

**Missoula Dispatch Area
2021 Wildland Fire Season Availability
Protocols**

Intent – This protocol is for documentation to support decisions regarding the availability of wildland fire resources to mobilize to assignments falling outside the Missoula Dispatch Area.

This is a two-step process:

- 1) Availability Approval (this checklist) will be complete prior to statusing resources Available State, Available GACC, or Available National.
- 2) Assignment approval (the national protocol from the National Multi Agency Coordinating Group (NMAC)) will be complete once a resource order is sent but prior to the order being filled.

Availability – To be made available, each individual resource or module leader will answer the questions in Table 1. A Line Officer* must answer the questions in Table 2. The Line Officer and the individual resource or resource representative will document their support for making the resource available by electronically signing this form. Once signed, the forms will be stored in a central location, so either the resource, duty officer and/or the line officer can access them. For the Forest Service, they will be stored in Pinyon > COVID Resource Mobilization – Out of Dispatch Area. Each ranger district and the SO will have a folder for the availability approval checklists as well as assignment approval checklists.

Missoula Dispatch will assume the checklist has been complete for any resource showing Available State, Available GACC, or Available National but will not be responsible for managing the availability approval. When a resource order is sent, Missoula Dispatch will follow normal procedures for filling orders. The duty officer of the filling resource will relay the documentation for the “Sending Unit’s” portion of the NMAC checklist, which MDC will then enter in IROC as necessary.

*Only the Forest Supervisor or Acting can approve the Missoula Dispatch Availability Form for Lolo Forest Service Employees and Lolo sponsored AD’s.

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Availability Approval Checklist

Resource Name: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Table 1 - Prior to be listed as available, resources must respond the following statements in the affirmative.

Yes	No	Resource Self-Assessment
		In the 24 hours prior to receiving a resource order, I/we have not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell).
		In the 14 days prior to receiving a resource order, I/we have not had contact with anyone known to be infected with COVID-19.
		I/we have been screened using the latest MPHAT Wildland Fire COVID-19 Screening Tool .
		I/we have the PPE needed to ensure our safety and the safety of others during travel to an assignment.
		I/we have the means of sanitizing the vehicle, myself/ourselves and accommodations.
		I/we are prepared to quarantine in-place following my assignment, if required to do so.
		I/we are prepared to self-quarantine following state/local direction upon returning from the assignment, if required to do so.
		Be prepared to ask myself/ourselves these questions again if re-assigned or diverted.

Table 2 - Prior to approving resource availability, a Line Officer must respond to the following statements in the affirmative.

Yes	No	Decision Maker Support Assessment
		The local fire condition conducive to supporting “out of local area” assignments.
		The resources accept the risk of COVID-19 associated with accepting assignments and the potential isolation/quarantine impacts associated with accepting the assignment.
		The resources are equipped with PPE and supplies required to adhere to COVID-19 mitigation protocols.
		Does the home unit have a plan in place to support their employees when they come back from assignment if they need to be quarantined?

Any negative response will require further preparation and dialogue between the resource and decision maker. Availability should be reassessed as needed. The statements in Tables 1 & 2 should be reviewed with each reassessment.

Signature of Resource or Crew Lead

Signature of Line Officer or Acting