

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

MAY - 6 2014

Operations Memorandum No. 720

Expires: Permanent

To: National Interagency Fire Center Governing Board

From: Meagan Conry
Division Chief, Support Services

Subject: **MOBILE DEVICE ACQUISITION & MANAGEMENT**

Background:

Recently several mobile devices (cellular phones, smart-phones, tablets, and wireless hotspots (mi-fis) have been purchased through Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (with BLM funds), for non-BLM and non-Federal employees. The BLM is seeing an increase in the number and use of mobile devices, contributing to mounting annual operating costs. Assigning devices to non-BLM personnel raises concerns regarding property accountability and use. Other agencies may be receiving similar requests.

Issue:

As the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) "host" agency, BLM provides and manages the local network and many devices that attach to it. Other federal agencies also provide desktop hardware on the network, such as computers, meeting the Department of the Interior standards. Mobile devices, having been considered occasionally as "IT" components, have been purchased in inconsistent ways, sometimes with BLM providing, or being asked to provide, such tools for non-BLM personnel.

Decision:

Mobile devices will be procured and managed through home agency/organization of employment. The BLM will provide mobile technology for BLM employees, Park Service for Park employees, and so on. This will permit better understanding of and accounting for investments and long term costs, prevent duplication of investment, and enhance accountability. These devices are not inherent to the office space/support (such as networks, facilities, telephones), that BLM is responsible for.



Given the long-term costs and highly mobile nature of the devices, buying and managing them within agency of is the most equitable and efficient manner to track and manage the property. Agencies may then implement their own priorities and purchasing guidelines for such technology.

Distribution:

gbeebee@blm.gov
lmcdevitt@blm.gov
dburley@blm.gov
ccallahan@blm.gov
dbidaburu@blm.gov
mmann@blm.gov
dwatkins@blm.gov
BLM_FA_AD_Staff
andrea_olson@fws.gov
r.jason.baker@noaa.gov
jgebhard@blm.gov
kjsmith@blm.gov
luther.arizana@bia.gov
nwiklund@blm.gov
rdelhierro@fs.fed.us
ted_patterson@fws.gov