

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**23 EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES**

The Southern Interagency Fire Cache (SIFC) at London, Kentucky, is a National Interagency Fire Cache, which is used as a back up for supplies and equipment for interagency use. SIFC is designed for stocking supplies and equipment for an emergency force of 2,500 people at one time. Please see Chapter 50 for telephone numbers.

Each unit will compile a consolidated inventory of “critical” supply items maintained to NFES standards to support the fire supply system. These local inventory lists will be sent to the SIFC Manager by February 15 each year.

**23.1 MOBILIZATION** – (see National Mobilization Guide).

**23.2 DEMOBILIZATION** – (see National Mobilization Guide).

**23.3 NATIONAL INTERAGENCY SUPPORT CACHE ORDERING PROCEDURES** – (see National Mobilization Guide).

**SOUTHERN AREA INTERAGENCY FIRE CACHE ORDERING PROCEDURES.**

**1. Emergency vs. Non-Emergency Orders.**

Fires and other emergency incidents will take priority over non-emergency orders. **GSA (General Services Administration) is a primary source for non-emergency fire supplies and equipment.** SIFC is the primary source for emergency supplies and equipment.

**2. NFES Cache Orders.**

It is essential that cache items be dispatched accurately and rapidly to meet emergency needs. The primary objective is to get the proper items in the correct amounts to the right place by the time specified by the ordering office.

All orders for equipment and supplies will be documented on a Resource Order form. All orders for NFES supplies or equipment must reference the NFES number and the unit of issue (e.g. EA, PG, LG, BX, PR, etc.).

All units within the Southern Area must place NFES resource orders through State Coordination Centers; they will assign appropriate agency accounting

# Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide

## Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures

### Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

information and ensure the order includes proper NFES numbers, unit of issue, and a complete **ship to street address with zip code**.

#### 3. Supply Orders.

Beginning 2002 all orders for NFES cache supplies will be placed on supply orders, including radios, cache vans, ATMU and REMS units. **Radio Kits and Cache Vans will all be ordered through SACC, no exceptions.** All other supply orders will be placed to SIFC through the appropriate State Coordination Center with the exception of Southern Area IMT's or out of region Type 1 Teams. If SIFC does not carry (or is temporarily out of) an item, SIFC will order it from another national fire cache and forward fill and shipping information to the ordering center.

Those units placing orders for NFES kits are advised to check the kit contents in the NFES catalog. Some kits automatically come with a variety of related items that are necessary or supplemental to the basic operation of the kit. Other kits do not come with these supplemental items. For example, when a Mark III Pump Kit is ordered, each kit shipped will contain, a gas can, a spanner wrench and many other necessary and supplemental items that may be needed to operate the pump. However, items like fire hose and a Mop-Up Kit do not come with the Mark III Pump Kit, and if needed, must be ordered separately.

#### 4. Non-NFES Orders.

Orders for non-NFES equipment and supplies (e.g. portable toilets, plywood, etc.) should be purchased locally or obtained from other sources within the state where the incident is located. **These orders should not be placed with SACC or SIFC.**

#### 5. Restock Orders.

Incident replacement or restock of items that were consumed or rendered unserviceable on an incident (e.g.: personal protective equipment, canteens, hose, valves, and other routine items) should be handled before leaving the incident or unit on which the incident occurred.

If there is insufficient time for the Supply Unit to obtain replacement requests before demob of the resource, an Incident Replacement Requisition (NFES 1300) will be completed and forwarded to SIFC (please see Sections 23.3.4 and 23.3.5

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

of the National Interagency Mobilization Guide). If such an order is for sensitive or capitalized equipment, the item(s) must be replaced by Procurement in accordance with Procurement regulations. These items cannot and will not be replaced by SIFC. It must also reference the original resource order on which it was sent to the incident, or some other supporting documentation for Procurement.

