

FY26 FAM Programmatic & Budget Toolbox

Table of Contents

Mobilization for Prescribed Fire..... 1

Fire Fighter Essential Equipment Replacement..... 4

Mobilization for Prescribed Fire

Issue: The Forest Service hazardous fuels program will continue to focus on reducing wildfire risk while maintaining critical acres by supporting regions with greater flexibility to share resources, encourage participation of employees to support prescribed fire (RX) efforts. Placing greater emphasis on the agency’s need to increase the use of prescribed fire as the most effective and efficient way to reduce wildfire risk while maintaining or restoring fire adaptive ecosystems. This program direction is specific to mobilizing resources within region and out of region for prescribed fire assignments. In FY26 all Salary & Expense funding will be held in the Washington Office. This includes Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding to support travel and premium pay for employees mobilized to RX assignments.

Solution: IIJA funding will be available for use in FY26. WISX and NISX funds will be held nationally for mobilizing Forest Service (USFS) personnel to support its prescribed fire activities in FY26.

Who is covered? – All employees organizationally aligned in Wildland Fire Management (WFM), and National Forest Systems (NFS) providing support for prescribed fire mobilization.

What is covered? - Travel and any premium pay costs associated with within and out of region off home unit prescribed fire assignments ordered via IROC. Assignments on an employee’s home unit are not covered.

How to use? – Receiving region must order resources via IROC using the code associated with where the resource is going. Importing region’s code is charged. See tables on page 3 for shorthand code and override information.

In FY26, WISX funding can be used for mobilization within region (between units) and out of region RX assignments. WISX is not available to mobilize to or within region 10. NISX funding is for out of region Rx assignments only and is not to be used for within region Rx assignments.

FAQs

- 1. **Where do I charge my base hours while on an RX assignment?**
All base hours remain on the national designated Salary & Expense job code.

2. I am going to an RX assignment that includes working over the weekend. Can I use this code to cover the weekend work?

Any premium pay for RX assignments can be charged to this code. Hours beyond an employee's normal tour of duty are considered overtime.

3. Can I use this job code to extend tours for seasonal employees to support RX?

No, these funds are specific to RX support. All tour extensions are treated as base time and remain funded on the national Salary & Expense job code.

4. How do I charge my fleet mileage or other supplies need to participate in an RX assignment? These funds are for travel and premium pay costs only. All fleet or project costs remain on project funds. There is no change within the new budget structure that requires a change of previous business practices within project funds.

5. I will be using a NERV vehicle during my assignment. Can I use this code to pay for the rental?

No, only travel costs paid through ETS2 may be charged to this code. Project funds must be used to pay for the NERV rental.

6. What do I do if I fill a resource order for RX, but change to fire suppression needs during the assignment?

Orders must be in IROC and must use established codes. When filling a suppression need, all personnel will follow the incident business job code direction.

7. Can I use this funding for PFTC assignments?

No, this funding is for prescribed fire assignments.

8. How does this apply for Job Corp?

These funds are to support FS employees only in WFM and NFS, not Administratively Determined (AD) hires. Students are considered AD's and their time is covered under program dollars. The use of these funds follows established budget modernization agency guidance and the funding for an employee's salary and expenses is associated with their position's alignment within their organization, including IJJA supplemental funds.

9. How does Incident response pay (IRPP) apply.

IRPP is available for:

Employees responding directly to qualifying incidents and those mobilized to support them are eligible to receive IRPP when assigned through an official resource order and meet the following criteria:

Prescribed Fire: during the active burning phase of prescribed fire operations. IRPP is not applicable on days where work does not include active burning and other criteria as described in HRM guidance: [HRM Fire Fighter Pay Information - IRPP](#)

Where to Charge for Prescribed Fire - Salary

FY26 IJA is the last year of supplemental funding availability for this effort.

Fire and Aviation, FAM employees charge base time to national S&E and travel and premium pay to codes below:

1825 WISXR125
1825 WISXR225
1825 WISXR325
1825 WISXR425
1825 WISXR525
1825 WISXR625
1825 WISXR825
1825 WISXR925

Nation Forest Service, (NFS) employees charge base time to national S&E and travel and premium pay to codes below:

1825 NISXR126
1825 NISXR226
1825 NISXR326
1825 NISXR426
1825 NISXR526
1825 NISXR626
1825 NISXR826
1825 NISXR926

Fire Fighter Essential Equipment Replacement

Washington Office (WO) Fire and Aviation Management (FAM) provides a distinct funding mechanism to ensure firefighters are supported with the essential equipment necessary to perform their jobs safely and effectively. The funding mechanism is intended for purchasing replacements or refurbishing essential equipment that has become unserviceable as a result of its use during fire suppression activity across multiple incidents. **This funding mechanism does not replace existing preparedness funding-based equipment budgets or the established incident replacement process for equipment damaged or consumed exclusively on a single incident. Funding is not to be used for Paycheck8 and ETSII feeder systems or expenditure.**

Essential equipment includes personal protective equipment as outlined in the Safety and Risk Management chapter of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations (Red Book) and equipment needed to maintain operational status of crews (e.g., chainsaws, hand tools) to meet wildland fire suppression objectives. See Table 2.

