

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Washington, DC 20240

Tarryl La Count

May 8, 2020

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors

Attention: Regional Fire Management Officers

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: BIA Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

<u>Purpose</u>: Implementation of procedures and protocols for screening of wildland fire personnel at duty stations and during incident management activities. These procedures and protocols addressed within this memo and supporting attachments, set a minimum standard to be followed regarding COVID-19 screening. More stringent standards may be in place for Tribal employees, based on Tribal standards.

<u>Scope</u>: This guidance applies to all Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Wildland Fire Management (BIA) employees, Administratively Determined (AD) personnel, and Tribal wildland fire programs (638 contracted, self-governance, and cooperative agreement).

<u>Guidance</u>: As outlined in the attached Fire Management Board memorandum (No. 20-006a), supervisors will work to ensure the attached instructions for screening guidance is implemented and maintained at duty stations and for all incident management activities, as frequently and extensively as possible.

The Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Tool (attached), will be utilized for prescreening purposes. Instructions for implementation are outlined within the Screening Tool.

During mobilization of AD personnel, the Screening Tool will be utilized during initial communication. When possible, this tool should be utilized via phone call, to reduce the potential exposure to and spread of COVID-19.

Questions regarding implementation of this memorandum should be directed to BIA Branch of Wildland Fire Safety Program Manager, Adrian Grayshield, at adrian.grayshield@bia.gov.

Attachments:

- 1. FMB Memorandum No. 20-006: Establishment of Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Interim Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- 2. FMB Memorandum 20-006a Interim Standard Operating Procedures and Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Tool