

# National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

3833 South Development Avenue; Boise, ID 83705

NMAC Memorandum 2021-14

June 11, 2021

To: Geographic Area Coordinating Group Chairs

From: National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group

Subject: 2021 COVID-19 Updates- COVID-19 Mobilization Checklist, COVID-19 Guidance Website, and Incident COVID-19 Tracking System

Tremendous progress has been made to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the United States as the number of new reported cases has decreased over 90% from our daily high in early January 2021. Still, it is important to maintain the necessary COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures to help ensure minimal disruption during 2021 fire operations. Several subject matter expert groups are still working to provide the most current and consistent best practice measures. The items below are also pertinent during fire year 2021:

**Interagency Checklist for Mobilization of Resources in a COVID-19 Environment** – Based on COVID-19 mitigations and lessons learned in 2020, the fact that overall United States (US) caseloads, hospitalization rates and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) availability are trending in the right direction and that vaccinations are in place and readily available, the National Multi-Agency Coordinating group (NMAC) has decided to rescind this optional checklist. Our decision’s primary intent is to minimize conflicting expectations surrounding resource mobilization between geographic areas as we move into the heart of the 2021 fire year.

**Guidance for Prevention and Management of COVID-19 During Wildfire** – The Wildland Fire COVID-19 Medical and Public Health Advisory Team (MPHAT) continues to stay informed as the science surrounding COVID-19 changes, and they work regularly to update guidance found here: <https://www.nwcg.gov/partners/fmb/guidance-prevention-management> Wildland fire personnel should consider these public health and safety practices and management guidelines as an anchor point from which further, site-specific organizational, or unit-specific fire management practices and guidelines can be expanded. Please check this link regularly for updates.

**\*New\* Incident COVID-19 Tracking System (ICTS)** – The ICTS is a tool developed to standardize collection and reporting of non-Personally Identifiable Information (PII) incident-related COVID-19 information. *For the 2021 fire year, incidents meeting large fire criteria and submitting an ICS 209 (300-acres brush or 100-acre timber) are required to report incident COVID-19 data into the ICTS.* Reporting into the ICTS is applicable only if COVID-19 activities are occurring (e.g., testing, isolation, quarantine, hospitalization) on the incident. This reporting system is in addition to other established reporting systems and does not replace required agency reporting systems. This reporting requirement does not apply to incidents that occurred prior to release of this memorandum. Standardized reporting will help track incident COVID-19 information and allow for upward awareness at geographic area coordination centers, and with multi-agency coordinating groups and NMAC. This user-friendly ITCS will provide valuable insight into how COVID-19 is affecting operations, worker health and safety, and allow for leadership to make informed management and operational decisions. Incident COVID-19 data should be entered by a designated incident COVID-19 lead or delegate. Access to ICTS may be requested here: [Incident\\_COVID19\\_Tracker@doi.gov](mailto:Incident_COVID19_Tracker@doi.gov).



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Please review the items above and implement as appropriate. We each have a role to play in continuing to help ensure the safety and health of all incident responders during COVID-19.

/s/ Joshua Simmons Chair, NMAC

