

NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Equipment Bulletin: 23-01

March 1, 2023



To: Wildland Fire Community

From: Bill Yohn, Acting Chair, NWCG Equipment Technology Committee (ETC)

Subject: Discontinuation of Shelf Stable Food Boxes (NFES 7478) in NISC



Issue: The shelf stable food box pilot program has concluded. While the item received positive field feedback, it is both labor-intensive and cost-prohibitive to continue offering. It will be discontinued and not available from the National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) system.

Action: A Cache Memo will be distributed to the National Interagency Cache System for direction.

- Removal of the Shelf Stable Food Boxes from the National Interagency Cache System.

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic required creative solutions for how to feed firefighters. In the beginning, there were questions on how robust the national catering capacity would be; therefore, it was prudent to look at options other than Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) to offer menu variety. However, the logistical and storage challenges, along with limited requests for these types of meals, which require heating and cooking capability by the consumer as an additional component, led to the decision to discontinue in the NISC.

Additional Information: For local units or incidents wishing to obtain this item, availability can be accessed by US Forest Service entities through the Washington Office Fire and Aviation procurement process i.e. Government Purchase Card, Incident Management Buying Team and Local/Regional Procurement and Property Services (PPS):

1202SC21T2700	Element 9, LLC	Tamecca Seril	(718) 809-7578	tamecca@element9.com
1202SC21T2701	Kissimmee Produce, Inc.	Vitor Cortes	(954) 470-8497	vocortes@gmail.com
1202SC21T2702	Redi Pax, Inc.	Peter Mikedis	(617) 839-4117	peterm@redi-pax.com

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