



## NASA OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OFFICE OF AUDITS  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20546-0001

March 24, 2021

TO: Sean M. Gallagher, Authorizing Official  
Chief Information Officer, Glenn Research Center

Kevin M. McPherson, Information System Owner  
ISS Payload Operations Manager, Glenn Research Center

SUBJECT: Final Memorandum, *Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Information Security Modernization Act Evaluation – A Contractor-Operated Communications System* (IG-21-015, A-20-012-03)

The Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA) requires that we conduct annual independent evaluations of information security programs and practices at NASA. As part of part of this year's evaluation, we examined an information system known as a Contractor-Operated Communications System (COCS), managed for Glenn Research Center (Glenn).<sup>1</sup> This memorandum reports the issues identified during our evaluation of this system for the authorizing official's and system owner's awareness and action. Relatedly, on October 30, 2020, we reported our overall FISMA evaluation results to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). See Enclosure I for details on our scope and methodology.

### Background

In accordance with FISMA, federal agencies are required to implement policies that ensure information security is addressed throughout the life cycle of every agency information system. FISMA requires an annual independent evaluation of federal information security programs and practices, including the evaluation of a subset of individual systems. FISMA's annual reporting requirements seek to ensure information security management is integrated into agency information technology (IT) operations and practices as they relate to agency systems. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is responsible for developing information security standards and guidelines, including minimum requirements for federal information systems. NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-53, Revision 4, provides a catalog of security and privacy controls to help protect organizations from cyber-attack, natural

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<sup>1</sup> The name of the NASA information system tested during this evaluation has been generalized to protect operational security.

disasters, structural failure, and human error.<sup>2</sup> NIST also published a set of procedures for conducting assessments of security and privacy controls employed within federal information systems and organizations.<sup>3</sup> FISMA requires that federal agencies periodically test and evaluate information system security policies, procedures, and practices with a frequency based on risk, but not less than annually.

### ***System Security Plan Requirements***

NIST requirements provide that agencies develop policies to shape their system security planning processes.<sup>4</sup> These requirements recognize that system security plans (SSP) are living documents that require periodic review, modification, and plans of action and milestones (POA&M) for implementing security controls. Additionally, agencies should implement procedures that outline responsibilities for reviewing the plans, keeping them current, and following up on the controls. NIST guidance further states that procedures should require the plans to be developed and reviewed prior to proceeding with the system security assessment and authorization process. Federal and NASA policies provide two possible methods to address information security control deficiencies that result from control assessments: (1) POA&M or (2) Risk-Based Decision document (RBD).

**Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M).** A POA&M is a corrective action plan that lists resources required to accomplish the elements of the plan, milestones for meeting a task, and scheduled completion dates. These plans serve as NASA’s primary management tool to remediate information security-related weaknesses and are maintained in the Risk Information Security Compliance System (RISCS) database.<sup>5</sup> POA&M reports provide Agency information security officials with information to track and review progress on corrective actions. These reports also provide a basis for an authorizing official to approve or revoke an information system’s authority to operate. NASA policy considers POA&M management crucial for identifying the security posture of any given system within the Agency.

**Risk-Based Decision document (RBD).** An RBD is an analysis supporting the conclusion that a risk can be accepted without corrective action. NASA policy provides that an authorizing official can accept risks by documenting “an explicit statement of understanding of what risk acceptance and authorization to operate implies.”

During our evaluation, we examined and tested information security documentation for an information system that maintains data on space flight hardware and research and technology development supporting space flight missions under the Agency’s Science and Human Exploration and Operations mission directorates.

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<sup>2</sup> NIST SP 800-53, Revision 4, Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations (April 2013).

<sup>3</sup> NIST SP 800-53A, Revision 4, Assessing Security and Privacy Controls in Federal Information Systems and Organizations (December 2014).

<sup>4</sup> NIST SP 800-18, Revision 1, Guide for Developing Security Plans for Federal Information Systems (February 2006).

<sup>5</sup> In 2016, NASA launched RISCS as a centralized Agency toolset to track and report cybersecurity risks. RISCS assigns risk to system security plans, aligns NASA’s security controls to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, and reports Agency risk data to federal dashboards.

