



NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

National Interagency Fire Center
3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

April 18, 2003

Memorandum

To: NWCG Members

From: NWCG Chair /s/ Phil Street for J L Stires

Subject: New Generation Fire Shelter

Two contracts have been awarded by the General Services Administration (GSA) to manufacture the "New Generation Fire Shelter". The successful contractors are Weckworth/Langdon of Wichita, Kansas and Anchor Industries Inc. of Evansville, Indiana. It is estimated that peak production capabilities of both contractors will be approximately 8,000 shelters per month. By June 2003, it is estimated that GSA will have received approximately 20,000 new generation fire shelters. By April 2004, it is estimated the GSA contractors will have manufactured 90,000 New Generation Fire Shelters.

It is recommended for the 2003 fire season that NWCG affiliated agencies procure the New Generation Fire Shelter for Initial Attack forces only. Initial Attack forces are defined as "smoke chasers, engine crews, helitack/rappel, smokejumpers and hotshot crews". It is also recommended that geographic areas with the first predicted active fire season order first. Initial Attack forces shall not use the New Generation Fire Shelter until applicable training has been accomplished and documented. Appropriate training includes, at a minimum, reading the new training pamphlet, viewing the new video or DVD, and practicing deployments with the new practice fire shelter. The video, DVD and pamphlet are titled "The New Generation Fire Shelter" at this time. Initially, the shelter will be available only as a complete unit with the carrying case, shelter packaged in the poly/vinyl bag, and a hard plastic liner. Eventually all shelter components will be sold individually.

Ordering Information

The GSA selling price for the New Generation Fire Shelter is \$256.74. The National Stock Number (NSN) for the New Generation Fire Shelter is 4240-01-498-3194, and the National Fire Equipment System number is NFES #0925. The ordering office should place their order through GSA using a "Future" date on the requisition (this means that on any order for the New Generation Fire Shelter the ordering office must place a date of S06 (sierra zero six) in the "RDD" field). If the requested information is not included the order will be cancelled and the ordering office will need to resubmit the requisition with the required information. This procedure will enable GSA to better manage the expected surge in orders. The orders will be released in the order they are received as GSA gets shipments from the vendor. Questions concerning the ordering procedures should be directed to GSA, telephone 817-978-2051. It is estimated that the practice fire shelter (NSN 6930-01-499-0605) will be available from GSA in June 2003. The pamphlet, video and DVD will be available through Publication Management Systems (PMS) by June of 2003 (Video: NFES #2711; DVD: NFES #2712; Pamphlet: NFES #2710).

The New Generation Fire Shelter publication is currently posted on the NWCG web site. To access the publication, go to www.nwcg.gov, and click on the "publications" button on the top right-hand corner.

History

The OLDER STYLE FIRE SHELTER (NSN 4240-01-121-8698, NFES #0169) still meets all agency requirements and will remain in the system, as long as it meets inspection criteria and refurbishing standards, for approximately five years. The current fire shelter and all components will be available along with all associated training materials until declared obsolete and removed from service.