

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER

3833 South Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705

September 10, 2018

NATIONAL FIRE EQUIPMENT SYSTEM CACHE MEMORANDUM NO. 18-1

To: NFES: National Interagency Support Caches

From: David Haston, Chair – NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Subject: NFES 001175 Five Gallon Fuel Can

Required Action:

This cache memorandum directs all National Interagency Support Caches (NISC) as follows:

- Do not issue the Wavian fuel can (NFES 001175) to incidents.
- Contact supply units on all active incidents. Return all Wavian fuel cans (NFES 001175) to the servicing cache, and replace as needed with NFES 000606 safety cans.
- Perform an inventory adjustment for all ready for issue (RFI) and not ready for issue (NRFI) Wavian fuel cans (NFES 001175) to remove from the ICBS inventory system.

Background:

“Geysering” describes the rapid, high-energy, expulsion of fuel that results from excessive pressure in power equipment and fuel storage containers. It occurs when fuel in a closed (non-vented) system becomes heated and pressurized. Under these conditions, removing a fuel cap or lid from a fuel container or tank can result in rapid depressurization and accidental release of liquid and vapor.

Due to an ongoing shortage of the NFES 000606 safety can, additional NFES 001175 fuel cans were procured by National Interagency Support Caches (NISC) and issued to incidents during the 2018 field season. Four (4) recent fuel geysering incidents have occurred on wildland fire incidents with the Wavian fuel can (see Figure 1).

Additional information:

- Further direction regarding disposal of Wavian fuel cans will be provided at a later date.
- DLA will continue to procure and stock NFES 000606 fuel cans for the wildland fire community.





Figure 1. Wavian Fuel Can

Contact Information:

The National Fire Equipment System (NFES) Subcommittee Chair is Matt Cnudde, 208-387-5277 or mcnudde@fs.fed.us.

David V. Haston

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Chair – NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

cc:

State Fire Management Officers – BLM

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National Technology and Development Program – San Dimas, Missoula

Agency Directors – NIFC

Logistics Center – NICC