

National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Memorandum 2022-06

June 16, 2022

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs, National Incident Support Cache Managers

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: National Supply Chain and Effective Inventory Management

Availability of fire equipment and supplies are reduced due to the delay in manufacturing, increased demand, and significant refurbishment workload. The high demand early in the fire year has put a strain on availability of items, including water handling equipment. Given the longer manufacturing times, the National Interagency Support Caches (NISC) workload and significant level of the national inventory already deployed on the landscape, please consider the following key points regarding the national supply chain and effective inventory management:

- The NISC is a national resource as defined in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. NISC managers are expected to adjust cache orders based on available and projected inventory and National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC)/Geographic Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (GMAC) priorities.
- Incoming *replacement* Incident Management Teams (IMTs) are not permitted to submit an initial cache supply order until after they are in-briefed and assess needs based on existing incident supply inventory.
- Large scale point/structure protection strategies using sprinkler/pump/portable tank systems put an extreme strain on the finite inventory of water handling equipment.
 - Water handling equipment on an incident should be repurposed/repositioned as needed.
 - Consider contingency strategies and tactics if these items are not available.
 - NISC assets should not be committed to large scale point/structure protection strategies that have a low probability of success.
- Use best business practices for efficient supply chain support.
 - Maintain good communications with your servicing cache. Coordinate the ordering process, including delivery times and suitable item replacements.
 - Monitor supply inventories positions at drop points, staging areas, and forward operating bases. Consider moving supplies as the fire line and operational resources advance. Monitor incident inventory and return excess assets as soon as possible for use on emerging incidents.
 - Return all items requiring refurbishment as soon as possible, including items that may have been damaged.



National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

- Plan for longer delivery/transportation times due to availability issues for freight services.

The NISC system has implemented several mitigation measures to reduce the impact of supply shortages.

These measures include the following:

- Request priority authorization for critical items through the Defense Priorities and Allocations Systems Program. This is intended to minimize delays in raw materials supply.
- Use mobile teams of liaisons and demobilization specialist to maintain effective communication with incidents and servicing cache.
- NISC will have a demobilization team at servicing caches to facilitate the distribution of “not ready for issue” equipment to other caches to help with the refurbishment process. This will help get equipment back into the system to support the fire year.

We appreciate everyone’s efforts to maintain cache inventory to support incident management teams throughout the remainder of the fire year.

Ken Schmid,
Chair, National Multi- Agency Coordinating Group

CC:

Chair, Incident Commanders/ Area Commanders Group

