

## **AWS Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q.** How will our Aircraft be supported once we arrive at the NTC?

A. All Rotational assets will be supported by the Rotational AWST. Facilities are available at BLAAF for the RTU to use. The 25<sup>th</sup> OWS can also support RTU aircraft until the AWST begins operations.

Q. Can we just bring M9's?

A. For the purposes of the Decisive Action rotations, M4's will be used and equipped with MILES at the NTC.

Q. I'm working at the Brigade, do I need to bring a TMOS?

A. Every AWST will be taking manual observations during the rotation, whether by TMOS or Kestrel. Consider placing sensing equipment with the UAS L/R site as well. However, they may not be co-located.

Q. Will the 12<sup>th</sup> CTS provide me with any gear I didn't bring?

A. The 12<sup>th</sup> CTS <u>will not loan any equipment</u> to the rotational AWST. All equipment will be procured at home station through the Army or the Squadron.

Q. Can my AWST use the 12<sup>th</sup> CTS MWP or 5-Day forecast?

A. 12<sup>th</sup> CTS Weather products are for indigenous Ft. Irwin units only. The WF will METCON with the AWST to ensure accuracy and horizontal consistency.

Q. Who can I contact for specific information about my rotation?

A. The 12<sup>th</sup> CTS is available to address any questions or comments. The OC/T's can be reached at (760) 380-5419 or by email at <u>usarmy.irwin.12-cts.mbx.irwin-</u> <u>weather@mail.mil</u>

## **Best Practices**

**1.** Reviewing the MTOE with the supported unit and getting eyes/hands on all required items ASAP at home station. This includes all computers, CBRNE Gear, and tactical equipment.

2. Meeting with the S6 ahead of deployment and verifying NIPR/SIPR capability, radio availability, etc. for use during the rotation. Preparing a signed MOA/MOU with the S6 will eliminate confusion upon deployment.

3. Performing training and operations checks on all equipment. If another member of the squadron performs the ops check, they should document that equipment is mission capable and broken/missing items are replaced or accounted for. Pack spare parts/batteries in case of outages/damage. All AWST members should be trained on all equipment before arrival to NTC.

4. Brushing up on non-standard airfield tactical skills. This includes limited data forecasting, map reading, tactical visibility charts, chemical downwind messages, TMOS troubleshooting, etc.

5. Building rapport with the key members of the supported unit. Attending FTX/TOCEXs and NTC planning meetings has proven to be beneficial for the BWTs.

6. Arranging support for ISR assets at home station. Plan for the L/R site to be geographically separated with limited communication capabilities.

7. Reading AAR's from previous rotations. This can help with planning and building on the success of others and avoiding shortfalls in preparation.

8. Starting preparation for NTC as soon as possible. Planning and coordination is the key to success during the exercise. Accomplishing this early is beneficial for the AWST and the supported unit. The Army will not be able to provide anything they did not bring, and it will be difficult for home station to send additional equipment to the NTC.