



Packing List for Wildland Fire Fireline Personnel

The Packing List for Fireline Personnel Job Aid should serve as a baseline for items needed on a wildland fire assignment. This list will help personnel prepare for a 14 to 21-day assignment on the fireline. Some fireline assignments could require individuals to be “spiked-out” in a forward operating base location without the typical amenities provided in a main fire camp. Taking time to adequately prepare for a fireline assignment is critical.

Firefighters and fireline personnel should always adhere to their specific agency policies regarding personal gear weights. For some agencies, this information can be found in the *Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations* (Red Book) at: <https://www.nifc.gov/standards/guides/red-book>. Additionally, there may be position specific items that you will be required to bring on your assignment. Consider the qualification/position listed on your Resource Order and visit the NWCG website to obtain the Incident Position Standards (IPS) document for your incident position. Review the IPS prior to departure for any position specific gear lists. Quantities of items may vary depending on length of assignment and mode of travel.

Documentation and Paperwork

Quantity	Item	Comment	Check
1	Incident Qualification Card	Incident Qualification Card or “Red Card.” Must be current and signed. Digital copy or photo will suffice.	
1	Identification Card	Photo identification (driver’s license or passport).	
1	<i>IRPG</i>	<i>NWCG Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG)</i> , PMS 461.	
1	Resource Order	Detailing equipment, location, estimated arrival time, and special needs or instructions for the assignment.	
1	Incident Position Standards (IPS)	IPS for the position you are filling on the assignment, particularly if you are a trainee or trainer. Electronic or hard copy.	
1	Position Task Books (PTB)	Any PTBs you are currently working on or that are “open.”	
1	Crew Time Report (CTR), SF 261	Crew Time Report, SF 261 for recording time on an incident. Electronic or hard copy.	

Operational Fireline Equipment

Quantity	Item	Comment	Check
1	Line Gear	Fireline pack compatible with fire shelter and canteens.	
1	Wildland Fire Boots	Adhere to agency or contractor policy. Agency personnel assigned to wildland fires are required to wear minimum eight-inch-high, exterior-leather work boots with melt-resistant, lugged soles. The eight-inch height requirement is measured from the bottom of the boot heel to the top of the boot. Alaska is exempt from the lug sole requirement.	
1	Fire Shelter	If applicable. Adhere to agency or contractor guidelines. Fire shelter, M-2002 (https://www.fs.usda.gov/t-d/programs/fire/documents/5100_606D.pdf) is required for all wildland firefighters.	
1	Radio	If applicable or assigned by home unit.	
Quantity TBD	Batteries or Clam Shell for Radio	Enough to last for 2 full shifts (48 hours).	
1	Helmet with Chinstrap	Helmet (“hardhat”) meeting NFPA 1977 Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting requirements (https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/nfpa-1977-standard-development/1977), or equivalent helmet meeting the current ANSI Z89.1 Type 1, Class G.	
1 pair	Eye Protection	Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for aviation and chainsaw use. Sunglasses recommended.	
At least 1 pair	Hearing Protection	Required PPE for aviation, chainsaw, portable pump, etc.	
1 pair	Leather Gloves	Required PPE for aviation, chain saw, portable pump, etc.	
1	Personal First Aid Kit	Recommended minimum includes pain killers (e.g., ibuprofen, acetaminophen), adhesive tape, gauze pads, non-adhesive dressings, face mask, non-latex gloves, blister care, and antiseptic (e.g., betadine).	
Six-quart capacity	Water Bottles/Canteens	Recommend a minimum of six-quart capacity total.	
1	Headlamp w/ Batteries	Recommend headlamp that operates on one set of batteries per shift. Note: AA batteries are most common type carried at incident supply units.	
2 sets	Replacement Headlamp Batteries	To fit specific headlamp used. Ensure enough batteries for your headlamp to last over two shifts.	