**Routine restock orders can and should be ordered directly from GSA (or from the manufacturer or supplier of the item) on a requisition or purchase order.**

*All Forest Service Restock Orders, regardless of source (interagency cache system or GSA) must be approved by the Fire Management Staff Officer before being submitted.*

**6. Returns.**

To avoid delays in reconditioning and re-issuing of supplies and equipment, all reusable items should be returned directly to SIFC as soon as the need has passed. Flammable or explosive substances (e.g.: fusees, smoke grenades, water gel grenades, plastic sphere aerial ignition devices etc.) should not be returned from an incident to SIFC if the original shipping container has been opened. Receiving units should not retain equipment for anticipated needs unless advance arrangements have been made with SACC. Supplies and equipment being returned should be manifested prior to shipment, and a copy sent through ordering channels to SIFC.

All equipment being returned will be tracked on the Resource Order and returning unit will notify SACC of release and shipping information (i.e.: shipping mode, date shipped and ETA). If returned by mail or commercial shipper, release information must also include a GBL (Government Bill of Lading) number, a tracking number (e.g.: certified mail, UPS, air bill or pro-number), and the number of pieces shipped.

# Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide

## Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures

### Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

Units returning equipment or supplies by commercial carrier or by their own transportation should route the shipment to:

USDA Forest Service  
Southern Interagency Fire Cache  
788 Sublimity School Road  
London, KY 40744  
Phone: 606-878-7430

In the case of very large and long-duration incidents, SACC may direct the incident management team to return supply items to caches other than SIFC.

After use on an incident, all radio equipment should be returned to the National Incident Radio Support Cache (NIRSC) at NIFC for refurbishment and return to the cache system. Return radio equipment to:

National Incident Radio Support Cache  
3833 South Development Avenue  
Boise, ID 83705

Region 8 Command Tactical Kits (#7025) should be returned to SIFC:

USDA Forest Service  
Southern Interagency Fire Cache  
788 Sublimity School Road  
London, KY 40744  
Phone: 606-878-7430

The level of Area/National fire activity and competition for these resources will dictate which shipping method to use to return radio equipment for refurbishment (air freight, ground freight, etc.). The returning unit should contact SACC for direction on method of shipment. It is especially important to relay GBL numbers, tracking numbers and other release information when returning radio equipment so these resources can be tracked.

Purchases of equipment and supplies by Buying Teams, Administrative Payment Teams, or Procurement Units for fire suppression should conform as closely as possible to NFES standards. Equipment and supplies purchased with Forest Service wildland fire suppression funds (WFSU), which are not provided through

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

the NFES cache system, or which do not replace property lost or damaged during a fire, shall be placed into the fire supply system after the "fire season" (FSM 5161.46).

**7. Extended Duration Incidents.**

If an ordering office anticipates needing items longer than 30 days, this should be specified at the time of order, or within 30 days of the ordering date, so that SIFC will not initiate billing procedures. Completed orders for equipment and supplies will be billed to the ordering unit after 30 days if the stock has not been returned to the cache. Prompt return of equipment to SIFC is essential to return it to service.

**8. Ordering Publications And Forms.**

SIFC keeps in stock a limited supply of publications and ICS forms. **Orders for publications or forms that are not charged to an incident, but to another account (such as training) should NOT be ordered through SIFC.** Rather, a requisition or purchase order should be submitted to the Great Basin Fire Cache in Boise. This can be sent by fax (please see the NFES catalog, Part 2 "Ordering From This Catalog" for instructions).

**9. Ordering Supplies from GSA.**

Supply orders that do not need immediate response should be placed with GSA. The GSA Wildfire Protection Equipment and Supplies catalog is issued annually and lists most items used in wildfire suppression. To obtain a copy of the catalog, call 817-334-5215. GSA Requisition Management Centers are located at:

Fort Worth, TX	817-334-2051
Auburn, WA (non-fire supplies only)	206-931-7031/7037
Stockton, CA	415-974-9101
Kansas City, MO	816-926-7315

For more information, please refer to the GSA Catalog.

**10. NFES Catalog.**

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

The National Equipment and Supply (NFES) catalog lists cache items and kits that are stocked throughout the country at the eleven NFES caches. The catalog is published annually, and can be obtained by ordering NFES 0362.

