.

Historian

Nothing to report.

Health Services

Nothing to report.

APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

Inspector General

The wing IG completed 5 SUIs on time and all discrepancies were cleared. The Wing IG attended IG College. The wing gained an SUI Augmentee.

Safety

On August 16 National HQ PROPS recognized TSgt Damen Therkildsen and C/2Lt Nathan Church for their innovative safety program during encampment. There were no heat-related incidents during the hottest week of the year.

NHQ rewarded Lt Col Sarah Lynch with a coin for her service on one of the National Safety Committees.

Government Relations

Col Warren Vest worked with the Idaho State Legislature to rewrite the law allowing Idaho Wing to receive state funds. The Idaho Wing Commander presented testimony in front of several state committees asking for state funding. On March 29, 2022, the governor signed a bill appropriating \$50,000 per year to Idaho Wing to be used for scholarships, travel and office expenses for wing senior members and cadets. On July 28, 2022, ID Wing received its first check.

All Idaho senators and representatives were contacted on Zoom during annual Legislative Day.

Annual Awards

Maj Jeanne M. Holm Aerospace Education Officer of the Year – SM Michael B. Christiansen – Coeur d'Alene Composite Squadron

Col David Kantor Operations Staff Officer of the Year – Christopher J. Clarke – Eagle Rock Composite Squadron

Inspector General Of the Year – 1Lt Joyce Fernando – Idaho Wing

Lt Col T. Keith Riddle Aircrew Member of the Year – Capt Andrew D. Jender – Mountain Home Senior Squadron

Squadron Chaplain of the Year – Capt Hilary E. Lind – Eagle Rock Composite Squadron

Ed Lewis Incident Staff Member of the Year – Capt Randel R. McLain – Coeur d’Alene Composite Squadron

Communicator of the Year – C/Capt Daniel A. Moser – Coeur d’Alene Composite Squadron

Senior Chaplain of the Year – Capt John B. Moser IV – Coeur d’Alene Composite Squadron

Col (Bud) Payton PAO of the Year – 1Lt Stephanie N. Payton – Boise Composite Squadron

Director of Finance of the Year – Col Merle V. Starr – Idaho Wing

Safety Officer of the Year – TSgt Damen P. Therkildsen – Selkirk Composite Squadron

George Texido Legislative Officer of the Year – Col Warren Vest – Idaho Legislative Squadron

AFSA Cadet NCO of the Year – C/MSgt Abigail E. Rubio – Eagle Rock Composite Squadron

Cadet of the Year – C/Lt Col Cameron A. Meyer – Eagle Rock Composite Squadron

Senior Member of the Year – Lt Col Kirk Dehn

2022 Squadron of Merit – Nampa Composite Squadron