Additional Line Gear Considerations

Quantity	Item	Comment	Check
Quantity TBD	Toilet Paper/Wet Wipes	Recommend quantity to accommodate for two shifts.	
1	Pocket Knife/Multi- Tool	Multiple uses. If flying on commercial aircraft, ensure it is properly packed.	
Quantity TBD	Notepad, Pens, Sharpie Markers	For documentation and records.	
3	Fusees	Personal firing device. Do not bring for fixed-wing travel – for ground transport only.	
1	Signal Mirror/Strobe Light	For signaling aviation resources or ground resources when fulfilling a lookout role.	
1	Compass/GPS	For navigation and documentation.	
At least 1 roll	Flagging	For marking escape routes, spot fires, proposed control lines, etc. Be aware that certain flagging colors or combinations of colors could indicate specific meaning situationally or geographically.	
1 roll	Fiber Tape	Multiple uses (e.g., securing sharp hand tool edges, posting signage, securing external cargo for helicopter flight, etc.).	
Quantity TBD	Parachute Cord (P-cord)	Multiple uses (e.g., spare boot lace, securing portable pumps, creating a makeshift shelter, etc.).	
1	Tarp Style Space Blanket	Or small waterproof tarp. Ground cover or rain shelter for use in overnighting on the fireline. Can also serve to dam up a water source for a portable pump.	
1	Rain Jacket	Be prepared for inclement weather.	
1	Insect Repellant	Mosquitoes and other biting insects are likely to be present.	
1	Lighter	Ignition source for firing or starting a warming fire if remaining on the fireline overnight.	
1	Timepiece w/ Alarm	Wristwatch, cell phone, or fitness tracker/watch with an alarm clock feature. For tracking time through shift and to maintain accountability for wake up/meeting times.	

Personal Gear

Quantity	Item	Comment	Check
1	Personal Gear (PG) Bag	Standard issue GSA “Red Bag” or comparable gear bag (approximately 85 liters capacity).	
1	Sleeping Bag	Needs to fit in PG bag. Consider time of year as well as elevation for appropriately rated sleeping bag.	
1	Tent with Rainfly and Stakes	Fire season is associated with thunderstorm activity. High winds and hard rain will likely occur. A properly secured tent and a good rainfly are imperative to ensuring dry sleeping conditions.	
1	Sleeping Pad	Needs to fit in PG bag. Recommended to bring patch kit if using air mat type pad.	
2	Nomex Shirt	Long-sleeved, flame-resistant shirt (yellow recommended); must comply with NFPA 1977.	
2	Nomex Pants w/ Belt	Flame-resistant trousers; must comply with NFPA 1977.	
Quantity TBD	Allergy Medication	If needed, enough for a 21-day assignment.	
Quantity TBD	Prescription Medications	If needed, enough for a 21-day assignment.	
1	Hygiene Kit	Items such as toothbrush/paste, dental floss, razor, travel shampoo, soap, deodorant, towel/wash cloth, shower shoes/sandals, allergy medication, prescription medication, cold and sinus medicine, wet wipes, menstrual products, nail clippers, hand sanitizer, lip balm, and sunscreen. Occasionally, the medical unit in fire camp will have basic hygiene items or medications but it is not a guarantee.	
Quantity TBD	Eyeglasses/ Contact Lenses	If needed, enough for a 21-day assignment.	
Quantity TBD	T-shirts	Natural fiber (cotton or wool), aramid, or other flame-resistant materials to be worn underneath Nomex shirt.	
Quantity TBD	Underwear	Natural fibers only (cotton or wool).	
Quantity TBD	Boot Socks	Natural fibers only (cotton or wool). Recommend enough for 14-21 day assignment including liners for each change of socks.	

Quantity	Item	Comment	Check
1	Over Layer	Wool coat, sweatshirt, Nomex fleece, down jacket, etc. as a warm over layer. Regular fleece or down/synthetic jackets are not recommended near flame (natural fiber garments & Nomex fleece are more heat/flame durable). Consider drying speed, weight, and packing size when selecting an over layer.	
1 each	Stocking Cap & Gloves	Warm layers for cold weather preparation.	
1 pair	Spare Boot Laces	Leather, Nomex, or other durable lace material recommended. Can use P-cord (from additional line gear items).	
Quantity TBD	Cords and/or Portable Chargers for Rechargeable Items	Ensure you have cords for rechargeable equipment. Be aware, even at Incident Command Post (ICP), electricity to charge items such as phones and headlamps is not always available.	