The NFES catalog is not all-inclusive of items or support that can be obtained from SIFC. Items in the SIFC inventory and are not available at other NFES caches are shown below:

**Non-Standard Area-Specific Items**

NFES #	DESCRIPTION	UNIT OF ISSUE
7000	MIST BLOWER	EA
7005	FAX MACHINE	EA
7007	RADIO, KING (for use with RAWs unit only)	EA
7010	VAN, MOBILE CACHE SUPPORT	EA
7013	GENERATOR, DIESEL 30-60 kW	EA
7021	KIT, BIOHAZARD SAFETY	KT
7XXX	KIT, HAZMAT REFERENCE MATERIALS	KT

**11. Property Accountability.**

Identification numbers for all trackable property (see Section 74) will be recorded on the Resource Order form or the Issue Document from the Fire Cache. If any supplies or equipment are lost or damaged, the Incident will provide the Fire Cache with a completed AD-112 Report of Unserviceable, Lost or Damaged Property. Copies of the accounting form(s) (Issue Report) will be signed at the final destination, and one (1) copy returned to the appropriate fire cache.

The Logistics Section will handle property accountability on incidents. Documentation will be on the Resource Order, Equipment Requisition and receipt, or property accounting forms AD-107 and AD-112, as appropriate.

It is the responsibility of the Interagency Incident Command Team to turn accountability over to the local unit organization prior to leaving the incident.

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**12. Fire Loss/Use Accountability.**

The Cache Manager serving a Type I or II incident will provide the particular unit with a Fire Loss/Use Report within 60 days after an incident returns to local management. This report shall include all information on equipment and supplies furnished by any NFES cache.

All items stocked by NFES Caches are categorized as trackable, durable, or consumable for accountability purposes. These categories are defined below and in the NFES Catalog:

**Trackable Items:** Those items that a cache may track due to dollar value, sensitive property classification, limited quantities available or other criteria set by each geographic area cache. Trackable items are usually engraved or tagged with a cache identification number. These items must be returned to the issuing cache at the end of the incident use, or documentation must be provided to the issuing cache in the form of a Property Loss/Damage Report, OF-289 (NFES 1864). All trackable items are also considered durable. 100% accountability is expected of trackable items.

**Durable Items:** Those cache items considered to have a useful life expectancy greater than one incident. High percentages of return for these items are expected. These items are not specifically cache-identified/tagged/engraved. Acceptable loss tolerance/use rates for durable goods have been established. Examples of durable items are: tents, heaters, lanterns, tables, hose, tools, sleeping bags, and personal protection equipment.

**Consumable Items:** Those items that are expected to be consumed during incident use. Consumable items returned in serviceable condition are credited to the incident. No loss tolerance/use rate percentages have been established. Examples of consumable items are: batteries, gloves, plastic canteens, cubitainers, forms, MREs, etc.

The individual unit is responsible for:

- Receiving equipment and supplies issued from the NFES fire cache inventory;
- Returning fire cache items to the NFES fire cache upon completion of the incident in accordance with established return policies;
- Accounting for lost or damaged equipment; and

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

- Ensuring that reviews of fire loss/use rates are conducted, follow-up investigations are made, and actions are taken.

For more information, please refer to Forest Service Manual 5160.43 and 5161.45 and Department of Interior Instruction Manual #93-2029 (1993).

**13. Guidelines for Sources of Service and Supply Plan.**

To provide ready reference and guidelines to follow when securing supplies, services, and equipment for incidents, procurement of supplies shall be done at the local level to the extent that is practical and economical. Each unit shall maintain, as part of their service and supply plan, a listing of the local sources and 24-hour contacts for supplies, services and equipment.

**23.4 NATIONAL INCIDENT RADIO SUPPORT CACHE**

**A. Radio Systems**

**1. Southern Area Radio Systems.**

SIFC has nine NFES 4381K Command/Tactical Radio Kits (they are tracked by the Regional cache number NFES 7025), with 16 programmable (King) portable radios per kit, for use on incidents. These are designed to be programmed by a qualified radio technician on the incident. After each use, these R-8 Command/Tactical Radio Kits will be returned to SIFC for inspection before refurbishment.

