

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Correspondence 2020-013

April 23, 2020

To: Geographic Area Coordination Group Chairs

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC)

Subject: Availability of PPE and Pandemic Support Items through the NISC System

The National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) system has been engaged with the NWCG Emergency Medical Committee (EMC) regarding support requirements and best business practices to address the COVID-19 pandemic at incidents.

The NISC has increased inventory of MREs and bath-in-a-bag, resource orders for these items can be supported immediately. The NISC has also raised the stocking level of the NFES 1660 (single) and 1675 (10 person) infectious disease barrier kits.

The acquisition of several nonstandard cache items is being pursued, including infrared thermometers, nitrile gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfecting supplies, and additional N95 respirators (and other face coverings). These are high demand items, as deliveries are being prioritized to hospitals and other treatment facilities on a national level. As such, the following recommendations and key points are provided:

- IMT members and fire suppression resources are encouraged to travel and arrive to the incident with an initial supply of specialized PPE, hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies. All personnel should plan to travel self-sufficient for three days, including food and water.
- Infrared thermometers: Until this item is available through the NISC, medical unit staff (including EMTs) should bring their own devices to the incident.
- The NISC currently has a limited supply of N95 respirators which should be reserved for medical unit use at incidents until inventory can be increased. Dust mask or face coverings are recommended for general use.
- The NISC does not typically carry disinfecting supplies but is pursuing appropriate available products in coordination with the EMC.
- Disinfecting and hand sanitizer products will vary from cache to cache, based on availability. Requests for specific product types and brands will require local/Buying Team procurement.



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- New NFES numbers are being generated for the new pandemic-specific items, they will be posted on the NWCG publications/NFES catalog page and linked to the NFES webpage.
- Refer to NMAC Correspondence 2020-07, *COVID-19 Cache Support to Federal Agencies* regarding the role of the NISC: <https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/administrative/nmac/NMAC2020-07.pdf>

Please give this wide distribution. Contact Jarrod Simontacchi with any questions at 208-387-5662.

/s/ Joshua Simmons
Chair, NMAC