### ***Inspector General FISMA Reporting Metrics***

To conduct our evaluation, we used NIST standards and the Inspector General (IG) Metrics for FY 2020, which were developed as a collaborative effort among officials from OMB, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), in consultation with the federal Chief Information Officers (CIO) Council. The IG Metrics assess aspects of information security in areas such as risk management, configuration management, identity and access management, security training, and incident response.<sup>6</sup> The IG Metrics identify 85 information security controls from NIST 800-53, Revision 4, to be tested for FY 2020 (see Enclosure II for the complete list).

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<sup>6</sup> The FY 2020 IG Metrics are available at <https://www.cisa.gov/publication/fy20-fisma-documents> (last accessed, February 3, 2021).

# RESULTS OF REVIEW

As part of our assessment of NASA's overall information security program for FY 2020, we examined the security policies, procedures, practices, and controls for the COCS system. We chose this system from a universe of more than 450 NASA and contractor systems based on various criteria, including the NASA Center at which the system was located, the system's Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 category, and whether the system was NASA- or contractor-operated.

During our review of the COCS system, we found that NASA failed to update or maintain significant portions of required security information and documentation for the system in RISCs. Further, for the system security documentation maintained outside of RISCs, we identified numerous instances of security controls that contained inaccurate or missing information, including missing POA&Ms, RBDs, and contingency plans. As a result, Agency stakeholders do not have complete and accurate information when making information security decisions about this system – decisions that could affect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of NASA maintained information in the COCS system.

## **Issue: The COCS System Security Documentation is not Updated or Maintained in RISCs**

During our review of the COCS system security documentation, we found that significant portions of required security information and documentation that comprise a typical SSP were not updated or maintained in RISCs. For example, at the time of our review all controls within RISCs for the COCS system were reported as "not assessed." However, during subsequent discussions with Glenn information security representatives, we were advised that an assessment had been completed prior to our review on March 11, 2020, and the controls were assessed as "satisfied." However, no evidence of that assessment or its supporting documentation was uploaded into RISCs. Instead, the only system security documentation provided to support the March assessment was an Excel spreadsheet maintained outside of RISCs. That spreadsheet listed the system security controls, assessment dates, security control assessor notes, and the control assessment status (e.g., "satisfied" and "other than satisfied").

We reviewed the available system security documentation and identified numerous inconsistencies in the information reported in the spreadsheet. Specifically, for 35 of the 85 (41 percent) security controls tested, we identified controls with missing assessment dates and control status information, as well as controls that were assessed as "other than satisfied" but not supported by a POA&M or RBD. We were unable to independently corroborate or validate the adequacy or sufficiency of the March assessment data because the security control assessor did not retain any documentation to support their assessment. While the assessor recommended the control status information from the assessment be updated in RISCs, the Authorization Official decided that the assessor's tracking system maintained outside of RISCs was sufficient to document the control status information.<sup>7</sup> Consequently, while an assessment had been performed in March 2020, there was no supporting documentation or evidence in RISCs—the Agency's main repository—to support the fact an assessment took place or what it found. Effective September 2020, NASA updated its guidance on security assessments of external information

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<sup>7</sup> NASA ITS-HBK-2810.02-05A, *Security Assessment and Authorization: External Information Systems* (November 6, 2019), requires supporting documents, such as the Security Assessment Report, which includes control status information, be maintained in RISCs.

systems to require SSPs and POA&Ms be documented in RISCs. Documenting control status information in the security control assessor's separate tracking system instead of RISCs does not meet current Agency requirements.

During our review, we also found that a contingency plan had not been prepared for the COCS system and therefore was not maintained within RISCs.<sup>8</sup> The security control assessor identified this lack of a contingency plan during the March 2020 assessment and recommended COCS system administrators develop a contingency plan as well as track the related actions in a POA&M. After the assessment, the security control assessor determined that a contractor-provided document (referred to as a return to service agreement) satisfied the security control criteria requirements for a contingency plan. However, neither that document nor the security assessor's analysis of that document were maintained or entered into RISCs. We were therefore unable to independently verify the adequacy or sufficiency of this analysis or the determination that the contractor-provided document met the information security requirements of a contingency plan. The failure to have a current contingency plan for an operational system increases the risk that NASA will be unable to recover the system in an effective and efficient manner in an emergency, potentially threatening the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of NASA information maintained, processed, and stored in those systems.<sup>9</sup>