**2. National Radio Systems.**

Two starter systems (NFES 4390 ICS Command/Logistics Radio System) are prepositioned at SIFC. These systems will be returned to NIRSC at NIFC after each use, and whenever necessary, for refurbishment and inspection. Any additional starter systems or individual kits will be ordered on an as-needed basis by SACC from NICC.

All maintenance and repair of "National" radio kits (e.g.: Starter Systems, Command Tactical Radio kits, Ground Aircraft Radio/Link kits, L-Band Satellite Systems, etc.) is done at NIRSC. Unless SACC gives instructions otherwise, any NIRSC kit that has been opened, regardless of the length of usage, should be returned to NIFC for refurbishment. Used batteries, or

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

any 7.5 volt or 9 volt batteries, should be pulled from kits prior to being mailed to NIFC (the incident will be charged for these batteries whether they are returned to NIFC or not). As with all resources, NIRSC equipment must be identified in the demobilization plan at an incident, and its release tracked through the resource ordering system.

**23.5 ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY METEOROLOGICAL UNITS (ATMUs)**

Mobilization of ATMUs is not automatic. They will be mobilized only upon request from the Incident Meteorologist. Geographic Areas unable to fill ATMU requests internally, will place the request with NICC. NICC coordinates filling the request with the NWS at Boise. ATMU's are National Resources. At Preparedness Levels 4 and 5, all requests for ATMUs will be processed through NICC.

The NWS will coordinate the assignment of ATMUs for all mobilizations. An ATMU (NFES# 1836) is normally ordered as an equipment request, in conjunction with an overhead request for an Incident Meteorologist (IMET), to provide on-site weather observation and forecasting services.

A request for an ATMU should originate at an incident and be passed through a State Coordination Center to SACC. SACC will then typically contact the Southern Area Coordination Center Fire Weather Program Manager, who will locate the closest available ATMU to the incident. If an ATMU prepositioned at SIFC (NFES# 1836) is closest, SACC will place the order with SIFC, which will ship it to the incident. If another ATMU is closest, SACC will generally place the order with NICC. When the SIFC ATMU is released from an incident, it should be shipped to:

Southern Area Interagency Fire Cache  
788 Sublimity School Road  
London, KY 40744

The release information should be passed through normal dispatch channels.

Additionally, a "Remote Environmental Micro System (REMS)" (NFES #5800) should be ordered by the incident whenever an ATMU is ordered. The REMS is basically a small weather station contained in one box. One or more REMS units will normally be pre-positioned at SIFC from February through November. REMS units should be demobilized to NIFC for refurbishment. See also, Chapter 70.

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**23.6 NATIONAL CONTRACT MOBILE FOOD SERVICE AND SHOWER SERVICE AND SHOWER UNITS** – (see Section 23.17 and National Mobilization Guide).

**23.7 CONTRACT ENGINES** – (see Section 23.12 and National Mobilization Guide).

State Coordination Centers and SACC will make a reasonable effort to fill equipment requests with agency resources before filling with private contract equipment, while meeting the “time needed” specified on the resource order.

Specify "agency only" on the resource order if private contract equipment would not be acceptable.

**23.8 COMMISSARY** – (see National Mobilization Guide).

**23.9 EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES - SPECIAL INFORMATION**

**Mobile Cache Support Vans.**

The Southern Area maintains up to eight cache vans, which are prepositioned throughout the area for the purpose of providing tools and supplies during the initial shifts of a large fire mobilization. Vans are tracked on a resource order by SACC and SIFC, and may be prepositioned at the direction of the Southern Area Coordinator. Units hosting a prepositioned cache van must insure that the van remains sealed until it is assigned to an incident. Otherwise the hosting unit will be charged for any refurbishment costs related to the items used or missing from the cache van. Cache vans can also be ordered by an incident, in which case, SACC will coordinate with SIFC to determine the appropriate van to move. All regional cache vans will be assigned to a regional preparedness order prior to Spring Fire Season. When an Incident orders a cache van, SACC will reassign the appropriate van to the incident. Hosting units will still need to place an order with SACC in order to reassign the appropriate van to the local incident.

