**Overview**

NWCG employs a variety of medical resources to support field going personnel on wildfire incidents. These resources include teams such as; Fireline Medical Teams and Rapid Extraction Module Support Teams (REMS); logistical resources such as BLS and ALS kits; ambulances; and single resources such as Fireline EMTs and Fireline Paramedics.

**Medical Equipment**

DFFM understands that each jurisdiction may have treatment protocols which differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. This also means that the equipment that fireline medical resources carry will also vary. As such, DFFM is not utilizing a list of specific equipment for medical resources, in lieu of a list of conditions or situations a fireline medical resource may be required to treat. This list comes directly from the “Interim NWCG Minimum Standards for Medical Units Managed by NWCG Member Agencies” and can be found [here](https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/memos/eb-m-10-040a.pdf). Cooperating agencies must understand that this document sets a minimum standard for equipment and treatment protocols for wildfire medical resources and if their home unit’s requirements are higher they should follow their local medical control’s direction.

**Treatment Protocols**

DFFM is also suggesting cooperating agencies review the NWCG publication PMS 551 “Clinical Treatment Guidelines for Wildland Fire Medical Units”, found [here](https://www.nwcg.gov/tags/pms-551). This publication is intended to provide guidance for “unique differences and challenges associated with remote sites and expanded evaluation skills needed for patient care issues”. It is not intended to supersede or be used in place of a cooperating agency’s treatment protocol, merely as a supplemental guide to assist medical units in austere environments.

**Ambulances**

Ambulances will be mobilized in accordance with the minimum standards identified by Arizona Department of Health Services ambulance registration/certification standards. DFFM understands that the actual equipment will vary based on local treatment protocols and equipment requirements. DFFM types ambulances based on the NIMS equipment typing standards. Additional guidance can be found in the Southwest Area Mobilization Guide, Chapter 40, in the ambulance section, found [here](https://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/dispatch_logistics/dispatch/mobguide/Full_Version/SWA_Mobilization_Guide.pdf).

**Fireline Medical Teams**

Fireline Medical Teams are the preferred method of configuration of field medical resources as per the 2018 Southwest Area Mobilization Guide. These teams are staffed by one qualified Fireline Paramedic (EMPF), and one qualified Fireline EMT (EMTF); 2 EMPFs are acceptable. They will be equipped with an ALS kit, BLS kit, 4x4 vehicle, and an optional UTV. The rate for this resource will be one combined rate based on all of the equipment the team is equipped with.

**Rapid Extraction Module Support Teams**

REMS teams are pre-staged rescue teams assigned to a wildland fire to provide firefighters a safe, effective, and efficient method of egress off the fireline in the event of injury or illness incurred during firefighting operations.

While REMS does not intend to replace ground or air transport, ideal conditions may not exist due to a number of circumstances such as heavy smoke, poor roads, or equipment issues. REMS provides incident managers another option to reach incapacitated firefighters, with fully equipped resources, prepared to package and transport injured or ill personnel off the fireline to the appropriate medical care unit.

REMS teams will be staffed with four qualified technical specialists (High/Low Angle Rescue) organized as follows:

* One single resource boss (ENGB, CRWB, FIRB, HEQB, FALB)
* Two personnel trained to a minimum of NFPA 1006 Rope Rescue Technician Level
* Two personnel trained to a minimum of NFPA 1006 Rope Rescue Operations Level
* Minimum of one EMPF and three EMTF (more than one EMPF is acceptable)
* One 4x4 vehicle
* Extraction Kit (Minimum equipment listed below)
* Optional UTV/ATV
* One ALS Kit
* One BLS Kit

REMS team minimum equipment list (cooperating agencies may be equipped with more than listed, however extra equipment above these stated minimums will not be reimbursed):

* 2- 200’ ropes (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 2- 300’ ropes (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 2- 150’ ropes [NFPA 1983 Technical, 9.5mm (3/8”) to 12.5mm (1/2'”)]
* 4- Descent control device (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 22- Carabiners (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 4- Small or mini prusik minding pulley (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 2- Small or mini prusik minding double pulley (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 1- Gathering plate or ring (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 16- Prusik (8- short, 8 long)
* 12- 20’ webbing
* 8- 12’ webbing
* 8- 5’ webbing
* 1- Edge protection kit
* 1- Hardware bag/pack
* 1- Multi-piece basket stretcher with hoist pre-rig
* 1- Sked® or Collapsible Litter
* 1- Backboard
* 5- Pickets
* 1- Sledge Hammer
* 1- Bicycle pump or Fix-a-flat
* 1- Tire plugs
* Up to 4 gear packs for the above listed gear.
* 1- Multi-piece basket stretcher with hoist pre-rig
* 1- Litter wheel
* Knee and lumbar padding
* Leg splint with fiber tape and trauma shears
* 1- Sleeping bag (patient padding)
* 1- Fire shelter (for patient)
* 1- GPS Device
* Flagging
* Basic First Aid Kit
* 4- Class II or III harnesses (agency specific requirement)

### Optional Equipment

* Glow sticks
* Signal mirror
* Whistle
* Headlamps
* Highlift Jack
* Chainsaw

### Hike-In Rescue Cache Recommendations

The following is designed to outfit REMS personnel with the required inventory to perform a Remote Rescue when terrain and/or access will NOT permit the use of a vehicle to transport REMS personnel and equipment to a rescue site. This equipment cache was formulated to be multifunctional and minimize the weight carried by REMS personnel due to the potential for traversing long distances and steep terrain to access and complete a REMS mission.

* 2- 150’ ropes [NFPA 1983 Technical, 9.5mm (3/8”) to 12.5mm (1/2'”)]
* 12- Carabiners (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 4- Small or mini prusik minding pulley (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 2- Small or mini prusik minding double pulley (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 8- Prusik (4- short, 4 long)
* 2- Descent control device (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* 6 - 20’ webbing
* 4- 12’ webbing
* 4- 5’ webbing
* 1- Gathering plate or ring (NFPA 1983 Technical or General use)
* Up to 4 gear packs for the above listed gear.
* 1- piece basket stretcher with hoist pre-rig
* 1- Litter wheel
* 1- Backboard
* Knee and lumbar padding
* Leg splint with fiber tape and trauma shears
* 1- Sleeping bag (patient padding)
* 1- Fire shelter (for patient)
* 1- GPS
* Flagging
* 1- Basic First Aid Kit
* 4-Class II or III harnesses (agency specific requirement)
* 1- Bicycle pump of Fix-a-flat
* 1- Tire plugs

### Vehicle Based Rescue Cache Recommendation

The following is designed to outfit REMS personnel with the required inventory to perform a Vehicle Based Rescue when terrain and/or access WILL permit the use of a vehicle to transport REMS personnel and equipment to a rescue site. This equipment cache was formulated to be multifunctional, provide maximum flexibility and be part of the assigned inventory.

* 2- 200’ ropes (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 2- 300’ ropes (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 2- Descent control device (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 10- Carabiners (NFPA 1983 Technical or General Use)
* 8- Prusik (4- short, 4 long)
* 6- 20’ webbing
* 4- 12’ webbing
* 4- 5’ webbing
* 1- Edge protection kit
* Hardware bag/pack
* 1- Sked or Collapsible Litter
* 5- Pickets
* 1- Sledge Hammer