We discussed with Glenn representatives our concerns regarding pertinent security information and documentation for the COCS system that was not maintained in RISCs. The officials stated that these instances occurred because at the time NASA personnel did not understand their responsibilities for updating the supporting documentation in RISCs related to contractor-operated (i.e., external) systems. While Agency guidance provides a simplified approach to the security assessment process for its external systems by allowing system owners to leverage assessments conducted by another entity, it still requires that any NASA-specific risk statements and authorization documents—including SSPs and POA&Ms of the NASA partner—be stored in RISCs.<sup>10</sup>

## ***Recommendations***

We recommend that the Information System Owner:

1. Work with the Information System Security Officer to ensure that the entire SSP is updated and entered into RISCs.
2. Work with the Information System Security Officer to ensure that all required supporting documentation is maintained within RISCs, including POA&Ms and RBDs.
3. Ensure that all control status elements are accurately updated and reported in RISCs.

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<sup>8</sup> NASA ITS-HBK 2810.02-05A does not require contingency plans to be maintained in RISCs.

<sup>9</sup> NIST SP 800-34, Revision 1, *Contingency Planning Guide for Federal Information Systems* (May 2010).

<sup>10</sup> NASA ITS-HBK 2810.02-05A, *Security Assessment and Authorization: External Information Systems* (September 2020).

## Management's Response and Our Evaluation

We provided a draft of this memorandum to NASA management who concurred with our recommendations and described actions they plan to take. We consider management's comments to our recommendations responsive; therefore, the recommendations are resolved and will be closed upon completion and verification of the proposed corrective actions.

Management's comments are reproduced in Enclosure III. Technical comments provided by management have been incorporated as appropriate.

Major contributors to this audit and report include Mark Jenson, Financial Management Director; Joseph Shook, Project Manager; Aleisha Fisher; and James Pearce. Matt Ward provided editorial and graphics assistance.

If you have questions or wish to comment on the quality or usefulness of this memorandum, contact Laurence Hawkins, Audit Operations and Quality Assurance Director, at 202-358-1543 or [laurence.b.hawkins@nasa.gov](mailto:laurence.b.hawkins@nasa.gov).

Paul K. Martin  
Inspector General

cc: Mike Witt  
Associate Chief Information Officer for Cybersecurity and Privacy

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Chief Cyber Risk Officer

**Enclosures—3**

## **Enclosure I: Scope and Methodology**

We performed this evaluation from May 2020 through February 2021 in accordance with the Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation issued by CIGIE. Those standards require that we plan and perform the evaluation to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our objective.

To answer our objective and gain an understanding of the overall information security program, and to assist in reporting the results to OMB, we performed fieldwork remotely for the system maintained for the Glenn Research Center. The scope of this evaluation was NASA cybersecurity documentation and practices required by FISMA. In order to review NASA's compliance with FISMA requirements, we interviewed IT officials and examined and tested the SSP and its supporting documentation for existence, completeness, and accuracy to determine the adequacy of the Agency's information security efforts.

We reviewed relevant public laws, regulations, and policies to determine the established guidance and best practices. We obtained and reviewed prior audit reports, external reviews, and various other documents related to NASA's overall information security efforts. We reviewed NASA requirements and criteria for FISMA. The documents we reviewed included the following:

### ***Federal Laws, Policy, Standards, and Guidance***

Pub. L. No. 113-283, *Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014* (December 2014)

Pub. L. No. 107-347, *E-Government Act of 2002* (December 17, 2002)

Executive Order 13800, *Presidential Executive Order on Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure* (May 11, 2017)

OMB Circular No. A-11, *Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget* (July 10, 2020)

OMB Circular No. A-123, *Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control* (July 15, 2016)

FIPS 200, *Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems* (March 2006)

FIPS 199, *Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems* (February 2004)

NIST SP 800-161, *Supply Chain Risk Management Practices for Federal Information Systems and Organizations* (April 2015)