Equipment should be replaced with like items available in the National Fire Equipment System (NFES) through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) application (FEDMALL). The Wildland Fire Program Corridor in DLA FEDMALL is the mandatory source of supply for wildland fire suppression equipment, supplies, and protective clothing. Products in the Wildland Fire Program Corridor through FEDMALL have negotiated pricing and are under a quality assurance program. Instructions for obtaining a FEDMALL account can be found here:

<https://www.fedmall.mil/wcsstore/FedMallSAS/Attachment/PIEESO/PIEE%20SSO%20Government%20User%20FedMall%20Registration%20Guide%20Final.pdf>

Essential equipment on the approved authorized essential equipment list (see table 2) and available through FEDMALL may be purchased from alternate sources only after a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA), Risk Assessment (RA), or alternate justification for an alternative source is signed by the applicable Line Officer and approved by the Regional Fire Director (RFD) or designee. The purchasing official must confirm that the JHA, RA, or alternate justification documents the specific reason the NFES item does not meet job requirements and supports the alternate purchase. Items that are not available through DLA FEDMALL are not required to follow this justification process; however, all purchases using WFSUFE funds, whether purchased through FEDMALL or another source, must follow established procurement regulations and be approved by the RFD or designee to ensure program accountability.

Wildland Fire Preparedness (WFPR) funding is the appropriate source to adequately equip firefighters and crews prior to each fire season. Cost to repair or replace equipment or items damaged or consumed on a single incident will continue to be charged to the incident P-code following the established government property damage and incident replacement processes. If essential equipment needs to be repaired or replaced as the result of suppression activity across multiple incidents, it is appropriate to utilize suppression funding (WFSU) rather than an incident P-code. A shorthand code,

WFSUFE, has been created for this purpose and should be used with the regional overrides identified in the table below. Units not aligned under Regional Offices will follow the process for the Region in which they are physically located. Execution against these codes will be managed by the Regional Office and monitored nationally by the Washington Office.

Table 1: Shorthand override codes

	Region 01	Region 02	Region 03	Region 04	Region 05	Region 06	Region 08	Region 09	Region 10
Override	0156	0231	0316	0460	0520	0627	0831	0901	1001

In addition, the replacement of pre-2006 fire shelters will be used in the national shorthand code WFSUFE (override 1321). Information on the fire shelter replacement is provided in the [National Wildfire Coordination Group Fire Shelter Equipment Advisory and Replacement Fund Code](#) letter. The national code and override is available in FY26 and will continue to be available for the remainder of FY26 to replace pre-2006 shelters. Units are expected to complete any outstanding replacements by the end of FY26, this national code for pre-2006 fire shelter replacement will not be available beyond FY26.

Radio accessories have also been allowed on a short-term basis to outfit the new radio replacements when obsolete models are being replaced. These items were added in FY23 and are re-evaluated annually for continued consideration. Replacement of accessories is still available for the FY26 term as described in the table below.

