

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Correspondence 2020-31

August 4, 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 - Update

This memorandum provides an update to NMAC correspondence 2020-13, *Availability of PPE and Pandemic Support Items through the NISC System*. There continues to be high demand for N95 filtering facepiece respirators, disinfecting wipes, hand sanitizer, and nitrile gloves as provided by the National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) system.

As stated in NMAC correspondence 2020-13, N95 respirators should be reserved for medical unit personnel. Of note, the use of NIOSH-approved N95 filtering facepiece respirators (NFES 000131) may only proceed upon completion of a comprehensive, written respiratory protection program (RPP) that includes adherence with fit-testing, training, and medical exam requirements¹. Incident personnel that do not meet these requirements may wear ear loop style face coverings (NFES 009999) that are available in adequate supply from the NISC system.

Please ensure that IMT logistics personnel are aware that orders for NFES 000131 N95 respirators should be limited to what is needed for medical unit personnel enrolled in an RPP. As such, most incident orders should be for NFES 009999 ear loop style face coverings. NISC managers will contact your supply unit if incident orders appear to be excessive for PPE and pandemic support items, including N95 respirators.

Lastly, individual COVID readiness/mobilization kits are not available through the NISC. IMT members and single resources are encouraged to assemble personal kits that suit their individual dietary and hygiene needs.

Please give this wide distribution. Contact Dave Haston, NWCG Equipment Technology Committee Chair with any questions at 208-387-5642.

/s/ Joshua Simmons Chair, NMAC

Reference:

NMAC Correspondence 2020-13: <https://www.nifc.gov/nicc/administrative/nmac/NMAC2020-13.pdf>

¹ See OSHA's Respiratory Protection standard, 29 CFR 1910.134 at www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134