NIST SP 800-137, *Information Security Continuous Monitoring (ISCM) for Federal Information Systems and Organizations* (September 2011)

NIST SP 800-53, Revision 4, *Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations* (April 2013, includes updates as of January 22, 2015)

NIST SP 800-37, Revision 2, *Risk Management Framework for Information Systems and Organizations: A System Life Cycle Approach for Security and Privacy* (December 2018)

NIST SP 800-30, Revision 1, *Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments* (September 2012)

### ***NASA Policy, Requirements, and Guidance***

NASA Policy Directive 2810.1E, *NASA Information Security Policy* (January 31, 2020)

NASA Procedural Requirements (NPR) 2800.1B, *Managing Information Technology* (March 20, 2009)

NPR 1600.1A, *NASA Security Program Procedural Requirements* (August 12, 2013)

ITS-HBK 2810.02-08A, *Security Authorization and Assessment: Plan of Action and Milestones* (POA&M) (November 2019)

ITS-HBK 2810.02-02E, *Security Assessment and Authorization* (November 6, 2019)

ITS-HBK 2810.02-05A, *Security Assessment and Authorization: External Information Systems* (September 2020)

### ***Assessment of Data Reliability***

We relied on computer-generated data as part of performing this evaluation. We assessed the reliability of RISCs data by (1) performing electronic testing, (2) reviewing existing information about the data and the system that produced it, and (3) interviewing Agency officials knowledgeable about the data. We determined that the data was sufficiently reliable for the purposes of this evaluation.

### ***Review of Internal Controls***

Based on the work performed during this analysis, we reviewed internal controls as they related to NASA's overall information security efforts and identified weaknesses that could potentially affect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of NASA data, systems, and networks. We discussed the control weaknesses identified in the body of this memorandum. Our recommendations, if implemented, will address those identified weaknesses.

### ***Prior Coverage***

During the last 5 years, the NASA Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office have issued 20 reports of significant relevance to the subject of this report. Reports can be accessed at <https://oig.nasa.gov/audits/auditReports.html> and <https://www.gao.gov>.

### ***NASA Office of Inspector General***

*Final Memorandum, Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Information Security Modernization Act Evaluation – A Center Communications System* ([IG-21-013](#), February 16, 2021)

*Final Memorandum, Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Information Security Modernization Act Evaluation – An Agency Common System* ([IG-21-010](#), December 22, 2020)

*Audit of NASA's Policy and Practices Regarding the Use of Non-Agency Information Technology Devices* ([IG-20-021](#), August 27, 2020)

*Evaluation of NASA's Information Security Program under the Federal Information Security Modernization Act for Fiscal Year 2019* ([IG-20-017](#), June 25, 2020)

*Cybersecurity Management and Oversight at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory* ([IG-19-022](#), June 18, 2019)

*Review of NASA's Information Security Program under the Federal Information Security Modernization for Fiscal Year 2018 Evaluation* ([ML-19-002](#), March 6, 2019)

*Audit of NASA's Information Technology Supply Chain Risk Management Efforts* ([IG-18-019](#), May 24, 2018)

*Audit of NASA's Security Operations Center* ([IG-18-020](#), May 23, 2018)

*Final Memorandum, Federal Information Security Modernization Act: Fiscal Year 2017 Evaluation* ([IG-18-003](#), November 6, 2017)

*Federal Information Security Modernization Act: Fiscal Year 2016 Evaluation* ([IG-17-002](#), November 7, 2016)

*Report Mandated by the Cybersecurity Act of 2015* ([IG-16-026](#), July 27, 2016)

*Final Memorandum, Review of NASA's Information Security Program* ([IG-16-016](#), April 14, 2016)

### **Government Accountability Office**

*Priority Open Recommendations: National Aeronautics and Space Administration* ([GAO-20-526PR](#), April 23, 2020)

*Information Technology: Effective Practices Have Improved Agencies' FITARA Implementation* ([GAO-19-131](#), April 29, 2019)

*Federal Chief Information Officers: Critical Actions Needed to Address Shortcomings and Challenges in Implementing Responsibilities* ([GAO-18-93](#), August 2, 2018)