A "Cache Demob Specialist" (CDSP) should be ordered by the incident whenever a cache van is mobilized to an incident. This person will assist the Incident Management Team in packaging and manifesting supply and equipment for backhaul, and to ensure that Hazardous Materials Regulations are followed.

Once a van has been opened and its inventory depleted or the incident is demobed, the van will be returned to SIFC for proper refurbishment.

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

Each cache van contains a standard inventory specific for the Southern Area (see Chapter 70 for a list of contents). For 2002, cache vans are prepositioned at the following locations:

**Southern Area Cache Van Locations**

CACHE VAN#	HOST UNIT/LOCATION
7010-01	George Washington & Jefferson National Forests Deerfield Ranger District, Staunton, VA
7010-02	Tennessee Division of Forestry, Rockwood, TN
7010-03	Southern Interagency Fire Cache, London, KY
7010-04	Natchez Trace Parkway, Tupelo, MS
7010-05	Texas Interagency Coordination Center, Lufkin, TX
7010-06	Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Folkston, GA
7010-07	Savannah River NF, Savannah River, GA
7010-08	Arkansas Forestry Commission, Greenbriar, AR

It is the responsibility of the host unit to perform cache van inspections twice each year, and the responsibility of the Cache Manager to inspect each van every two years. Questions on preventive maintenance (PM) procedures or significant van repair needs should be addressed to the Cache Manager.

### **23.10 PORTABLE RETARDANT PLANTS**

The Southern Area maintains portable retardant plants (PAB) (NFES 7028) designated “7028-01 and 7028-02”, which are contained in vans, and which can be prepositioned or moved to support incidents based on priorities determined by the Southern Area Coordinator and the Region 8 Emergency Operations Officer. The Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC) is the only authority to move the portable retardant plants.

**ALL ORDERS OR REQUESTS FOR THE PORTABLE RETARDANT PLANTS MUST BE PROCESSED THROUGH THE SOUTHERN AREA COORDINATION CENTER ON AN EQUIPMENT RESOURCE ORDER.**

Some basic logistics must be in place, or on order, before the equipment and personnel are on the base and the plant can be put into operation. The following should be considered:

- Site at the airport with space for the plant, retardant, and aircraft
- Adequate fresh water supply
- Forklift (minimum 2000 pound)

# Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide

## Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures

### Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

- Procurement support
- Ground support
- Meal and lodging for base personnel
- Operations facility (building, office trailer, sanitary facilities, flight crew rest, etc)
- Telephone communications (minimum of 3 lines) with a fax machine
- Radio communications (air-to-ground and ICOM)
- Retardant for initial start-up
- Dry storage for retardant or appropriate covers

The number of personnel needed to operate the plant will depend on the number of airtankers to be serviced and the expected workload. The minimum recommended staffing to support the operation is as follows:

#### **One Airtanker**

- 1 Airtanker Base Manager
- 2 Mix-masters
- 1 Forklift Operator (licensed)
- 2 Pump Operators
- 1 Parking Tender/ Ramp Manager

#### **More than 1 Airtanker**

- 1 Airtanker Base Manager
- 4 Mix-masters
- 1 Forklift Operator licensed)
- 2 Pump Operators
- 1 Parking Tender/ Ramp Mgr
- 1 Aircraft Time Recorder
- 1 Support Dispatcher

#### **23.10.1 RETARDANT ORDERING**

All retardant orders shall be placed through the State Coordination Centers that manage the permanent airtanker bases. They are responsible for maintaining the inventory in the zones and have the Contract Authority for the order.

