

Coeur d'Alene Interagency Fire Cache



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The Coeur d'Alene Interagency Fire Cache is designed for stocking and maintaining wildland firefighting equipment and supplies.

The Fire Cache stores enough supplies and equipment for a force of 1,250 to 1,500 firefighters at one time.

The role of the Fire Cache is to provide logistical support to all requesting state and federal agencies.

Support is primarily directed toward wildland fire suppression activities. However, the Cache also supports local and interagency regional efforts in cases of natural disasters, as well as large projects such as prescribed burning.

The Fire Cache is interagency staffed with employees of the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the U.S. Forest Service. It is located next to the IDL Coeur d'Alene offices.

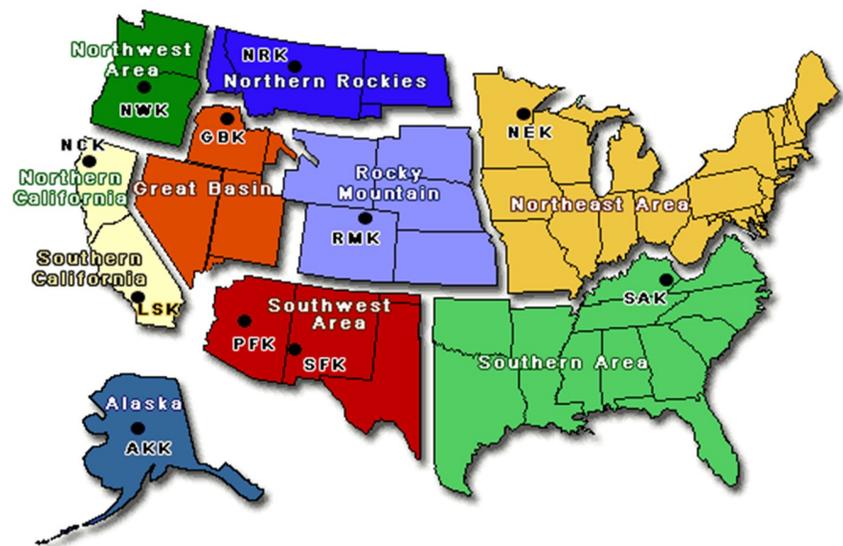


WHAT WE DO

- ⇒ With nearly \$7 million in stored assets, the Fire Cache is the largest “Local Area Interagency Support Cache” in the continental United States.
- ⇒ Primary support area in Idaho: All state, federal, and local government agencies north of Lewiston, and all state protection lands south of Lewiston down to Whitebird, Idaho (including Nez Perce Tribal lands).
- ⇒ The Fire Cache is interagency staffed with IDL and USFS employees. There are only two caches in the National Cache System that have a mix of state and federal employees—Coeur d’Alene and Minnesota.
- ⇒ The Fire Cache is one of ten “Type 2” caches working within the infrastructure of the **National Interagency Support Cache (NISC) System**.
- ⇒ The Fire Cache serves as a conduit for Idaho’s rural fire departments to access the General Services Administration (GSA) wildfire program and supplies.
- ⇒ The Fire Cache maintains an extensive library of wildland fire training materials for the IDL, USFS, and their cooperators.
- ⇒ Fire Cache employees are participants in many of the national level committees tasked with supply logistics within the cache community and on the fire ground.
- ⇒ The Fire Cache has maintained a less than one percent disparity upon completion of the annual inventory.



NISC Geographical Locations



SUPPORT

The Fire Cache also supports local and interagency regional efforts in cases of natural disasters and other “all risk” incidents in need of logistics support.

Following are a few of the events and declared emergencies the Cache supported:

- ⇒ Highway 95 Land Slide, Bonners Ferry, Idaho
- ⇒ North Idaho Floods, 1996
- ⇒ Hurricane Katrina Support
- ⇒ 2008 and 2009 North Idaho Snow Events



The Fire Cache has assisted the following agencies:

- ⇒ Idaho Department of Lands
- ⇒ Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security
- ⇒ Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
- ⇒ Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- ⇒ Idaho Department of Corrections
- ⇒ US Forest Service
- ⇒ US Fish and Wildlife Service
- ⇒ Bureau of Land Management
- ⇒ Federal Bureau of Investigation
- ⇒ Bureau of Indian Affairs
- ⇒ Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- ⇒ Nez Perce Tribe
- ⇒ Kootenai Medical Center
- ⇒ County Search and Rescue
- ⇒ City, County, State Law Enforcement
- ⇒ City and County Fire Departments
- ⇒ Eastern Washington City and County Fire Departments
- ⇒ Offices of Emergency Management



Recent Addition to the Cache

- ⇒ Work began on an addition to the Cache in August 2009.
- ⇒ Total square feet of addition: 2,400
- ⇒ The expansion serves as the primary staging and shipping area during Cache operations.
- ⇒ Serves as the storage warehouse for the Strategic National Stockpile supplies as needed.
- ⇒ Serves as a winter storage area.
- ⇒ The addition also included fire sprinkler and security systems throughout the main facility

CACHE FACILITIES

- ⇒ The determination to build a cache in Coeur d'Alene was the result of the U.S. Forest Service closing three Spokane, Washington caches in 1973 (est.)
- ⇒ The main Coeur d'Alene Fire Cache building was built in 1975.
- ⇒ Additional facilities were erected individually thereafter.
- ⇒ All facilities were constructed to be multi-functional.
- ⇒ Current cumulative storage space is 18,000 square feet.
- ⇒ All enclosed buildings are insulated and have gas heat.
- ⇒ Pumps, chainsaws, hoses, tanks, tents, and communications equipment are all typical types of resources stored within the facilities.



Coeur d'Alene Interagency Fire Cache Staff and Operating Hours

Monday-Friday, 0800-1630

(During winter months and periods of minimal activity)

The Coeur d'Alene Interagency Fire Cache adjusts the hours of operation as needed during periods of moderate to heavy activity. During the months of June through September there is a Cache employee on-call at all times.

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