*Federal Information Security: Weaknesses Continue to Indicate Need for Effective Implementation Policies and Practices* ([GAO-17-549](#), September 28, 2017)

*Cybersecurity: Federal Efforts Are Under Way That May Address Workforce Challenges* ([GAO-17-533T](#), April 4, 2017)

*Information Security: DHS Needs to Continue to Advance Initiatives to Protect Federal Systems* ([GAO-17-518T](#), March 28, 2017)

*Federal Information Security: Actions Needed to Address Challenges* ([GAO-16-885T](#), September 19, 2016)

*Information Security: Agencies Need to Improve Controls over Selected High-Impact Systems* ([GAO-16-501](#), May 18, 2016)

## Enclosure II: Information Security Controls Tested

**Table 1: NIST SP 800-53, Revision 4, Security Controls Tested**

#	Information Security Control	FIPS 199 Security Category		
		Low	Moderate	High
1	AC-01 – Access Control Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
2	AC-02 – Account Management	X	X	X
3	AC-05 – Separation of Duties		X	X
4	AC-06 – Least Privilege		X	X
5	AC-08 – System Use Notification	X	X	X
6	AC-11 – Session Lock		X	X
7	AC-12 – Session Termination		X	X
8	AC-17 – Remote Access	X	X	X
9	AC-19 – Access Control for Mobile Devices	X	X	X
10	AT-01 – Security Awareness and Training Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
11	AT-02 – Security Awareness Training	X	X	X
12	AT-03 – Role Based Security Training	X	X	X
13	AT-04 – Security Training Records	X	X	X
14	AU-02 – Audit Events	X	X	X
15	AU-03 – Content of Audit Records	X	X	X
16	AU-06 – Audit Review, Analysis, and Reporting	X	X	X
17	CA-01 – Security Assessment and Authorization Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
18	CA-02 – Security Assessments	X	X	X
19	CA-03 – System Interconnections	X	X	X
20	CA-05 – Plan of Action and Milestones	X	X	X
21	CA-06 – Security Authorization	X	X	X
22	CA-07 – Continuous Monitoring	X	X	X
23	CM-01 – Configuration Management Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
24	CM-02 – Baseline Configuration	X	X	X
25	CM-03 – Configuration Change Control		X	X
26	CM-04 – Security Impact Analysis	X	X	X
27	CM-06 – Configuration Settings	X	X	X
28	CM-07 – Least Functionality	X	X	X
29	CM-08 – Information System Component Inventory	X	X	X
30	CM-09 – Configuration Management Plan		X	X
31	CM-10 – Software Usage Restrictions	X	X	X
32	CP-01 – Contingency Planning Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
33	CP-02 – Contingency Plan	X	X	X
34	CP-03 – Contingency Training	X	X	X
35	CP-04 – Contingency Plan Testing	X	X	X
36	CP-06 – Alternate Storage Site		X	X
37	CP-07 – Alternate Processing Site		X	X
38	CP-08 – Telecommunications Services		X	X
39	CP-09 – Information System Backup	X	X	X
40	IA-01 – Identification and Authentication Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
41	IA-02 – Identification and Authentication (Organizational Users)	X	X	X
42	IA-05 – Authenticator Management	X	X	X
43	IA-07 – Cryptographic Model Authentication	X	X	X