#### **23.10.2 DEMOBILIZATION OR RELEASE**

The portable retardant plant equipment is sensitive to corrosion from residual retardant and must be properly cleaned, packaged, stored and reloaded in the van prior to the release of the supporting organization. **This is the responsibility of the requesting unit and the Airtanker Base Manager.** It is strongly recommended that the Airtanker Base support organization not be released until the equipment is properly cleaned, dried, packaged, and loaded on the van. All equipment damaged, lost, or requiring repairs must be identified and isolated at the rear of the van with a list of the items furnished to SACC. **THE PORTABLE AIRTANKER BASE MUST BE RELEASED TO THE SOUTHERN AREA**

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**COORDINATION CENTER (SACC) AND MOVED TO THE LOCATION  
SPECIFIED BY THEM.**

Unused retardant may be held by the requesting unit if proper dry storage facilities are available with the concurrence of SACC. If the unused retardant is to be released by the requesting unit it will be released to the appropriate **Permanent Airtanker Coordination Center and shipped to the location designated by them.**

### **23.11 WATER-HANDLING VAN**

The Southern Area Coordination Center (SACC) through the Southern Interagency Fire Center (SIFC) maintains and prepositions one Water Handling Van (NFES 7027) which is hosted by Grandfather Ranger District, National Forests of North Carolina unit. This equipment may be moved from the hosting unit to support incidents or training needs based on priorities determined by the Southern Area Coordinator and the Region 8 Emergency Operations Officer. SACC retains authority to move or commit the water handling van and the SACC Coordinator must be notified of the relocation or commitment of this equipment. See Chapter 70 for contents.

**ALL ORDERS OR REQUESTS FOR THE WATER HANDLING VAN MUST BE PROCESSED THROUGH SACC ON A SUPPLY ORDER. THE COORDINATOR ON DUTY MUST BE NOTIFIED BY THE EQUIPMENT DESK WHEN COMMITMENT, MOB OR DEMOB OCCURS, WHO IN TURN WILL ADVISE THE SACC COORDINATOR.**

#### **23.11.1 INVENTORY CONTROL**

The water handling van inventory is included in Chapter 70 of this mobilization guide. The requesting unit is responsible for control and monitoring of the inventory. All non-consumable items in the van must be inventoried with appropriate documentation of shortages prior to the release of the equipment from the requesting unit.

#### **23.11.2 DEMOBILIZATION OR RELEASE**

The water handling van equipment is sensitive to corrosion or deterioration if not properly cleaned and dried prior to storage and must be properly cleaned, dried, packaged, and stored prior to the release of the equipment. **This is the responsibility of the requesting unless authorized differently by the SIFC Manager and the SACC Coordinator.**

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**23.12 ENGINES, TRACTOR PLOWS AND WATER TENDERS**

The following principles and guidelines are set forth to establish some consistency within the Southern Area with regard to the hiring, dispatching and use of private sector engines and water tenders. These principles and guidelines are established with the following objectives:

1. Promote the use of closest forces.
2. Promote the cost effective use of agency and private sector resources.
3. Ensure that the necessary preseason work is accomplished to facilitate efficient use of private resources during fires.

The guiding principles in dispatching engines and water tenders to an incident is the use of the closest forces concept. If agency resources (Federal, State, County, etc.) have been exhausted within the local area, it is prudent to utilize contract resources in lieu of placing orders through the dispatch channels and mobilizing resources from further distances. For the purpose of engine and water tender dispatching, "local area" is defined as the geographic area serviced by a State Coordination Center, plus adjacent areas with which local agencies have written agreements.

The importance of local Service and Supply Plans cannot be overstated. These plans need to be completed prior to the onset of the season and there should be multiple copies available for local dispatch centers, the Southern Area Coordination Center, expanded dispatch and incoming Buying Teams. Every effort should be expended to ensure the maximum number of vendors with the appropriate types of equipment are signed up on preseason EERA's.

**23.13 INFRARED DEVICES**

There are several types of handheld infrared (IR) devices in use on units in the Southern Area that are used for locating hot areas on wildfires. These are ordered through regular dispatch channels, and are generally mobilized with a qualified operator. An ordering unit can order an "infrared camera", or a specific type of camera (e.g.: "Infrared camera with operator", "Xedar with operator"; "Video Therm with operator", "EEV with operator", etc.).

