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## National Fire and Aviation Executive Board

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### Memorandum

**To:** Fire Management

**From:** National Fire and Aviation Executive Board

**Date:** June 20, 2007

**Subject:** Fire Shelter Transition Update

The Federal Wildland Agencies, States, and Cooperators began purchasing the new generation fire shelter in the spring of 2003. At that time, the objective was to phase-out the old fire shelter over a five year period.

The National Fire and Aviation Executive Board (NFAEB) requested an update on where the agencies were at relative to the transition from the old style fire shelter to the new generation fire shelter from the National Fire Shelter Task Group (FSTG) that is chartered under NFAEB. In addition, NFAEB also requested what options exist for the field relative to the disposal of the old style fire shelters. Options identified are attached to this memo.

The FSTG presented the estimated numbers outstanding to complete the transition, options for getting the agencies fully transitioned, and disposal options available. The NFAEB does not want the old shelters in the system after the cut-off date so they will be deemed out of service.

Based on the estimated outstanding numbers, it appears the federal agencies current transition process will meet the intended target date of January 1, 2009, but will definitely be completely transitioned by January 1, 2010. January 1, 2010 is the date which all agencies and cooperators are to be transitioned, as well as any contracted resources.


The local units are requested to work with their cooperators to determine numbers of new shelters needed in order to meet the phase-out date. The States are working with the Forest Service to identify grant opportunities as well as Department of Homeland Security funding initiatives for first responders. As units identify need, they can work with their partners to determine funding options, and then utilize ordering shelters and the training materials either through their servicing National Interagency Support Cache or direct from the General Services Administration.

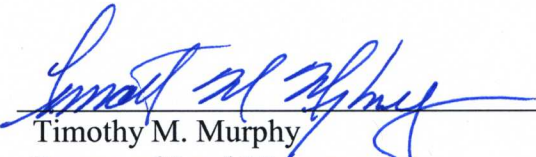
Efforts need to be made during the transition period to ensure the appropriate shelter training is accomplished. Units may take advantage of fireline refresher training to facilitate issuing new

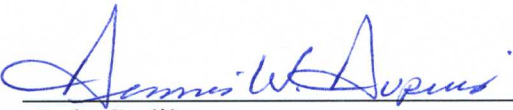
generation shelters and collecting the old style shelters. Funding of this exchange will have to be determined in advance and may require appropriate agreements to be implemented.

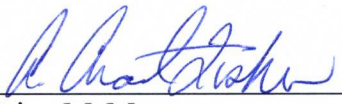
As stated above, the transition to the new generation fire shelter is expected to be accomplished by January 1, 2010. However, due to the large number of cooperators there is opportunity for resources to appear on an incident without a new generation shelter. In these situations, the host unit will need to determine the best method to facilitate providing a new generation shelter with training prior to assigning the resource.


We ask for your cooperation in assisting the agencies in meeting the January 1, 2010 date.


*for*   
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