**Enclosure II**

#	Information Security Control	FIPS 199 Security Category		
		Low	Moderate	High
44	IA-08 – Identification and Authentication (Non-Organizational Users)	X	X	X
45	IR-01 – Incident Response Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
46	IR-04 – Incident Handling	X	X	X
47	IR-06 – Incident Reporting	X	X	X
48	IR-07 – Incident Response Assistance	X	X	X
49	MP-03 – Media Marking		X	X
50	MP-06 – Media Sanitization	X	X	X
51	PL-02 – System Security Plan	X	X	X
52	PL-04 – Rules of Behavior	X	X	X
53	PL-08 – Information Security Architecture		X	X
54	PS-01 – Personnel Security Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
55	PS-02 – Position Risk Designation	X	X	X
56	PS-03 – Personnel Screening	X	X	X
57	PS-06 – Access Agreements	X	X	X
58	PM-05 – Information Inventory	Independent of any system impact level		
59	PM-07 – Enterprise Architecture			
60	PM-08 – Critical Infrastructure Plan			
61	PM-09 – Risk Management Strategy			
62	PM-11 – Mission/Business Process Definition			
63	RA-01 – Risk Assessment Policy and Procedures	X	X	X
64	RA-02 – Security Categorization	X	X	X
65	RA-05 – Vulnerability Scanning	X	X	X
66	AR-04 – Privacy Monitoring and Auditing (Appendix J)	Independent of any system impact level		
67	AR-05 – Privacy Awareness and Training (Appendix J)			
68	SA-03 – System Development Life Cycle	X	X	X
69	SA-04 – Acquisition Process	X	X	X
70	SA-08 – Security Engineering Principles		X	X
71	SA-09 – External Information System Services	X	X	X
72	SA-12 – Supply Chain Protection			X
73	SC-07 (10) – Boundary Protection   Prevent Unauthorized Exfiltration			
74	SC-08 – Transmission Confidentiality and Integrity		X	X
75	SC-10 – Network Disconnect		X	X
76	SC-13 – Cryptographic Protection	X	X	X
77	SC-18 – Mobile Code		X	X
78	SC-28 – Protection of Information at Rest		X	X
79	SI-02 – Flaw Remediation	X	X	X
80	SI-03 – Malicious Code Protection	X	X	X
81	SI-04 – Information System Monitoring	X	X	X
82	SI-04 (4) – Information System Monitoring   Inbound and Outbound Communications Traffic		X	X
83	SI-04 (18) – Information System Monitoring   Analyze Traffic / Covert Exfiltration			
84	SI-07 (8) – Software, Firmware, and Information Integrity   Auditing Capability for Significant Events			
85	SE-02 – Privacy Incident Response (Appendix J)	Independent of any system impact level		

Source: NIST SP 800-53, Revision 4, Appendixes D and J

## Enclosure III: Management's Comments

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Headquarters**  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



March 22, 2021

Reply to Attn of: Office of the Chief Information Officer

TO: Assistant Inspector General for Audits

FROM: Chief Information Officer

SUBJECT: Agency Response to OIG Draft Memorandum, "Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Information Security Modernization Act Evaluation – A Contractor-Operated Communications System" (A-20-012-03)

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Office of Inspector General (OIG) draft memorandum entitled, "Fiscal Year 2020 Federal Information Security Modernization Act Evaluation – A Contractor-Operated Communications System" (A-20-012-03), dated February 25, 2021.

In the draft memorandum, the OIG makes three recommendations addressed to the NASA system information owner and authorizing official intended to address several control deficiency concerns. Specifically, the OIG recommends the following:

**Recommendation 1:** Work with the Information System Security Officer to ensure that the entire SSP is updated and entered into RISCs.

**Management's Response:** Concur. As part of the FY 2021 annual assessment process, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) will ensure the Information System Owner (ISO) and Information System Security Officer (ISSO) update the System Security Plan (SSP) and then upload it into the Risk Information Security Compliance System (RISCs).

**Estimated Completion Date:** May 31, 2021.

**Recommendation 2:** Work with the Information System Security Officer to ensure that all required supporting documentation is maintained within RISCs, including POA&Ms and RBDs.

**Management's Response:** Concur. The OCIO will work with the ISO and ISSO to ensure supporting documentation is maintained within RISCs, in accordance with

ITS-HBK-2810.02-05A, Security Assessment and Authorization: External Information Systems.

**Estimated Completion Date:** May 31, 2021.

**Recommendation 3:** Ensure that all control status elements are accurately updated and reported in RISCs.

**Management's Response:** Concur.

As part of the FY 2021 annual assessment process, OCIO will validate that all control status elements are updated and reported in RISCs, in accordance with ITS-HBK-2810.02-05A, Security Assessment and Authorization: External Information Systems.

**Estimated Completion Date:** May 31, 2021.

We have reviewed the draft report for information that should not be publicly released. As a result of this review, we have not identified any information that should not be publicly released.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the subject draft report. If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this response, please contact Fatima Johnson on (202) 358-1631.

JEFFREY SEATON

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Jeff Seaton  
Chief Information Officer