Using infrared equipment and GPS, data can be gathered in the field on an incident and then downloaded at the incident base to produce maps showing fire control lines and various feature attributes at any scale (access roads, drop points, water sources, jurisdictional boundaries, structures, etc.). If an infrared videotape of the incident is desired, this should be specified at the time of order so the team will bring the equipment

# Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide

## Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures

### Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

necessary to have this capability. Team members are responsible for bringing a GPS unit and a laptop computer with them to the incident. If the incident wishes only GPS mapping, any fully qualified team member can be ordered with a GPS unit and plotter as a single resource. If the incident does not wish to have GPS mapping capabilities, any listed team member can be ordered with a camera as a single resource. In this case, each would be requested on an overhead order using the mnemonic "THSP-Infrared Mapping Team". SACC maintains a list of team members. See 64.5.

An Infrared Mapping Team (IRMT) is a mobile team of two technical specialists trained to enter a wildfire incident with the necessary handheld infrared camera, Global Positioning System (GPS), and peripheral support equipment to perform fire and heat detection, feature location, monitoring, mapping and assessment. The Team is capable of 1) producing accurate and current detailed maps of the incident, normally within one or two hours after the Team completes the survey and returns to peripheral support equipment; 2) identifying fire intensity and potential threats such as smolders which are often not visible with the naked eye; 3) optimizing placement of fireline crews, support personnel and equipment in IR identified "hot spots"; 4) providing more efficient control line monitoring during mop-up stages; and 5) providing resource damage assessment, incidental to the fire monitoring mission, that assists host agencies in subsequent timber salvage and habitat restoration effort.

Handheld infrared cameras and all peripheral equipment are ordered through the regular dispatch channels. If an order comes in for equipment only, SACC should require the equipment to be shipped with operators, unless team members (or replacement team members) need to be ordered from a different unit than the equipment. When an order for an IRMT is placed, SACC should name request one fully qualified team member along with one trainee/assistant. SACC should then order one of the cameras and one of the plotters, e.g. "Infrared camera with IRMT", "Video Therm with IRMT", listed in Chapter 70.

#### **23.14 FIRELINE EXPLOSIVES**

Several types of fireline explosives are used in wildfire suppression. Some, like primacord, may be available from fire caches. Others, such as veripistol rounds, may have to be ordered from the manufacturer, or from the military.

All such devices require careful shipping and handling. The FAA defines them as hazardous explosives, and as such may not be shipped commercially by air. They may be shipped via government aircraft, or charter, with the pilot's permission, and provided that no passengers that are unnecessary for the completion of the mission are on board the aircraft.

# Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide

## Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures

### Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

Forest Service regulations require that fireline explosives be loaded, accompanied, and unloaded by a certified blaster.

The Department of the Interior (DOI) requires that the explosives be packaged and prepared for shipping by a person licensed, trained or approved in the handling of explosives, or that the explosives be shipped in their original, undamaged, DOT approved containers. Explosives must be shipped under the control or direction of a person approved, trained or licensed by a Bureau in the handling or shipping of explosives.

The DOI specifies that only those personnel required for the safe completion of the mission be allowed to ride on an aircraft carrying fireline explosives.

For further information, please contact the Southern Area Coordinator, or the Equipment Section-NICC. In addition, consult the U.S. Forest Service Manual part 5716.12c, or Department of the Interior Manual part 351 DM Chapter 8.

#### **23.15 MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

SIFC maintains 100 person First Aide kits for use on large incidents by qualified EMTs or Paramedics (NFES 1760). These kits should be secured at all times, and must be obtained and accompanied by a Medical Unit Leader authorized.

#### **23.16 FOLDA-TANKS**

See Southern Area Mobilization Guide, Chapter 70 for listing of units that have fold-a-tanks.

#### **23.17 MOBILE FOOD AND SANITATION SERVICES**

Mobile Food and Sanitation companies are signed to a national contract, negotiated by the Forest Service at NIFC, and administered through the Boise National Forest, Region 4.

Each order must be placed through the normal ordering channels, through SACC, to the NICC Equipment Section, which will then order the closest service that can meet incident needs. In most cases, National contract catering services are only located in the Western United States, but occasionally there are units in, or adjacent to, the Southern Area which can be mobilized to incidents in a cost-effective manner.

**Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide**  
**Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures**  
**Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies**

---

When ordering a catering service through NICC, the Food Service Request form (see National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 29) must be completed and accompany the resource order. The form (and the resource order) commits the contractor to provide, and the government to pay for, the number of meals specified. Whenever a National contract catering or sanitation unit is mobilized, the incident must also order a "Contracting Officer's Technical Representative" (COTR) through normal channels to oversee the contract.

For further information, please consult the National Mobile Food Service contract, the Southern Area Coordinator, the Equipment Section-NICC, Forest Service Contracting-NIFC, or the Boise National Forest.

The Cherokee National Forest has negotiated an Emergency Equipment Rental Agreement (EERA) with the "House of Ribs" in Johnson City, TN for mobile food service in the Southern Area.

The Daniel Boone NF has negotiated and EERA with "Bush Fire Services, Inc." in London, KY for mobile shower services. Orders for these services will need to be placed with the Kentucky Interagency Coordination Center (KY-KIC). Contact SACC for further information on specifications and availability.

At this time the following equipment is under agreement:

<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Number of Shower Heads</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>
Mobile Shower Trailer	10 Heads	7 Male / 3 Female
Mobile Shower Trailer	11 Heads	8 Male / 3 Female
Mobile Shower Trailer	8 Heads	All Individually Enclosed

**23.18 MILITARY SERVICES**

Services of the Military are not directly accessible by the wildland fire system in the Southern Area. Military assistance can be accessed only through the NICC at NIFC, and prior to contacting the military, it must be confirmed that commercial sources do not exist, are fully committed, or cannot meet the required time frames.

Assistance available from the military includes equipment and personnel transport, and MAFFS-ready aircraft. (For more information on MAFFS, see Section 3.18, Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems.)

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**23.19 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

The items on the following list are normally shipped within the NFES fire cache system. These items are considered restricted/hazardous by either 49 CFR or specific carriers. The Departments of the Interior and Agriculture have exemptions that allow them to transport these items by air in support of fire activity. However, these exemptions apply only to remote landing sites, not airport to airport. Commercial airlines do not have these exemptions, and may or may not allow shipment. In all cases, the airline and pilot must be advised that they are being asked to carry items that are considered either restricted or hazardous, and may refuse to ship them.

Ground transport of hazardous materials is regulated by the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and individual states' DOT's. The following list is not meant to be inclusive or unchanging. If in doubt, consult the instructions given on the original package of the item. Flammable or explosive substances (e.g.: fusees, smoke grenades, water gel grenades, plastic sphere aerial ignition devices etc.) should not be returned from an incident to SIFC if the original shipping container has been opened.

It is suggested that the local unit Hazardous Materials Coordinator/Specialist be involved in any large and long duration incident. Cache Demobilization Specialists (CDSP) are also trained in Hazardous Materials regulations and procedures and should be ordered to assist Incident Management Teams handle hazardous materials.

For more information, please consult the Hazardous Materials Table, U.S. Forest Service Manual part 5716.12c, or BLM Manual part 351 DM, Chapter 8.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

NFES #	ITEM
0105	Fusee, fire starter
0125	Lantern, gas
0307	Extinguisher, fire 40 BC
0319	Extinguisher, fire 30 BC
0491	Cylinder, propane, 5 gallon
1361	Fuel, white gas

Southern Area Interagency Mobilization Guide  
Chapter 20 – Administrative Procedures  
Section 23 – Equipment and Supplies

---

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IN KITS**

NFES #	ITEM
0270	Air Operations Kit
0480	Coffee, Heating Kit
0520	Helicopter Support Kit
1835	Field First Aid Station, 500+ Person Kit

The following also contain hazardous/restricted items:

- Retardant plants
- Fusee launcher kits
- Fire weather forecaster kits
- 100 unit incident camp kit

**23.20 SOUTHERN AREA KIT CONTENTS**

See Southern Area Mobilization Guide, Chapter 70 for contents of all kits, bases, and cache vans.