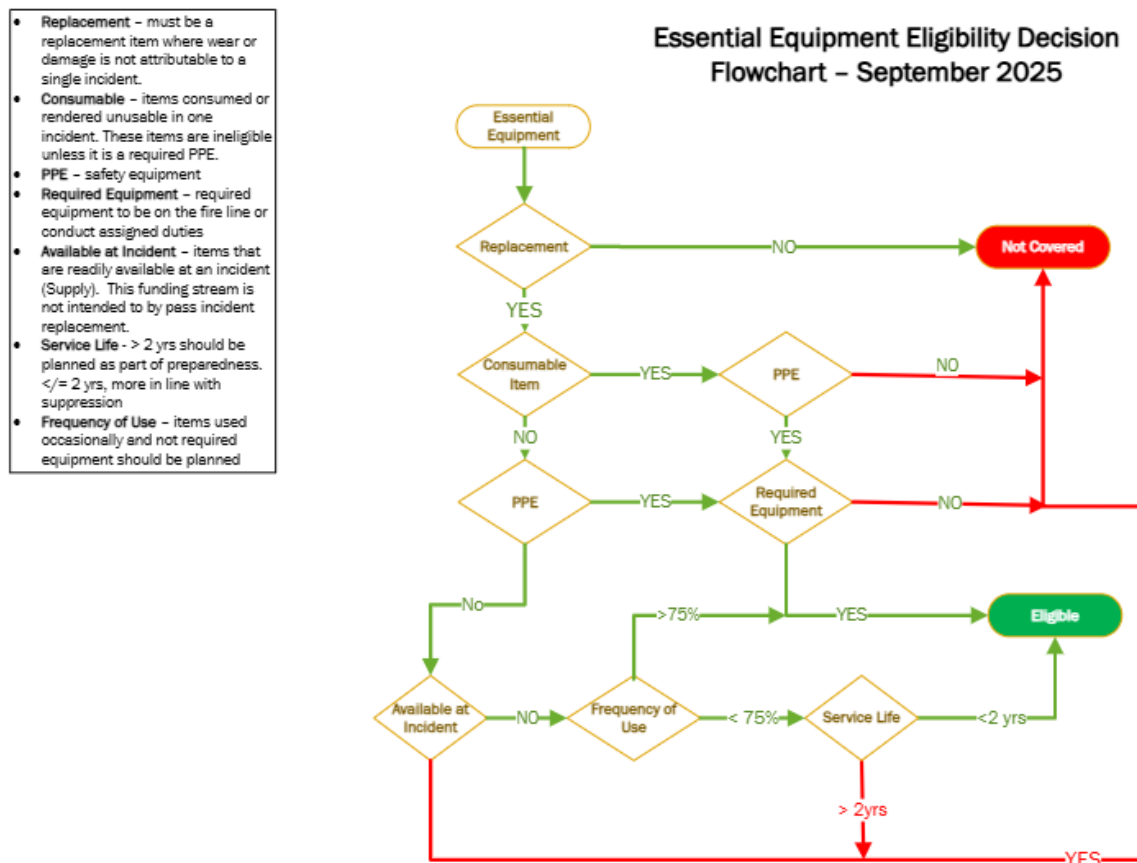
Table 2: Authorized Essential Equipment List

Item	Remarks	Standard Items Available through DLA FEDMALL Wildland Fire Program Corridor
Fire Shirt	~	Yes, Shirt, Firefighter's
Fire Pants	Type I (Nomex) or Type II (Kevlar)	Yes, Pants, Flame Resistant BDU Aramid
Gloves	~	Yes, Gloves, Leather, Firefighter's
Chaps		Yes, Chaps, Firefighter's
Fire Shelter	Single or complete	Yes, Shelter, Fire
Helmet	~	Yes, Wildfire Helmet, Fireman's
Shroud	~	Yes, Shroud, Face and Neck, Firefighter's
Medical kit 10-25 person	~	Yes, First Aid Kit, Utility, up to 25- person, Belt Type
Medical kit 1 person	~	Yes, First Aid Kit, Utility, Individual
Canteens	~	Yes, Canteen, Water, 1QT
Headlamps	~	Yes, Headlamp, Firefighter
Safety Glasses	~	Yes, Spectacles, Industrial
Fireline pack	~	Yes, Pack, Fireline, Complete
Chainsaw	Complete saw, chains, powerhead, or service parts (getting parts serviced and installed through a commercial provider)	Not available through DLA FEDMALL WLF Program Corridor, requires JHA or RA
Fireline Hand tools	Complete, tool head or handle	Yes

Fuel cans	~	Fuel bottles – Yes; Bottle, Fuel, 1 Liter Dolmars - Not available through DLA FEDMALL WLF Program Corridor, requires JHA or RA
Radio Accessories: purchase of necessary radio accessories needed to outfit new radio version and replace old accessories with incompatibility.	Purchase of necessary radio accessories including extra batteries, chargers, antennas, clamshells, cloning cables and microphones, radio holster	Not available through DLA FEDMALL WLF Program Corridor, requires JHA or RA
Flight helmets		Not available through DLA FEDMALL WLF Program Corridor, requires JHA or RA
Leaf blowers	Complete, powerhead, or service parts (getting parts serviced and installed through a commercial provider)	Not available through DLA FEDMALL WLF Program Corridor, requires JHA or RA

Table 3 below provides the flowchart, definitions, and general rules used by WO FAM as a guideline when considering items for Essential Equipment eligibility. While this flowchart does not address all scenarios that could be considered for essential equipment replacement eligibility, it does include all items that regions are currently authorized to repair or replace using WFSUFE funds. Requests for other items must be directed to, and approved by WO FAM, Branch Chief- Operations, Equipment/Logistics, FAM.

Table 3: Essential Equipment Eligibility Decision Flow Chart:



In addition to the items above on the essential equipment eligible items list, WO FAM has provided a list of common items NOT allowable under WFSUFE for reference:

- AEDs
- Coolers
- Office Supplies and/or furniture
- Shipping (USPS, UPS, etc.)
- Fuel

For additional questions please contact:

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