



NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

# Equipment Bulletin



**Date:** September 27, 2018

**ETC-EB-2018-01**

**Subject:** Further information on removal of National Fire Equipment System (NFES) 001175 Five Gallon Fuel Can from National Interagency Support Caches (NISCs).

### Recommended Actions:

- Use extreme caution when using any jerrican or fuel container that seals completely and can become pressurized in the wildland fire environment.
- Familiarize yourself with important fuel-geysering information from the national fuel geyser awareness campaign: <https://www.nwcg.gov/committees/equipment-technology-committee/national-fuel-geyser-awareness>
- Follow agency-specific direction regarding the use of fuel cans.

**Background:** On September 10, 2018 NWCG Equipment Technology Committee (ETC) directed the National Interagency Support Caches to remove NFES 001175 Wavian five-gallon fuel cans from their inventories. The direction is located here: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee-correspondence/nfes-m-18-01.pdf>. This direction applied only to the NISC managers and was not a manufacturer recall.

The Wavian (NFES 001175) fuel cans, which have a bayonet-style closure (see photo 1), were procured by the national caches due to a shortage of the NFES 000606 safety can. Four (4) recent fuel geysering incidents have occurred on wildland fire incidents. This led to the removal of the item from the cache system and to issuance of this equipment bulletin, actions that are intended to eliminate fuel geysering incidents with this equipment.

**Additional Information:** The NISCs will continue to stock NFES 000606 (Can – Gasoline, Safety, 5 GL, DOT Approved) for the wildland fire community (see Photo 2). Other products may be made available based on testing results and agency approvals. Round safety cans are an option for use and are available commercially (Photo 3).



Photo 1. Wavian Fuel Can



Photo 2. NFES 000606 Safety Can



Photo 3. Safety Can

### National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Our mission is to provide national leadership to enable interoperable wildland fire operations among federal, state, tribal, and local partners. NWCG operations standards are interagency by design; they are developed with the intent of universal adoption by the member agencies. However, the decision to adopt and utilize them is made independently by the individual member agencies and communicated through their respective directives systems.