



22 July 2021

TO: Fire Management Board Members
FROM: Erin Horsburgh, FMB Chair *Erin Horsburgh*
SUBJECT: MPHAT Wildland Fire COVID-19 Prevention and Mitigation 2021

The purpose of this memorandum is to request wide distribution of the attached *Wildland Fire COVID-19 Prevention and Mitigation 2021* guidance issued from the Medical and Public Advisory Team (MPHAT) July 22, 2021.

The following has been excerpted as recommendations for fire leadership.

- Fire managers, agency administrators, line officers and incident managers need to re-enforce the importance of prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 in the workplace.
 - MPHAT would like to remind all leadership and fire personnel that following MPHAT's guidance has been proven effective and is critical to prevent the further spread of COVID-19.
 - Leader's intent and expectations must be clear that COVID-19 prevention and mitigation is still a priority for the 2021 fire season.
 - With vaccination status not being systematically tracked, face covering/mask and physical distancing requirements on wildfire incidents needs to be strengthened. It is recommended that everyone follow COVID-19 prevention and mitigation guidance for un-vaccinated individuals regarding physical distancing and mask/face covering use in fire camp, unless outdoors and able to maintain at least 6ft of distance at all times, alone in an enclosed space or actively engaged in firefighting on the fireline.
- Fire managers, agency administrators, line officers and incident managers need to prioritize and incorporate COVID-19 strategies that were effective and considered standard operating procedures in 2020 such as:
 - daily individual screening tool, distributive operations, spike camps, boxed meals, community cooler mitigations, remote briefings, decentralized staging areas, virtual and remote participation, and module as one (updated) to the maximum extent possible.

The MPHAT memorandum will be loaded shortly at <https://www.nwcg.gov/coronavirus>.

Distribution:

Fire Executive Council Members
National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group Members
NWCG Executive Board Members
COVID-19 Coordinator